



CAMANACHD  
ASSOCIATION  
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THE GOVERNING  
BODY FOR SHINTY



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## *Match Officials: Development Pathway*





## PATHWAY FOR SHINTY MATCH OFFICIALS

### 1. Introduction

1.1 The pathway provide an outline of the qualification and experience that Shinty Match Officials who are registered with the CA require to achieve before being appointed to officiate at games which are arranged under the auspices of the CA.

1.2 The CA will provide training opportunities and incremental game experience for registered officials to progress through the indicated Grades and to develop their knowledge of rules and game handling skills.

1.3 The CA will review procedures for assessing match officials' performance, including the delivery of training for those undertaking this function. The procedures will further develop the emphasis on providing support and giving feedback to individual officials and encouraging improved performance and personal development.

1.4 The CA will organise a system of peer support for all Grades of registered match officials which will include a systematic and routine approach to the assessment of match performance. This will ensure that individual officials are consistently meeting the required standard of performance at games and, where appropriate, to ensure that advancement to the next Grade is informed by observed and recorded evidence of meeting the necessary standard of physical fitness, the relevant knowledge of rules and achieving satisfactory performance during games.

1.5 The above constitutes the mechanism through which the CA will ensure that registered match officials are able to take charge of games in accordance with the Rules of Shinty and that games are conducted in a safe and orderly manner. It will ensure that individual match officials are supported to achieve and maintain a high level of personal performance.

### 2. CA Officials Development Pathway

2.1 On first registration with the CA as a prospective match official, every individual will be regarded as a Foundation Level Official. Before taking charge of any game as a referee, a Foundation Level Official will require to undertake basic training as detailed within the Pathway.

2.2 For a novice to shinty, the level of games will be restricted until all elements of training are completed. At that point, a higher level of games may be allocated. Credit for prior club coaching or club refereeing experience may be recognised by submission of relevant written evidence to the CA Operations Manager to support that experience and knowledge.

2.3 These arrangements are designed to ensure an incremental approach to game management and game level allocation which is entirely commensurate with the experience and demonstrable ability of each official while maintaining an element of flexibility to fast track suitable candidates. The arrangements are also designed to enable new entrants to match official duties to feel supported in terms of their development and to enable them to receive constructive comment on their performance in a positive environment.

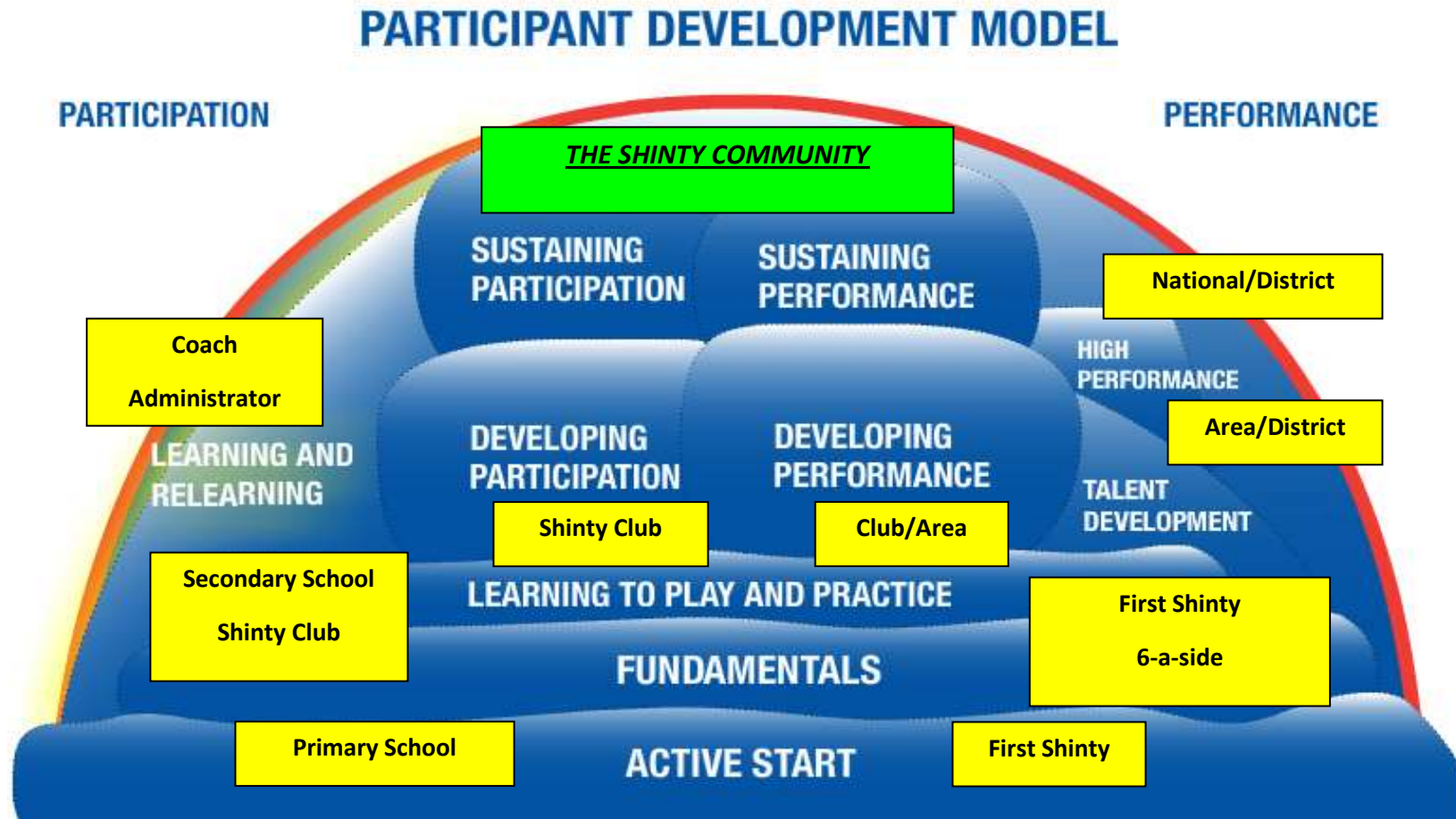
2.4 Refereeing of league games will not be undertaken until the relevant assessment and Performance Review are both completed and an individual official has achieved Grade 3 status. However, acting as Goal or Line Judge is permitted before these elements are completed.

2.5 The revised CA Officials Working Group (OWG) will review and assess the performance and progress of individual officials who wish to progress to the next Grade and will meet at least twice per year. This group will be chaired by the CA Officials Director and will comprise one additional CA Director, a representative of the Camanachd Referees Association and 2 representatives from the Shinty Clubs' community. Such reviews will take place on the basis of written training records and with due consideration of match performance from submitted assessment reports. The OWG will also determine the official's allocation of cup ties and high profile games which will be based on evidence of previous performance and with due regard to the development needs of individual officials where appropriate. Such appointments will be by invitation. This group will operate with integrity but will adopt an open and inclusive policy including through discussion with individual officials regarding their performance and future potential.

2.6 A list of cup ties and high profile games is contained in the Appendix below and this will be published on the CA web site. The OWG will adhere to the Grading of officials shown in that Appendix for the allocation of games, as far as possible taking into account the availability and development needs of individual officials.

# ***Camanachd Association: Long Term Officials Development***

The development of Match Officials is driven by the need to develop participation within the sport of shinty and is therefore linked to the Participant Development Model as is the development of players and coaches.



Youth & University - Grade 3: Women and Senior Reserve - Grade 2: Senior 1<sup>st</sup> Team - Grade 1: Premier, Senior District & International

## **THE CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION**

In Gaelic *Comunn na Camanachd* - is the ruling body of the ancient and unique stick sport of shinty in its modern dynamic form.

It is played particularly in the areas of Scotland related to the Gaelic population as well as in the cities and the universities of the nation.

The object of the Association is to foster and develop the national game sustaining the recreational traditions of skill, courage and stamina dating back over countless generations to the earliest roots of the Celtic race.

Further details on the subjects contained in this information Leaflet can be obtained from the Camanachd Association website or from the office.

*Shinty - more than a game!*<sup>TM</sup>

### **Camanachd Association**

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**CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION**  
COMANN NA CAMANACHD

**THE GOVERNING BODY FOR SHINTY**

**Training and Support for Match Officials**

## **Training for Match Officials**

*(Provided as part of the Long Term Officials Development Pathway)*

The CA encourages officials to deliver the highest standards of officiating at all times and is committed to providing an appropriate training structure for all levels

### **Foundation Certificate:**

*A 4 hour Course, including Fitness test, designed to assist any adult (16 years and over) to officiate at youth and reserve team level. Successful candidates will be included in the Grade 3 Referee Data Base. A 2 hour Youth/University option is available.*

### **Level 1 Certificate:**

*A 6 hour course, including assessment, designed to assist Foundation Level (Grade 3) referees progress to Grade 2 and officiate at 1<sup>st</sup> Team level.*

### **Development Workshops:**

*Workshops designed to assist:*

- a) Grade 2 Referees to progress to Grade 1*
- b) All referees to develop their knowledge and consistence of interpretation.*

### **Goal Judge Certificate:**

*2 hour course designed to assist any adult to officiate to the required criteria.*

## **Support for Match Officials**

### **Incentives:**

£35 Match Fee plus 45p per mile expenses **for senior games**

Referee Kit and equipment is provided by the Camanachd Referee Association to members.

Opportunity to officiate at major games  
Annual Awards for each Grade of Referee and Goal Judge

### **Grading:**

Committed and ambitious referees will have the opportunity to progress upwards in the Grades and officiate at Cup Finals/ Inter District/ National games

Grade 3: Referee Youth Finals – Assist at Junior & Senior Cup Finals

Grade 2: Referee Reserve Finals – Assist at Senior Finals/Inter District

Grade 1: Referee or assist at Senior Finals/Inter District/International

### **Assessments:**

Club Referee Reports

Match Assessor Reports

Individual Assessments by CA official

Fitness Tests

Referee Club reports

### **Match Assessors:**

Match Assessors are recruited from experienced positive thinking members of the shinty community. Match Assessors will be the sports eyes and ears at games to help encourage and improve, where appropriate, the standards of performance of Players, Club Officials, Match Officials & Supporters.



# Match Officials: Development Pathway Flowchart





## Appendixes:

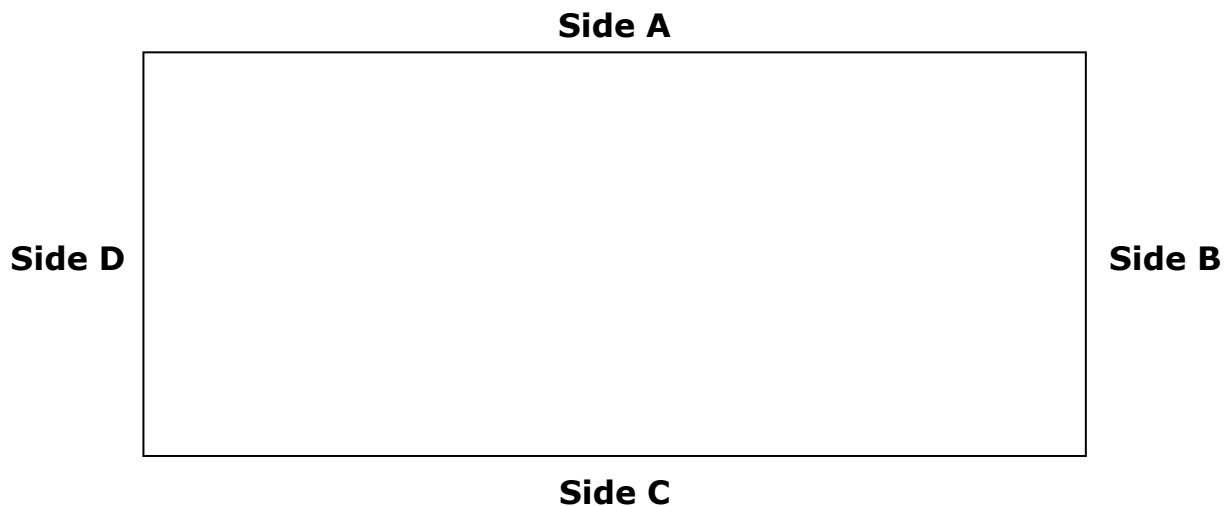


## Referee Training & Support Fitness Test

### Protocol:

Firm grass surface

Rectangle 20m x 10m - Cones



**Side A:** Run Forward - **Side B:** Run Backwards – **Side C:** Run Forward

**Side D:** Walk

Individual Starting points: On completion of each revolution stop and record the number and then complete next revolution in reverse direction.

**Complete as many revolutions as possible in 15 minutes**

### **Grading Standards:**

**Grade 1 38**

**Grade 2 32**

**Grade 3 26**



## Referee Training & Support Fitness Test

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Venue: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Revolutions:

**1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10**

**11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20**

**21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30**

**31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40**

**41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50**

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Pre-Match Dynamic Warm up

<b>General Warm up</b>	
<i>Joint Mobility and general movement preparation</i>	
Pre warm up – jog around pitch (check goals)	
Neck Rotations	10 x R/L
Arm Circles –	10 x R/L
Arm Drive – wrist/hip thumb /cheek	2 x 10 secs
Trunk rotations	10 x R/L
Front Leg Swings	10 x R/L
Side Leg Swings	10 x R/L
Hurdle walk	10 x R/L
<b>Dynamic Flexibility Training</b>	
Forward Walking Lunge	10 metres
Backward walking lunge	10 metres

<b>Linear and multi Directional Preparation</b>	
High Knees	2 x 10 metres
Butt kicks	2 x 10 metres
Carioca	2 x 10 metres
Lateral Shuffle	2 x 10 metres
Backpedal with jog back	2 x 10 metres

<b>Sprints</b>	
Linear Acceleration	5 x 5m Sprints
Linear Acceleration	5 x 20m Sprints
Change direction	Jog 10m backwards, sprint 5m fwds
Change direction	Jog 10m backwards turn and sprint 5m Fwds



## ***Match Assessors***

Match Assessors are recruited from experienced positive thinking members of the shinty community. Further recruitment is ongoing and anyone who would like to be considered should contact the CA Head Office on 01463 715931.

Each Match Assessor will cover games within an agreed geographical area and will be the eyes and ears of the sport to help encourage and improve, where appropriate, the standards of everyone involved in the sport especially Match Officials, Coaches/Managers, Club Officials and Supporters.

Match Assessors will help mould and develop closer interaction between these key groups in shinty and contribute to identifying the best ways of improving performance.

The Match Assessors will gauge performances against the CA Codes of Conduct and encourage balanced credible feedback information through the appropriate report forms (Match Assessor Form, Club-Referee Form & Referee-Club Form). All forms should be returned within five days following the game. This will ensure a high level of information is gathered to drive up the standards of the sport of Shinty

Match Assessors confirm their availability to the CA Operations and Events Manager each week and following discussions are allocated to an agreed game. The Clubs and Referees involved will normally be notified by e-mail. Match Assessors may, due to unforeseen circumstances, attend a game without prior notification.

Match Assessors are requested to introduce themselves to appropriate Club and Match Officials prior to a game and offer the opportunity for discussion and feedback at the end of the game.

Training/briefing sessions are provided for Match Assessors and travel expenses only are paid.

For further details please contact Astie Cameron the Operations and Events Manager on 01463 715931

***Shinty – more than a game!™***

**Table 1: Foundation Grade Official Training - Min age 16years, max 75years  
(Under 16 years may take part in Foundation Youth Training)**

Training Content	Testing Method (Standard tbc)	Game level
Foundation Youth/Uni Training (Under 16 years)		Primary School Tournaments with support from CA development staff
Foundation Youth/Uni Training (16 years +)		Youth games U14/17 with support - University games
Foundation Certificate Training (Adult)	Fitness Test Satisfactory completion of <i>on-line</i> Rule Knowledge Test	Club Training/Youth/Reserve – WCA - School - Uni games Goal Judge - Linesman
Goal Judge Certificate (16 +)		All games
Referee Mentor identified		
Issue of Standard Officials' Uniform		
Completion of at least 5 of the appropriate level fixtures as Referee – at least 2 competitive fixture to be Assessed as 'Satisfactory'	Assessment Reports from first 3 games, Mentor Report with Training Records and Game Experience submitted to Officials Working Group for review and decision for confirmation as Grade 3.	Undertake league games on a progressive basis. Lower league games initially then progression to higher level fixtures depending on continued 'Satisfactory' Assessment Reports

**Table 2: Intermediate Grade Official Training (for progression from Grade 3 to Grade 2)**

Training Content	Testing method	Game Level
Workshop: Rules Knowledge Self-directed study of Rules Definitions	Developing knowledge of Rules Definitions (Reference Guidance on web site) Includes observation of video clips of real games	School to Club reserve level Referee of Youth Cup Finals  Goal Judge/Linesman at all levels
Achieve Fitness Standard	Minimum Fitness test standard to be confirmed	
Workshops: E.G Decision making Communication Skills Dealing with abuse Managing Conflict Read the game	Attendance at a minimum of 1 workshop annually  Interactive Role Play Video recording/Passage of play observation test	
Completion of at least 20 Division 2 league games as Referee – at least 15 'satisfactory' assessments	Assessment Reports, Mentor Reports with Training Records and Game Experience submitted to Officials Working Group for review and decision for advancement to Grade 2.	Referee selected North/South 1 league games Development opportunity based on 'Satisfactory' Assessment

**Table 3: Advanced Grade Official Training (for advancement from Grade 2 to Grade 1)**

Training Content	Testing Method	Game Level
Workshop: Rules Knowledge Self-directed study of Rules Definitions	Developing knowledge of Rules Definitions (Reference Guidance on web site) Includes observation of video clips of real games	As above but in addition Referee of National league games Involvement in High Profile Games and Finals by appointment/invitation

Achieve Fitness Standard	Minimum Fitness test standard to be confirmed	
Workshops: E.G Decision making Communication Skills Dealing with abuse Managing Conflict Read the game	Attendance at a minimum of 2 workshops annually  Interactive Role Play Video recording/Passage of play observation test	
Completion of at least 24 games (3 Premier Division trial games, and at least 2 'satisfactory' Assessments)	Assessment Reports, Mentor Reports with Training Records and Game Experience submitted to Officials Working Group for review and decision for advancement to Grade 1.	

**Table 4: CUP TIES AND HIGH PROFILE GAMES**

<b>Cup/League</b>	<b>Referee</b>	<b>Linesman</b>	<b>Goal Judge</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Official</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Camanachd Cup	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 1/2	Grade 1	Live BBC broadcast
Macaulay Association	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 1/2	Grade 1	Live BBC broadcast
MacTavish Cup	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 1/2	Grade 1	BBC ALBA
Celtic Society	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 1/2	Grade 1	BBC ALBA
Balliemore Cup	Grade 2	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3	Grade 2	Development opportunity
Sutherland Cup	Grade 2	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3	Grade 2	Development opportunity
Strathdearn Cup	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3 Back up Ref		
Bullough Cup	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3 Back up Ref		
Camanachd Semi-final 1	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 1/2	Grade 1	BBC ALBA
Camanachd Semi Final 2	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 1/2	Grade 1	BBC ALBA
Premier League	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 1/2	Grade 1	BBC ALBA Development opportunity
Shinty/Hurling International	Grade 1	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3	Grade 1	Live BBC broadcast
Shinty/Hurling International U21	Grade 2	Grade 2/3	Grade 2/3	Grade 2	Development Opportunity for suitable Officials
Premier: High profile games	Grade 1		Grade 2		Development Opportunity for suitable Officials