

BRITISH WATER POLO LEAGUE

These notes are issued as guidance for teams when completing the referees' evaluation form on the BWPL data system.

1. What is the evaluation used for?

To assist the BWPL Officials' Group in monitoring and maintaining the standard of refereeing by the League's panel of referees. *Gradings will not be shared outside this group.*

2. Who should make the evaluation?

Any competent person with a sound knowledge of the rules; preferably a non-playing team manager, coach or other official but, if this is not possible, the team captain.

3. When should the evaluation be made?

Within **seven days**. Please complete the BWPL form assessing performance of the referees and return it electronically via the League's data management system. Failure to comply will result in a £5 fine on each occasion. *See Rule 107.3.*

But . . . within **three days** if you are sending a Deficient evaluation (*Rule 107.4*). This **must be accompanied by a written statement explaining why the grading has been given** and include a copy of the match sheet. Pending the appointment of a new Officials' Co-ordinator, please forward to the BWPL Officials' Group, c/o League General Secretary Chris Ducker, chris.ducker@bwpl.org.

4. How should the evaluation be made?

The League expects its teams, coaches and referees to approach each match in a positive spirit of cooperation and mutual respect. Referees and players have varying levels of skill and experience, but all should aim for the same outcome - a fair match result that reflects the teams' performance on the day and, in all respects, a match played in the true spirit of the sport.

Evaluators should remember that, at the start of every match, referees have a **Good** evaluation, irrespective of any previous encounters. If referees demonstrate any failings during the match, the evaluator must apply the criteria below to arrive at a final grading.

The degree of difficulty of the game should *not* affect the evaluation. In an **Easy** game where the referee is not tested he should receive a **Good** grading if he is error free or near it.

5. What criteria should be used for the gradings?

- **Good:** Should be awarded to a referee who has demonstrated overall control and consistency, dealing firmly with exclusions, penalties and any other important incidents and communicating effectively with the players. A referee should not be denied a Good evaluation because he/she is perceived to have made one or two minor errors.
- **Satisfactory:** Awarded when a referee has not demonstrated full consistency and firmness and/or has occasionally failed properly to apply the rules, but without affecting the overall match outcome.
- **Poor:** To a referee who has shown inconsistency, lack of firmness and control, poor communication and has clearly failed to apply the rules to such an extent that he/she has materially affected the fairness of the match outcome.
- **Deficient:** This is the lowest level and should only be given when, **after serious consideration**, the evaluator is satisfied a referee has shown such a great lack of consistency, firmness and/or lack of knowledge of the rules that he/she has changed the outcome of the match.

6. How is the degree of difficulty of the game decided?

- **Difficult:** A very physical game or with many technical fouls irrespective of the score.
- **Medium:** Close game but with a moderate level of physical play or technical fouls.
- **Easy:** One-sided game or without the need for significant intervention by the referees.