

## BucksHUA Appointments Secretary Report 13-14

1. This seasons has confirmed that without the additional support offered by umpires willing to undertake two appointed games BucksHUA would not be able to appoint to all the games as required by South Men's League Rules (MBBO Reg1, MBBO Reg2, MBBO Div1 and MBBO Div2). Additionally attempts are made to support Oxford Uni games in London League and school games. Dropping these additional commitments would not guarantee the ability to meet the South Men's League commitments as quite often it will rely on match start times.
2. This season had less games being rearranged due to weather induced cancellations.
3. Bucks Cup was held after all the league fixtures had been completed.
4. An improved support to the county hosted JACs, with representation from the junior umpires at many of the JACs, except for the last weekend which again clashed with South Mini's Finals. Many thanks to those umpires that supported these events and to the coaches that enabled the juniors to take the appointments.
5. Again this season I have received notification that umpires not officiating at a game are continuing to make inappropriate comments whilst pitchside or in clubhouses. A reminder that you should not enter discussions with players on other umpires performance. This has been highlighted many times before, but it is still occurring with some of the unacceptable comments being made by very junior umpires. If you do not understand why an umpire has made 'the decision', then take the opportunity to talk to them and ask them after the game (but show respect).
6. I have tried to vary teams and colleague for appointments. If you think that you have been given the same team/colleague too often then let me know, I can usually swap people around.
7. Level 2 umpires – could you consider a coaching appointment if possible before/after your umpire appointment?
8. Level 1 umpires – consider watching NPUA/South appointed games if time permits as the umpires should be demonstrating alternative methods of controlling players (although not always!), but the techniques used may not be understood by the players in the division that you are appointed to.
9. Umpire Trawl – Are there any club umpires that are interested in taking appointments. Even occasional can be accommodated. Summer League and pre-season games can provide suitable opportunities to be assessed / coached. Umpires currently taking appointments are requested to consider attempting to recruit more umpires from the clubs.
10. The umpire panels on the website are in the process of being gender combined. This may increase the number of umpires being asked for availability. If you wish to umpire only one gender then please let me know, or enter a comment with your availability. This is less of an issue for BucksHUA as currently we appoint to very few Ladies fixtures.
11. I am willing to continue in post, although I may need some assistance depending on my employment through the season.

Regards,

Andy Sparrow