



Midlands Regional Young Umpiring Action Group



Mentors panel guidance.

Understandably taking the first steps on the umpiring journey can be daunting for young or inexperienced umpires. The mentors panel exists to try and lay anxiety to rest, to reassure any colleagues and provide a link between umpire and umpire coach/ manager.

All members of the Mentors Panel have experience of local, regional and national tournaments, have been members of the Midlands Regional Young Umpiring Action Group (MRYUAG) and wish to promote young umpiring within the region and beyond. In addition to this they should hold a current CRB Check.

Currently the MRYUAG appoints mainly to tournaments and these can be approached with trepidation by umpires whose first tournament this is. It is expected that a Mentor umpire, appointed by the Senior Coach will make contact the young umpire prior to the tournament, to try and allay any potential issues they may foresee and offer reassurance. In addition to this it is an idea to follow up this contact with an email for further reassurance.

On the day of the tournament the Mentor should make themselves known to the new umpire and attempt to involve them in the day's events. Throughout the day the mentor should be around when available and provide support when needed.

Making time to listen to the young umpire's issues and problems are key attributes to a mentor as is helping the young umpire to feel good about what they have achieved.

At the end of the day's games, the Mentor should find an opportunity to have an end of tournament discussion with their young umpire and to ask the young umpire about how they feel the day has gone. The mentor should seek to clarify the goals and objectives that have been suggested to the young umpire during the day.

The Mentor should seek to build a trust over time and if the young umpire has a hockey umpiring related question, they should feel able to telephone their mentor for guidance. However the mentor should not make promises that cannot be kept.

The role of a mentor is largely that of a supporting role to the young umpire. Any issue raised should be treated confidentially unless it is necessary to be passed onto the Senior Coach.