

## **Regulation 8 UMPIRES - Guidance for Clubs**

Umpires for matches in Premier 1 shall be appointed by the WHA Umpiring Sub Committee where possible.

ALL other teams shall be responsible for arranging for an umpire of the correct standard, who shall umpire the whole of the game for all of their matches.

***EH has removed the 'Active Status' with regards to qualification, meaning that Regional and County HUAs no longer have to maintain an 'Active List', although some will. It therefore becomes the responsibility of teams both home and away in every game to ensure that the umpires are suitably qualified and insured. Preferably this should be ascertained at least 48 hours prior to the game taking place. In the event of any doubt or dispute it is for the team to ascertain the full facts before the matter is referred to the League.***

Teams can provide their umpires as they have always done if they wish. Some Home teams happily provide two (non-appointed) umpires for a match and likewise the opposition may do the same for the return match. Some teams prefer to take their umpire away with them, which they are entitled to do. Teams that make these arrangements must do so in writing (email/text) and obtain confirmation from the opposition. In the event of any team not honouring the agreed arrangement resulting in the game not being played will invoke a penalty under Regulation 12 g). Any team finding they cannot honour an agreement is responsible for ensuring that a suitable replacement is found.

### **Possible Scenarios:**

Home team agrees to provide both umpires and fails to – home team concedes.

Both teams agree to provide their own umpire and one team fails to – offending team concedes.

Both team agree to provide their own umpires and both teams fail to – the result of the game and penalty to be decided by the League Committee.

It is not the Home team's primary responsibility to provide both umpires. Home teams may request Appointed Umpires through their Umpires Association. If Appointed Umpires are available for a match, the away team must accept the appointment but are under no obligation to provide Appointed Umpires for the return match.

The WCWHL cannot impose any financial burden on Clubs relating to Appointed Umpires.

Although desirable that all league games are umpired by appointed neutral umpires the League is fully aware of the cost implications to Clubs and insufficient umpires available at present to fulfil this desire. If Clubs wish for umpires to be appointed to any of their games, it is their responsibility to request the appointment of umpires through the West or County Umpire Associations and take responsibility for notification and costs. Where umpires are appointed by a relevant association then the Clubs must accept the appointment.

It is therefore recommended that the Home Club communicates with the Away Club regarding umpiring and obtain written agreement (e-mail/text) regarding the umpiring arrangements so as to avoid any

misunderstanding on the day. Any disputes relating to the above will be for the respective Clubs to resolve; the League can only involve themselves in relation to the qualification of umpires under Regulation 8a).

### **Possible Scenarios**

Two Appointed suitably qualified umpires - no problem

One Appointed and one Club suitably qualified umpires - no problem

Two suitably qualified Club umpires - no problem

One or both appointed umpires fail to arrive - Home Club to provide suitably qualified umpire/s\*\*

Two Appointed umpires and a Club umpire arrive - Appointed umpires preside \*\*

One or both Club umpires fail to arrive - Respective Club/s to provide suitably qualified umpire/s \*\*

\*\* Refer to Regulations 8a) and 7a) v)