

Mentoring of Umpires and Referees

What is mentoring?

The Technical Officials' Committee (TOC) seek to provide ongoing training to all technical officials to enable them to develop their skills so that they are able to attain the highest standards of officiating possible for themselves. Mentors are appointed through the TOC to provide support, guidance and encouragement to umpires and referees to help them become better in all aspects of their role and to help them develop skills that will enable them to deal in a professional manner with others that they come into contact with through our sport.

Who is able to benefit from mentoring?

All technical officials are able to benefit from mentoring. It is of particular benefit to newly-qualified umpires and to those who return to officiating after a significant time away.

What happens during mentoring?

Mentoring may take place at a single tournament, or a series of tournaments, or through telephone/e mail/face-to-face contact, or indeed through a combination of all or some these methods.

During mentoring the mentor will endeavour to provide help and guidance about the role of a technical official, the rules and regulations, match procedures, dealing with misbehaviour and anything else that helps to build confidence and professionalism in officiating. A mentor will observe matches in progress and provide feedback; this is not a matter of 'pass' or 'fail' but merely one method by which the mentor is able to help build the skills and confidence of the person being mentored.

What about confidentiality?

All aspects of a persons' progress through the mentoring process is confidential and will not be discussed with anyone else except for other members of the TOC who have a professional need to be aware of such matters.

Requesting help via the mentoring programme

If you feel that a period of mentoring could benefit you then please contact any member of the TOC or contact Karen Tonge MBE via e mail address k_tonge@sky.com