

Umpire Secretary Report for Season 2018-19

The season presented numerous challenges which had to be overcome to fulfil the club's responsibilities.

The amount of time taken to allocate suitable umpires to cover all of the matches was, frankly, unacceptable. Having said that, no matches were forfeited although we came very close on several occasions and I'm very grateful to all the umpires, especially Richard, Matt and Paul for their help and flexibility in achieving this.

We were regularly unable to have the required number of 4 umpires available for the neutral pool but it was recognised that we were doing our best and the club was not penalised.

The reality being that there is still a shortfall of umpires in the club especially appropriate umpires for the higher league teams. Players with higher level playing experience have got to step forward and take on some umpiring. The number of umpires has not increased and several of us have reached the age when retirement will need to be considered !!

At the moment I am doing the three jobs of 1) allocating umpires to club teams, 2) Umpire Liaison Officer and 3) Umpire Developer.

I am prepared to continue for one more season doing 1) and 2) and ideally with my replacement being involved/observing this coming season. We will need to have someone to take over the club's Umpire Developer position.

With this in mind, I have put a document together with all the information regarding the three umpiring jobs - what to do and where to find information.

Bunny King

16th June 2019