

## RESUME

Candidates for 'A' Badges should show understanding of the finer points of:

- procedures and protocols
- control of general infringements
- terminology
- interpretations of the rules
- reading play
- positioning
- extensive, but common sense application of the Advantage Rule
- maintaining concentration throughout the game
- recognising the intention of a player's action
- consistency

## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - 'A' BADGE

### Pre-requisites

- Level 2 Umpire Education Course
- Rules in Action (2 units)
- A pass of 90% or more in the Section I Theory Examination (current for 6 years)

### Voice

- Firm and decisive, generally heard easily.

### Manner

- Firm, confident but pleasant.

### Whistle

- Should be loud, sharp and clear.

### Dress

- Umpires shall wear clothes distinct from those of the players and preferably white or cream in colour. Suitable shoes shall be worn.

### Fitness

- Has excellent coverage of the court for the entire game.

### Positioning

- At least level with, if not just ahead of, the ball.
- Good positioning and quick re-positioning when play switches, is most important at this level.
- Moving to get a better view is essential.
- When play is in their area, candidates should be in position to view the area ahead of the play as well as where the ball is.
- No umpire shall be on court except to take a toss up.

### Control

- Uses correct terminology which helps the players by keeping the game flowing.
- Efficiency in procedures and control of general infringements are expected.
- Sound rule interpretations and an element of common sense in the application of the same must be shown.
- Ensures that the game proceeds at the expected speed and level of the competition.
- Makes no decision if not in a position to see clearly (being able to read the play complements positioning).
- Is not susceptible to external influences e.g. spectators.
- Has ultimate control of all players and officials through correct procedures and protocols.
- Has excellent game control.
- Co-operates with the other umpire to give full coverage of the game.

### Terminology

- Uses correct terminology at all times.

### Decisions

- Consistency is important at any level. Candidates must achieve a high success rate for all major infringements.
- An immediate and continued display of:
  - where to look;
  - when to look; and
  - what to look for.
- At 'A' level it is expected that the candidate has the ability to penalise infringements ahead of play and to either acknowledge or penalise infringements behind play, whichever is the most appropriate action at the time.
- The Advantage Rule must be correctly applied with skill at all times so that the play may be allowed to flow without the candidate losing control.
- The use of signals helps with the speed and the flow of the game. To help players position quickly, Candidates should display well executed signals to indicate all infringements.
- Candidates must show understanding between just applying the rule and showing that they can understand the rule and apply it with a degree of common sense for the situation and with precision, accuracy and consistency.

### Obstruction

- Candidates at this level are expected to be highly proficient in the recognition of obstruction and demonstrate a high degree of skill in the application of appropriate decisions, particularly "Advantage".

### Contact

- It is expected that the candidate react with either a decision or an 'Advantage' call to most incidents of contact which interfere with an opponent's play.
- At this level, an umpire should show an in depth understanding of the difference between contact and contest and umpire accordingly.
- It is important at this level for a candidate to demonstrate a common sense understanding of all the rules and their application. Candidates must show a feel for the game.
- There should be a very professional approach to the game and all its aspects.

### Endorsement of 'A' Badge umpires

- Endorsement will be for a period of 6 years.
- A candidate who has passed AA screening will be deemed to have been endorsed.