



Grade 1 Umpire Award

Grade 1 umpires (Provincial A Panel umpires) are qualified to umpire up to and including Senior Provincial Hockey, Irish Hockey League and Irish Senior Cup and International matches (where selected).

Qualifying Criteria:

- Umpire must have must have been **coached in a minimum of two matches** at Provincial B Panel and/or Provincial B* Panel level prior to assessment.
- Grade 1 umpires are required to demonstrate a high level of fitness.

Assessment Procedure:

The candidate must achieve a minimum mark of at least 6.00 when assessed in two consecutive matches at Provincial B* Panel level within the same calendar year or season. * Fast tracking can apply to Provincial B Panel level (very exceptional)

Assessments should involve neutral teams at the following minimum levels: -

Ulster - Premier League

Leinster - Division One

Munster – Higher Division One

Connacht – Higher Division One

Umpires can also be assessed at national competitions. Marks can be used towards the A Panel and their Grade 1 Umpire Award when the competition is at least Irish Hockey League, Irish Senior Cup or U21 Interprovincial.

Assessments should be conducted at least an 'A' Panel Assessor and **one assessment MUST be conducted by a FIH 'A' Panel Assessor** prior to being considered for promotion.

Note:

If the appointed assessor is not satisfied with the performance of the umpire, one of the following shall apply:

- If an unsuccessful assessment (not umpiring to 'A Panel' standard) is obtained during any stage of the process, the umpire must re-start the assessment process.
- Should an umpire obtain a two unsuccessful assessments (not umpiring to 'A Panel' standard) during the assessment process, the process should cease. Additional coaching should be considered and the assessment process re-started over again, when deemed appropriate by the Province.

Registration Procedure:

The Assessor is responsible for completing and submitting all assessment forms via the Umpire Portal.

Following the successful completion of the assessment requirement, the umpire will be listed on the Provincial A Panel and registered as a qualified Grade 1 Umpire. The Provincial Umpiring Association is responsible for sending the umpire his/her certificate and a letter confirming their Grade 1 Umpire Award.

Maintenance:

The Provincial Umpiring Association is responsible for the administration and monitoring of the Grade 1 Umpire Register.

The Provincial Umpiring Association is responsible for submitting to the Irish Hockey Umpires Association (IHUA) any amendments or changes to their Grade 1 Umpire Register.

IHUA is responsible for the maintenance/administration of the National Grade 1 Umpire Register and all associated amendments and enquiries should be addressed to them.

Note:

Any umpire who has reached Provincial B* Panel (maximum) and wants to umpire men's hockey will need to undergo the full assessment process for Provincial B* Panel again. The same will apply for any umpire who has qualified in men's hockey and then chooses to umpire women's hockey.