



UMPIRES & SCORERS
ASSOCIATION



Umpire examination Regulations

Effective September 2010

The New Zealand Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association

These examination regulations are effective from September 2010.

Purpose

The association offers four levels of qualifications to enable umpires to develop their skills in a structured manner.

Level 1 and Level 2 are introductory levels.

Level 3 and Level 4 are formal qualifications.

These two levels (3 and 4) are recommended for advancement for umpire appointments.

Records

Each local association has the responsibility of ensuring that these regulations are adhered to and that adequate records kept for Level 1 & Level 2.

The Secretary of the NZCUSA shall keep records of all Level 3 and Level 4 examination passes on his database.

Level 1

This level is targeted to Junior school players, parents and their coaches.

Eligibility

There are no eligibility requirements at this level.

The examination

This oral or written examination may be taken after attending the two-module training course.

Wherever possible, this course should be conducted in a class environment using the booklet: **Cricket Umpiring – getting started**.

At the conclusion of that examination and with a 70% pass mark, Local associations shall issue a certificate to the successful candidates.

Normal examination procedures must be followed during this examination.

Success or failure

If a candidate is unsuccessful, they may make another attempt at the examiners discretion using the alternative paper.

Level 2

This level is targeted to Senior school players, parents and their coaches and is the introductory level for those who seek to become a regular cricket umpire.

Eligibility

There are no eligibility requirements at this level.

Players who have an established history of playing cricket at senior club level should be encouraged to attend the Level 2 training modules; however, because of their experience, Local associations may grant them an exemption from taking this examination.

The examination

This oral or written examination may be taken after attending the three-module training course. Wherever possible, this course should be conducted in a class environment using the booklet: **The Player Umpires Companion**.

At the conclusion of these modules, participants may attempt this examination; an 80% pass mark is required. Local associations shall issue a certificate to the successful candidates.

Normal examination procedures must be followed during this examination.

Success or failure

If a candidate is unsuccessful, they may make another attempt at the examiners discretion using the alternative paper.

Level 3

This level is targeted for umpires who seek to develop their skills sufficiently to enable them to officiate in Senior club competitions.

Eligibility

Eligibility of candidates for the NZCUSA Level 3 examination shall be determined by the local affiliated association.

Examination application

Candidates seeking to sit this examination must make their wishes known to their local Examination officer, who must forward that request with all relevant details to the Board secretary when the candidate becomes eligible. That application must contain:

- The name and address of the candidate/s.
- An affirmation that the candidate/s comply with these regulations.
- The name and address of the Examination officer to whom the papers and instructions are to be sent.

The examination

Candidates must be provided with the printed answer sheets to record their answers plus some paper for any notes that they may wish to make.

The examination may be taken as an oral or written examination.

Oral: This part must be completed in one hour without any other candidate being present.

A reader must sit in front of the candidate and there must be at least one marker sitting behind him. One of the markers must hold NZCUSA Level 4 qualifications.

The introduction and the questions must be read to the candidate progressively. Candidates may make any notes on blank paper which must be made available.

Once a candidate has given a final answer they cannot go back to that question, however they may return to any question previously passed by.

As the examination progresses, the two markers must agree on the answers given being correct or not. Then when tabulated at the end of the examination, candidates must be advised of their result.

Written: The maximum time allowed is 90 minutes to complete the two components – Laws and Local.

Candidates must be given 10 minutes to read the paper before starting the examination. They must complete the examination within the allocated time with their answers in ink.

Candidates will be informed of their result when marked.

This examination comprises two components:

The Laws component: All questions and answers are based on the latest edition of: **The Umpires Companion** and includes questions on the MCC Laws of Cricket 2000 code together with any subsequent amendments & experimental Laws.

The Local component: All questions and answers must be approved by the respective Local association Examination officer and the Chief Examination officer of the NZCUSA.

Important: The 'Local component' questions complete with model answers must be submitted to the Board secretary, prior to the release of an examination paper, for the Chief examination officer's approval.

The 'Laws component' represents 80 marks of the total marks available; the 'Local component' represents the remaining 20 marks.

Candidates must gain at least 80 marks across the two components to pass this examination.

Success or failure

If a candidate is unsuccessful, they may make another attempt using an alternative paper as supplied by the NZCUSA Board Member responsible for Examinations.

Examination papers

All examination papers, answers and summary of results must be returned promptly to the Secretary NZCUSA.

Photocopying and/or retention of any paper is absolutely prohibited.

Level 4

This level is targeted to umpires, who having previously passed, or have been granted an exemption (refer to page 8) from, the Level 3 examination and seek the opportunity, subject to their performance both on and off the field, to be promoted to higher level matches and to matches under the jurisdiction of New Zealand Cricket.

Eligibility

Candidates for the Level 4 examination must be active members of an affiliated Association of NZCUSA and for guidance it is suggested that the candidate should have had at least one full season of umpiring in local club matches after passing the Level 3 examination of the NZCUSA.

These examination papers are prepared and approved annually by the Board of NZCUSA.

Examination application

Candidates seeking to sit this examination must make their wishes known to their local Examination officer, who must forward that request with all relevant details to the Board secretary by 1st February of the year in which they wish to sit. That application must contain:

- The name and address of the candidate/s.
- An affirmation that the candidate/s comply with these regulations.
- The names of the members of the examining panel for the oral examination and the name and address of the Examination officer of that panel to whom the papers and instructions are to be sent.
- The Examination officer of the written examination to whom all examination papers and instructions are to be sent.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

The examination

This two-part examination may be taken after attending the nine-module training course.

This examination comprises questions and answers based on three publications.

- The latest edition of **The Umpires Companion**, including any amendments
- The latest edition of MCC Laws of Cricket 2000 code together with any subsequent amendments & experimental Laws, and
- The current edition of **The New Zealand Cricket playing conditions**.

The Level 4 examination, scheduled for the April/May period of each year, and consists of two parts:

Part 1 – Oral:

This part must be completed in one hour without any other candidate being present.

A reader must sit in front of the candidate and there must be at least one marker sitting behind him.

The introduction and the questions must be read to the candidate progressively. Candidates may make any notes on blank paper which must be made available.

Once a candidate has given a final answer they cannot go back to that question, however they may return to any question they have passed by.

As the examination progresses, the two markers must agree on the answers given as correct or not. Both markers must hold NZCUSA Level 4 qualifications. Then when tabulated at the end of the examination, candidates must be advised of their result.

Part 2 - Written:

This part must be completed in two hours. Candidates will be given 10 minutes to read the paper before starting the examination. They must complete the examination within the allocated time with their answers in ink.

They may answer the questions in any order and ensure their answers are clearly labelled.

Candidates must be provided with paper to record their answers plus also some paper for any notes that they may wish to make.

Candidates will be advised of their result no later than June 30th.

Candidates will be permitted to have a reader-writer provided approval has been requested at the time of application to sit.

The pass mark for each part, oral and written, is 80%.

Success or failure

If a candidate is unsuccessful in **Part 1**, they may NOT attempt **Part 2**.

A failure of **Part 2** means an overall failure.

Unsuccessful candidates may resit in subsequent years.

Rewrite

Candidates have the right to rewrite the written examination if their mark is between 70% and 79% inclusive. Candidates through their Local Associations must advise the Secretary NZCUSA within seven (7) days from the notification of results if they wish to rewrite the written examination. The pass mark for a rewrite is 90%.

Examination papers

All examination papers and answers must be returned promptly to the Secretary NZCUSA.

Photocopying and/or retention of any papers are absolutely prohibited.

Written paper candidate answer booklets will be returned to the Examination Officer of the association to which the candidate belongs once candidates opting for a rewrite have done so.

Certificates & Results

Level 1 & Level 2

Local associations will issue certificates to successful candidates.

Local associations must keep a record of all examination results and certificates issued.

Level 3

A reporting form provided must be completed and forwarded to the Secretary NZCUSA to ensure successful candidate receive their certificates.

Certificates, when completed, should be presented at a suitable occasion.

Level 4

All certificates are presented at the Annual General meeting of the NZCUSA.

If a candidate is unable to attend, a delegate may accept the certificate on their behalf to be presented to the candidate at a suitable occasion.

Examination Sub-committee Report

A complete examination report must be submitted annually by the Chief Examination Officer to the Board preceding the Annual General Meeting of the NZCUSA.

Exemptions

The Board of the NZCUSA may exempt a person sitting the Level 3 or Level 4 examination, upon receipt of written application.

Previous regulations

All NZCUSA Examination Regulations previously issued by NZCUSA are hereby rescinded.

Authority

These regulations are issued by the Board of the New Zealand Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association.

Dated September 2010.

