

4.1. OFFICIALS' DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

Scottish Curling has an Official Development Programme, which offers officials the opportunity to progress along the pathway from Level 1 to Level 5. The aim of the programme is to:

- Prepare officials for domestic, national and international competitions through a process of blended learning in the classroom and on ice, and supporting them to achieve a specified level of competence and experience
- Introduce the skills, knowledge and competency to perform the roles and responsibilities of an official
- Provide opportunities for officials to develop the skills, knowledge and competency in order to reach their potential

SUMMARY REFERENCE TABLE						
Level	TO ACHIEVE LEVEL				TO MAINTAIN LEVEL	
	Course work (minimum)	Practical	Max. Time Frame		Course work (minimum)	Max. Time Frame
1	Attendance at Umpire Course	6 Sessions over 2 Competitions	2 years or 5 years if attend 1 refresher day		N/A	4 years
2	Attendance at 1 refresher day	8 Sessions over 2 Competitions	3 years		Attendance at 1 refresher day	4 years
3	Attendance at Advanced Course	4 Competitions or Championships	5 years		Attendance at 1 refresher day every 3 years	5 years
4	Attendance at 1 refresher day every 3 years	4 Championships	5 years		Attendance at 1 refresher day every 3 years	5 years
5	Attendance at 1 refresher day every 3 years	4 Championships	5 years		Attendance at 1 refresher day every 3 years	5 years

UMPIRE COURSE – Introduction to Umpiring

An Introduction to Umpiring course is a one day course designed to give the skills to those wishing to officiate in curling. The one day course includes time in the classroom and on ice and is designed to give an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of officiating. This will include the use of measures, time clocks and stop watches, and other equipment such as radio handsets, score sheets and record sheets.

COURSE STRUCTURE

During the course attendees will:

- Learn the Rules of curling and their interpretation through use of scenarios
- Learn how to use equipment including radio handsets and stop watches etc.
- Learn how to use time clocks, stop watches, and record sheets
- Learn how to check measuring equipment and correct procedures in their use
- Learn about hog line procedures and correct calling of violations
- Learn about dress code and personal equipment
- Complete an assessment test

LEVEL 1

ASSISTANT GAME UMPIRE AND TIME CLOCK OPERATOR

Level 1 certification is designed to develop the skills required to officiate as a time clock operator and/or an assistant game umpire at curling competitions.

To achieve Level 1 an official shall be required to have:

- Attended the *INTRODUCTION TO UMPIRING COURSE* prior to undertaking practical work. *(An equivalent World Curling Course will be equally valid on the understanding of an awareness of the differences between the Scottish Curling and World Curling rule books)*
- Undertaken “practical work”, which shall consist of working in either role for a minimum of six sessions from at least two Scottish Curling (or World Curling) competitions. This must be achieved within a two-year period* of successfully attending the Introduction to Umpiring course

Certification: Umpires completing both component parts successfully shall be awarded a Level 1 certificate, which will be valid for a period of four years from the date of issue.

To maintain Level 1:

- During the subsequent four year period a minimum of six sessions from at least two designated Scottish Curling competitions must be worked, unless working in a role at a higher level.

**Those who attend the Introduction to Umpiring course but do not undertake any practical work at Level 1 within the stipulated two years, may do so any time within five years from date of attendance on condition that they attend an Umpire Refresher Day before seeking certification. Anyone who wishes to undertake practical work after five years will be required to re-sit the Introduction to Umpiring course.*

LEVEL 2

GAME UMPIRE

Level 2 certification is designed to recognise the additional knowledge and experience of the umpire.

To achieve Level 2 an official shall be required to have:

- Worked a minimum of eight sessions from at least two designated Scottish Curling competitions (see Appendix 1) as a Game Umpire under the supervision of a Scottish Curling appointed Chief Umpire within a period of three years.

Certification: Upon successful completion of the above, a Level 2 certificate shall be awarded, which will be valid for a period of four years from the date of issue.

To maintain Level 2:

- During the subsequent four year period a minimum of eight sessions from at least two designated Scottish Curling competitions (see Appendix 1) must be worked, unless working in a role at a higher level.
- Attend at least one Umpire Refresher Day

ADVANCED UMPIRE COURSE

The Advanced Umpire course is a one day course designed to give the skills to those wishing to achieve Level 3 certification after appropriate practical experience.

COURSE STRUCTURE

During the course attendees will:

- Acquire a more in depth review of the Rules of curling and their interpretation through use of scenarios
- Learn about the role of a Chief Timer
- Learn about competition organisation
- Learn about competition administration – type, draw, ice allocation, and tie breaks, results, ranking
- Know how to conduct team meeting and umpires' meeting prior to competitions.
- Learn how to work with teams and coaches

- Learn how to report on competitions
- Complete an assessment test

LEVEL 3

CHIEF UMPIRE, DEPUTY CHIEF UMPIRE, CHIEF TIMER AND DEPUTY CHIEF TIMER

Level 3 certification is designed to recognise the greater responsibility, knowledge and skills required to umpire or time in a supervisory position at Scottish Curling competitions.

To achieve Level 3 an official shall be required to have:

- Attended an *ADVANCED UMPIRING COURSE*
- Attended a minimum of one Umpire Refresher Day since Level 2 certification was awarded
- Satisfactorily completed officiating at a minimum of four designated competitions from the list below (any combination) within a period of five years

Certification: Upon successful completion of the above, a Level 3 certificate shall be awarded, which will be valid for a period of five years from the date of issue.

To maintain Level 3:

- During the subsequent five year period a minimum of four designated competitions from the list below (any combination) must be worked, unless working in a role at a higher level
- Attend a minimum of one Umpire Refresher Day every three years.

Notes:

1. *The format of the European Qualifying Playdowns can vary from season to season. The Committee will determine once the qualifying process is known whether credit for officiating will be given at either Level 3 or Level 4/5 for that particular season.*
2. *Deputy Chief Timer at National Championships is credited as Level 3*
3. **Under 14 and Under 17 Slams are credited for CU as Level 2*

	CHIEF UMPIRE & CHIEF TIMER	DEPUTY CHIEF UMPIRE & DEPUTY CHIEF TIMER
Qualifying Competitions for:	• Scottish Men's Championship • Scottish Women's Championship • Scottish Junior Championship • European Championships • Scottish Junior Mixed Doubles	
Qualifying (where applicable) & Finals of:	• Scottish Mixed • Scottish Seniors: Men, Women and Mixed • Scottish Pairs • Scottish Masters • Scottish Schools • Rink Championships • National Province Championship • Junior Challenge • *Junior Slams (Under 21) • Henderson Bishop • All SC organised Wheelchair Championships	
Finals of:		• Scottish Men's Championship • Scottish Women's Championship • Scottish Junior Championship • Scottish Mixed Doubles Championship • Scottish Junior Mixed Doubles

LEVEL 4

CHIEF UMPIRE AND CHIEF TIMER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, GAME UMPIRE AT INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Level 4 certification is designed to recognise the greater responsibility, knowledge and skills required to umpire in a supervisory position at the major Scottish Curling National Championships, as well as those on the recommendation of Scottish Curling who are invited to officiate as Game Umpires by World Curling at its Championships.

To achieve Level 4 an official shall be required to have:

- Attended a minimum of one Umpire Refresher Day every three years since Level 3 certification was awarded
- Satisfactorily completed officiating at a minimum of four designated competitions from the list below (at least one from each category) within a period of five years:

Certification: Upon successful completion of the above a Level 4 certificate shall be awarded, which will be valid for a period of five years from the date of issue.

To maintain Level 4:

- During the subsequent five year period a minimum of four designated competitions from the list below (at least one from each category) must be worked, unless working in a role at a higher level
- Attend a minimum of one Umpire Refresher Day every three years

CHIEF UMPIRE & CHIEF TIMER (National)	GAME UMPIRE & DEPUTY CHIEF TIMER (International)
Finals of • Scottish Men's Championship • Scottish Women's Championship • Scottish Junior Championship • Scottish Mixed Doubles Championship • Scottish Seniors Championships	Appointed by World Curling to officiate as a Game Umpire or Deputy Chief Timer at • All Championships and Winter Games

LEVEL 5

CHIEF UMPIRE AND CHIEF TIMER AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, DEPUTY CHIEF UMPIRE, CHIEF UMPIRE, DEPUTY CHIEF TIMER, CHIEF TIMER AT INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Level 5 certification is designed to recognise those who are able to officiate at any level within Scottish Curling and also at the invitation of World Curling as Chief Umpire or Chief Timer, Deputy Chief Umpire and Deputy Chief Timer.

To achieve Level 5 an official shall be required to have:

- Attended a minimum of one Umpire Refresher Day every three years since Level 3 certification was awarded
- Satisfactorily completed officiating at a minimum of four designated competitions from the following list (at least one from each category) within a period of five years

Certification: Upon successful completion of the above a Level 5 certificate shall be awarded, which will be valid for a period of five years from the date of issue.

To maintain Level 5:

- During that period of five years a minimum of four designated competitions from the list above (at least one from each category) must be worked
- Attend a minimum of two Umpire Refresher Days

Note: It is encouraged that to obtain and retain Levels 4 and 5 Officials should shadow a tutor at the *INTRODUCTION TO UMPIRING COURSE* or assist at an *UMPIRE REFRESHER DAY*

CHIEF UMPIRE or CHIEF TIMER (National)	CHIEF UMPIRE or DEPUTY CHIEF UMPIRE CHIEF TIMER or DEPUTY CHIEF TIMER (International)
Finals of • Scottish Men's Championship • Scottish Women's Championship • Scottish Junior Championship • Scottish Mixed Doubles Championship	Appointed by World Curling to officiate as Chief Umpire or Deputy Chief Umpire or Chief Timer or Deputy Chief Timer at • All Championships and Winter Games

LEVEL 1/2/3/4/5 (A)

This category is awarded (on the recommendation of the Umpiring Committee) to those who are still actively involved in officiating but have reduced their commitment from the level which they have attained through the Development Programme. It recognises the value of their experience and their continued assistance at competitions and their continued support in the development of other officials.

Officials awarded this category are not required to meet the criteria to maintain their current level but will continue to be included in all umpiring communications and welcome to participate in Refresher Days and any other training events.

They will be recorded in the Umpire Development Programme at the Level which they attained, i.e. 1/2/3/4/5 followed by **(A)**. This will allow them to be described “an active Scottish Curling Official who has attained Level ____ and is now involved in an advisory and supportive capacity”. This will be applicable until such time that they choose to stop officiating or the Umpiring Committee determined they are no longer contributing to officiating in any capacity.

If an official awarded this category wished at a later date to continue along the pathway of the Umpire Development Programme again they would have to advise the Umpiring Committee and meet the appropriate criteria for the level they wished to obtain.

Scottish Curling – Officials’ Development Programme Credit Levels

The table below shows the levels at which credits are awarded for each role at Scottish Curling and World Curling competitions. Level 1 and 2 credits are awarded per session worked, levels 3, 4 & 5 are awarded per competition. Credits which are awarded at an umpire’s current level will enable that level to be maintained at the end of the review period, working at a higher level will allow an umpire to progress to the next level.

COMPETITION	Time Clock Operator	Deputy Chief Timer	Chief Timer	Game Umpire	Deputy Chief Umpire	Chief Umpire
Scottish Championships	1	3	4/5	2	3	4/5
Scottish Junior Championships	1	3	4/5	2	3	4/5
Scottish Mixed Doubles Championships	1	3	4/5	2	3	4/5
Scottish Junior Mixed Doubles Championships	1	3	4/5	2	N/A	4/5
Scottish Senior Championships	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	3	4
Scottish Junior Qualifier	1	2	3	2	2	3
European Championship Qualifier	1	N/A	3	2	N/A	3
World Junior B Qualifier	1	N/A	3	2	N/A	3
Scottish Mixed Championships	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	2	3
Open Championship	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3
Junior Challenge	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	2	3
Scottish Senior Qualifier	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
Senior Mixed Championships	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
Scottish Pairs Championships	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
National Masters	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
Rink Championships	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
National Province Championships	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
Scottish Schools Championships	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
Henderson Bishop	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
U21 Slams	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	3
U17 Slams	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	2
U14 Slams	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	2
Morton Trophy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Maxwell Trophy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Virtual Challenge	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	2
Non SC Scottish Championships **	1	N/A	N/A	2	2	3
World Curling Appointments	1	5	5	4	5	5

** Credits will be awarded for Independent Scottish Championships if they have a CU who is willing to submit a CU Report that would allow us to assess the umpire activity.