



A GUIDE TO ATTENDING INTERNATIONAL UMPIRING APPOINTMENTS



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

Softball Australia
Level 1, Suite 2, 273 Wellington Street
Collingwood Vic 3066
www.softball.org.au

Acronyms

NUIC – National Umpire In Chief (Communications, Development, Operations, Technical)

TCU – Tournament Chief Umpire

WBSC – World Baseball Softball Confederation

WBSC UIC – WBSC Umpire In Chief

Version Control

Version	Date	Changes	Authorised by
1.3	Feb 2017	World Baseball Softball Confederation Contact Information updated	Kyira Cox
1.4	July 2017	Updated Development flow chart	Kyira Cox
1.5	Oct 2017	Updates from Umpires Annual meeting-Acronyms	Chris Trengove

International Umpiring - Appointments

The requirements for appointment to an international event are:

- For World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) events such as International Cups and World Championships you will need to be WBSC Accredited.
- For non-WBSC events you will need to be Level 6 or by invitation.
- You will have completed the required 25 games. This includes umpiring at Association, Regional, State and National tournaments.
- Your on-diamond and off-diamond evaluations will be used by the Softball Australia selection panel in assisting their decision. The feedback you have received should be used to improve your performance.
- Your “CV” or “Resume” should include off-diamond participation such as development, training and assessing, mentoring, administration and tournament management.
- Nationally you will need to have a consistent pass mark in the Australian Rules Assessment; for World Championship assignment, WBSC certified umpires are required to pass the Recertification Rules Assessment every rule change period to be considered.

Applications for International Events

When an International tournament or tour is announced, Softball Australia will make available an “Expression of Interest” for appointment.

A nomination form will be sent to you by Softball Australia (NUIC Operations) that you should complete and return with:

- Application for position
- Umpires nomination form
- Copies of any past WBSC evaluations (if any).
- Have umpired a minimum of 20 major games as a requirement

When nominating, be aware of the financial commitment that you may be making.

- Travelling umpires will be charged a Softball Australia levy or it may be full cost for some Tournaments
- You will also need to ensure you have a current and valid passport and any necessary visa.

When the applications date closes, applications will be evaluated and finalists selected. These finalists will be required to respond to interviews by a selection panel; this may be conducted in person, over the telephone or through video conference. All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application by Softball Australia.

If successful, you will be contacted by a Softball Australia representative.

Softball Australia NUIC Operations and the WBSC UIC will be in contact with the details of the event and any request for further information that may be required including;

Request to:

- Confirm contact details – phone numbers and email addresses.
- Passport numbers.
- Sizing of uniforms (Softball Australia and WBSC)
- Flight and accommodation details.
- Setting dates and times of arrival.
- Depending on where you will be travelling – the organisation of immunisations.
- Team Handbook

You will also be sent:

- Softball Australia Touring Umpire Agreement to sign and return
- Softball Australia Invoice

It is your responsibility to ensure you have continued, clear communications with the Softball Australia Team Manager, so that you are not left out of the loop and you understand your team responsibilities.

Tournament Report

Upon your return from the tournament, you will be required to complete an official umpire's report. This report is to be submitted to Softball Australia and the NUIC Operations.

This report should include all relevant details of the tournament, from the time of your appointment until the time of your return. Including:

- Travel arrangements.
- Full Umpire Crew list (TCU, Assessors – and countries of participating Umpires).
- Umpiring Allocations – your individual appointments only required.
- Issues or differences – changes to mechanics or rotations etc. that may have been implemented/ trialed during the event.
- Your tour experiences in general.
- Recommendations.

This report is confidential and should not be shared with anyone else.

Any reports to States or news articles should follow after the report is received and accepted by Softball Australia. News articles should not contain any technical information or organisational issues experienced.

Technical issues such as mechanics and rules will be discussed and recommended by the NUC Technical

Attending the Championship

Being appointed to an International tournament is the result of many hours of hard work and officiating many games to attain your accreditation.

You will be representing your sport, and country; and for those people you meet on your tour, you may be the first "Aussie" they have met, who may judge ALL Australians by your behaviour. So it is important that you are careful of what you say, how you say it and how you behave. You may also need to fit in with different cultures and accommodate language difficulties.

When travelling with a team it is important to understand you are travelling with the team, not necessarily part of the team. Understanding where these two come together and where they separate is very important. You may also be asked to interpret rules and discuss umpires point of views by some coaches, once again offer an impartial view whenever possible.

There will be times while away you will be included in team activities and other times where you may be left alone at the accommodation, this can be a lonely at times. Working and communicating with the Team Manager can help with this aspect

When with the team, your air and ground transport will be included with the team. When the tournament commences you may move to be with the umpires. At World Championships, you will move in with the other WBSC umpires and travel with them.

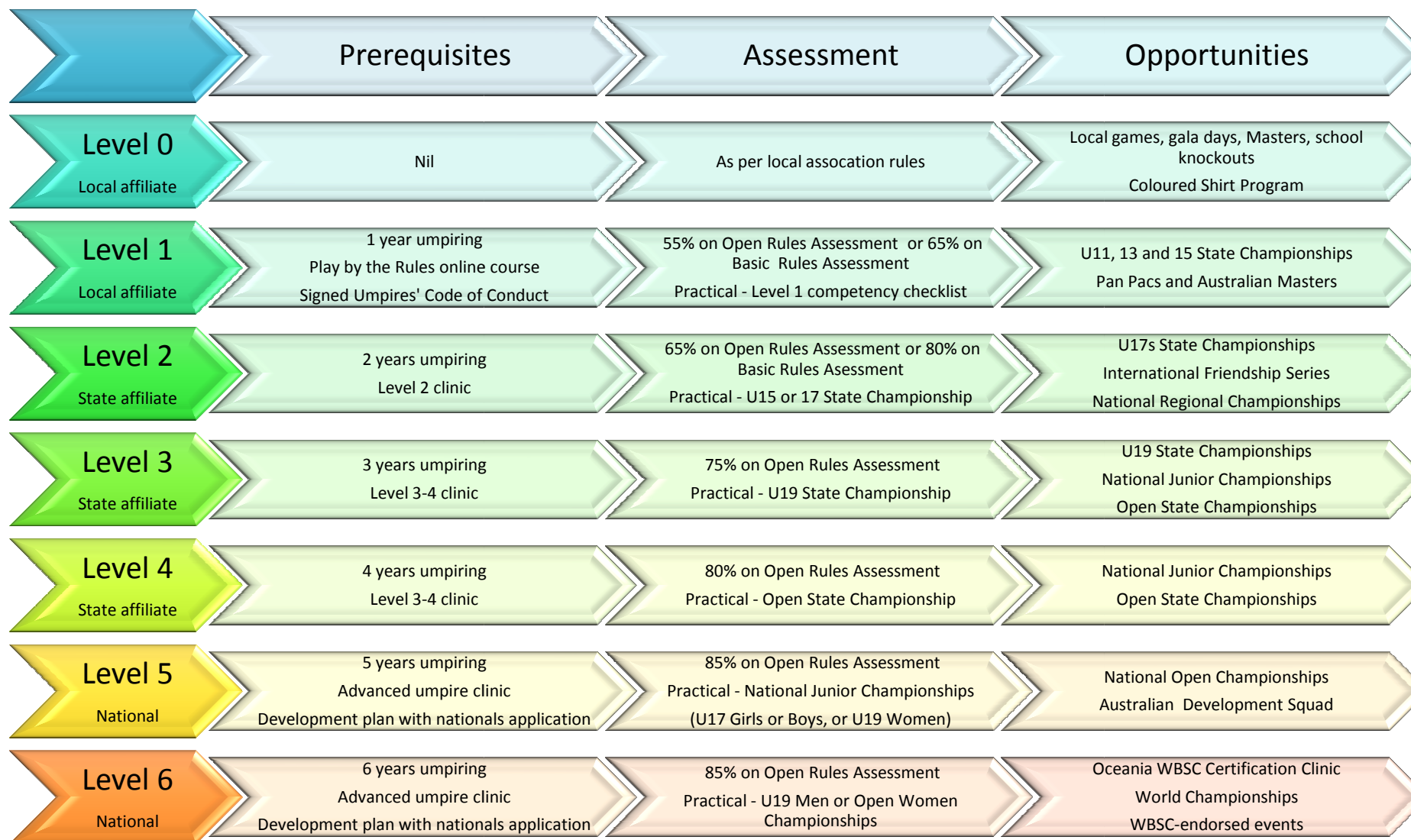
Umpires would normally wear the Softball Australia umpiring on Diamond uniform while umpiring pre-tournament games. At WBSC World Championships, the WBSC official uniform supplied by WBSC will be worn. Umpires should take a sewing kit and hemming tape in case alterations are required to your uniform.

At World Championships, umpires usually give gifts with all crew members (including the TCU and Deputy TCU), as a token of friendship and remembrance. Appointed umpire(s) should take gifts to give, and it is great to reflect Australia in the gifts (hats, tee shirts, key rings, coasters etc.). Gift giving usually happens before or during the tournament, and some of the gifts are quite generous (check with umpires who have done gift swapping before to get some ideas). Female crew members are sometimes also given hair ties, costume jewellery, scarves as extras during the tournament. It is also good to have a few extra gifts for your Liaison Officer and other helpers/people met during your trip. Remember this will impact your luggage going over (and you will have extra gifts to pack coming home).

At other shorter/smaller international tournaments, umpires should take a small token gift to give to crew members (badges/pins, key rings).

Enjoy the experience, umpire to the best of your ability and above all have fun!!!!

Australian Umpire Development Pathway



Individual experience may vary. Other tournaments may be used for assessments where appropriate.

Additional umpiring resources, including information on umpiring courses and accreditation, can be found on the Softball Australia web site (www.softball.org.au).

Softball Australia



t 03 9417 0022
f 03 9417 3399
e info@softball.org.au
w www.softball.org.au
a Level 1, Suite 2
273 Wellington Street
Collingwood VIC 3066

Softball ACT



t 02 6278 3000
f 02 6278 3010
e softballACT@bigpond.com
w www.act.softball.org.au
a PO Box 4264
Hawker ACT 2614

Softball NSW



t 02 9677 4000
f 02 9677 4040
e office@softball.net.au
w www.nsw.softball.org.au
a PO Box 210
Rooty Hill NSW 2766

Softball Northern Territory



t 08 8927 3333
f 08 8927 9999
e enquiries@softballnet.com
w www.nt.softball.org.au
a PO Box 40051
Casuarina NT 0811

Softball Queensland



t 07 3391 2447
f 07 3391 4734
e admin@softballqld.asn.au
w www.qld.softball.org.au
a 1/866 Main Street
Woolloongabba QLD 4102

Softball South Australia



t 08 8353 6766
f 08 8353 2480
e admin@softballsa.com.au
w www.sa.softball.org.au
a PO Box 275
West Beach SA 5024

Softball Tasmania



t 03 6249 3589
f 03 6249 3589
e tassoftball@yahoo.com.au
w www.tas.softball.org.au
a GPO Box 2124
Hobart TAS 7001

Softball Victoria



t 03 9415 1745
f 03 9417 3399
e admin@softballvic.org.au
w www.vic.softball.org.au
a Level 1, Suite 2
273 Wellington Street
Collingwood VIC 3066

Softball Western Australia



t 08 6181 3900
f 08 9345 3553
e admin@softballwa.org.au
w www.wa.softball.org.au
a PO Box 450
Mirrabooka WA 6941