

Respect the Umpire

As a club, we feel it is crucial that all members consistently show our umpires the utmost respect; whether they have just picked up a whistle for the first time, or if they have been doing it for years. It takes a lot of courage and confidence to umpire a netball match and we wouldn't be able to play the sport we love without them. We would like them to feel they are in a safe space to practice at our club, especially if they are at the start of their umpire journey, and receiving negative comments or scowls during gameplay will have quite the opposite effect. Therefore, we are actively enforcing a **finer** policy to help ensure that all members maintain a high level of respect towards umpires when playing for Hinckley Ladies Netball Club.

This policy will be in force during all gameplay (at training and in matches*).

Vice Captains will be required to keep track of any **finer** due from their teammates and report these to the Senior Chair(s) after each occurrence via email or WhatsApp message.

All **finer** collected over the season will go towards the club fundraising pot. They can be paid via cash or via bank transfer into the club account with the reference "[NAME] FINE".

You will be **finer** £1 for each occurrence of the events listed below (this is a non-exhaustive list, and the Senior Chair(s) will make any final decisions during times of uncertainty):

- When the umpire must openly address the dissent shown by you (this does not include occasions where you are cautioned/warned for persistent infringements outside of dissent).
- When you openly disagree with the umpire verbally, or physically – this includes but is not limited to:
 - o Shaking of the head
 - o Rolling your eyes
 - o Gasping in disbelief and similar actions (snorting, laughing, tutting etc.)
 - o Looking at the umpire in an intimidating way, e.g. scowling, giving "evils" etc.
 - o Sarcastically commenting or gesturing about a decision
 - o Verbally expressing disagreement during gameplay

**Currently, only the first bullet point will incur a fine during matches (league & friendlies). This may be edited in future seasons to include all points noted above.*

We hope that having this in place will make everyone more aware of the effect their behaviour has on others and improve the umpires' experience officiating for Hinckley Ladies Netball Club.

If anyone has any questions regarding the above policy, please speak with the Senior Chair(s).