



Match Official Development Pathway

2020/21

Frequently Asked Questions

Courses

1. I completed a refereeing level 1 course last season; do I need to complete one of the new courses?

Match Officials who have already completed a course (e.g. referee level 1) do not need to undertake one of the new courses in order to meet the new accreditation criteria being brought in from August 2022. As a result, match officials will be classified as being 'qualified' on the SCRUMS system.

2. Why has the previous course pathway come to an end?

In 2019, Scottish Rugby reviewed all Training and Education courses and materials to assess their impact and to see if there were opportunities for improvement.

The result of the evaluations concluded whilst the refereeing courses (e.g. Level 1) has positively impacted upon people's development, there were opportunities to improve the courses.

Minimum Match Officiating Standards 2020-21

3. When will the RugbyRight course go live for season 2020-21?

The RugbyRight course will go live once Stage 5 of the Return to Rugby roadmap has been triggered.

4. I completed RugbyRight in season 2019-20, do I need to complete it again?

No. RugbyRight only needs to be completed once every 2 seasons. In this situation, RugbyRight will need to be completed at the start of season 2021-22.

5. Do I need a qualification to referee?

Yes. All referees of rugby (S1+) must be qualified to referee a game.

In addition, all match officials are to have completed the following in 2020-21:

- Covid-19 Return Rugby E-Learning Course (<https://bit.ly/covid-19elearning>)
- RugbyRight online (<http://bit.ly/RugbyRight>) - those who completed this in 2019-20 do not need to complete again.

New Match Official Accreditation (as of August 2022)

6. What are the consequences if a match official doesn't have a qualification and continues to referee?

Referees who do not possess a qualification should not take charge for a game of rugby at any level (S1+). At a community level, it will be the club or school's responsibility to only utilise referees who are qualified. Clubs or schools found to be actively going against this requirement could face disciplinary action.

7. My accreditation expired 2yrs ago, how do I become reaccredited?

To become re-accredited after a period of up to 3years has lapsed, a match official needs to complete the following steps:

- Ensure registration details are correct on SCRUMS
- Complete RugbyRight online course (available via Hive Learning)
- Complete a CPD module (either online or face-to-face)

If a match official's accreditation has lapsed for 3yrs or more, then they must undertake a new qualification, plus the steps outlined above, to gain accreditation.

8. Every year I need to complete a CPD module. Why is this and what will this entail?

CPD (Continuous Personal Development) modules have been created by Scottish Rugby to support match officials of all ages and stages of their development. CPD modules will include online topics such as communication, managing conflict etc.

Scottish Rugby believes regular CPD can play a crucial role in creating positive, developmental environments, and help more players start, stay and succeed in our game.