

West Suffolk Netball Guidance on providing scorers

It is a stipulation of the summer league that Division One and from 2014 Division Two teams provide a scorer for matches. However as many more umpires are requesting a scorer West Suffolk Netball has put together this guidance to address any concerns you may have as a scorer or as a team providing one.

A scorers job is an important one and as such must be carefully done – afterall getting the score wrong could cost a team points.

Scorers:

There is no official training on becoming a scorer – the basic rule is if you can count you can score. However it is important that the following does occur when scoring for an umpire.

- Scorers are to be provided with your umpire, preferably found prior to the game and not on the night. In Division One and Division Two it is a requirement that you provide a scorer for the game that you are providing an umpire for (e.g. when you are not playing).
- There must always be TWO scorers.
- Scorers are to stand together on one side of the court in the middle of the court – in line with the umpire at the start of the match. Scorers do not sit huddled together at one end of the court, having a chat!!
- Scorers are required to time keep (timer to be provided by the umpire) and score for each of the quarters (score cards provided by the umpire).
- After each goal the score is recorded by BOTH scorers and a check is taken by BOTH to ensure that scores match.
- It is requested that scorers SHOULD mark the score card with numbers and not a tally chart.
- After each goal the score should be shouted out by one of the scorers (how this is done can be down to the discretion of the scorer).
- At the end of each quarter it is the responsibility of the scorers to confirm the score with the umpires and then prepare the score card for the next quarter.

Concerns:

- Confusion over centre passes: It is not the scorers responsibility to signal the centre pass this is done by the umpire. However it is important that as a scorer you understand whose centre pass it is in case of any issues.
- Scores don't match: Alert the umpire immediately, do not wait for a couple more goals to be scored. It is vital that you agree with each other either by checking or listening to each other when the score is read out. Usually the mistake is the scorer has put the goal on the wrong side – rectify immediately and if you can't agree or notice that the score is wrong speak to the umpire
- Only one scorer been provided: Then you can not score, do not agree to score alone. There must be TWO scorers at all times. It doesn't matter who is the scorer as long as they are not TWO people associated with a team that is playing.

Division One and Division Two teams have to provide a scorer, if you play in a lower league you do not have to provide a scorer. However as more and more umpires are requesting scorers it is important that teams remember that TWO must be on a game along with TWO umpires.

It is not acceptable for one scorer and one of the umpires to score as well. If you are an umpire who has agreed to do a lower division and you require a scorer please ensure that teams are aware when you agree to umpire for them.

Teams please remember that umpires are doing you a service by helping you so if they request you or a team player stay to score for them please try and assist.

Helpful reminders:

- UMPIRES if you require a scorer in a league other than Division One and Division Two it is YOUR responsibility to find a scorer or to request a scorer please don't expect some one to be staying or available on the night. Remember the other team will not know you have requested one so don't assume!
- UMPIRES remember that teams provide umpires on a different game to what they are playing so you may have sorted out your scorer but the other umpire won't have therefore check with the team if it is possible for TWO scorers to be provided.
- UMPIRES it is not the two teams playing responsibility to provide the scorers – remember you are the designated umpire for another team (neutral umpires)
- TEAMS remember that umpires are there to help you if they request a scorer for whatever reason help them otherwise you may find yourself with no umpire in the future.
- TEAMS – spectators are able to assist you so on the night if you find that you need a scorer please make every attempt to find one.
- UMPIRES & TEAMS – a game can only be played with TWO scorers it is not acceptable for one scorer to do the whole game or a scorer and one of the umpires to keep the score.