



Cumberland FA Referee Promotion Guide

2019/20

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Introduction

This document is designed to ensure that match officials who are considering applying for promotion understand every element of the process.

On the final page of this document you will find the link to complete your application for promotion. Please read this document carefully prior to completing the online form so you fully understand the process and timeline required for promotion.

The promotion process is the only way in which you can advance your refereeing level and enjoy the benefits of being at the next stage of the refereeing pyramid.

Although the referee promotion season traditionally runs from the beginning of March until the end of February the following year, The FA have changed this for the 2018/19 season in an effort to bring the dates closer in line with the playing season.

As a result of this change, the 2019/20 promotion season will be extended slightly and is open now until the 30th April 2020.

All of the criteria and requirements listed below apply for the full duration of the promotion season.

Referee Levels

Levels are a mark of match officials' standing within refereeing. Newly qualified referees will begin their journey as a Level T until they have completed The FA Referee course.

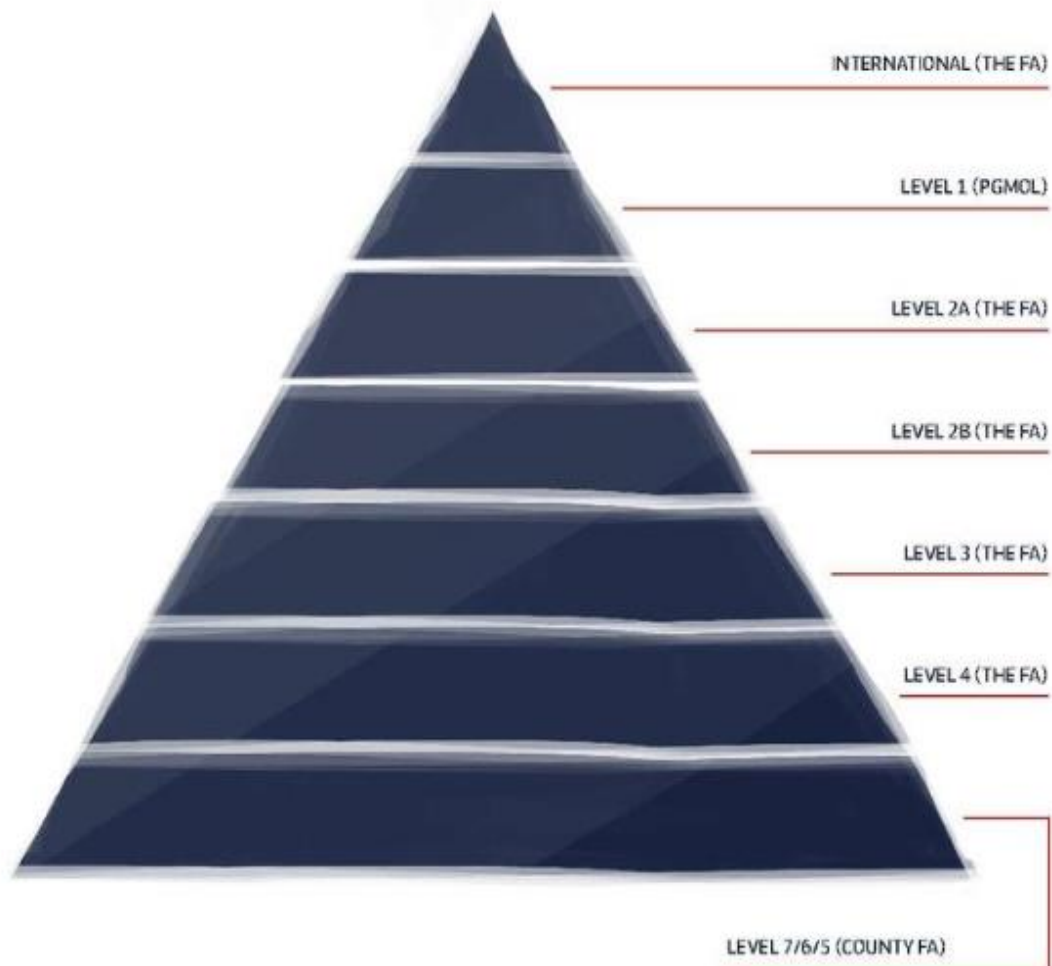
Once they have attended a Call Back event, they will then be classified as a Level 7 provided they have turned age 16. Match officials younger than 16 are classed as a Level Y. The full ranges of Levels are;

Level T – Trainee Referee (learners completing the FA Referee course)
Level Y – Youth Referee (U16)
Level 7 – Junior County Referee
Level 6 – County Referee
Level 5 – Senior County Referee
Level 4 – Supply League Referee/Contributory League Assistant Referee
Level 3 – Contributory League Referee/Panel League Assistant Referee
Level 2b – Panel League Referee
Level 2a – Panel Select League Referee
Level 1 – National List Referee
Select Group 2 – Football League Championship Referee
Select Group 1 – Premier League Referee
FIFA List – International Referee

Promotion Pathway's

There are two promotional pathways available depending on whether you are a male or female referee. Please note the male promotion pathway is also open to female officials to follow:

Men's Promotion Pathway



Women's Refereeing Pathway

The steps in the pathway will be:

Women's Super League Referee	Operating solely as a referee on The FA WSL and FA WC.
Women's Championship Referee	Operating as a referee on The FA WC and as an assistant referee on The FA WSL.
Women's National Referee	Primarily operating as a referee on the six FA WNL divisions and as an assistant referee on The FA WC.
Women's Regional Referee	Operating on Women's Regional and County Leagues.
Women's Youth Referee	Operating in all youth matches.



Referees will be expected to act as an assistant referee, one level above their current

Off-Field Administration

Although it may not initially seem so, off-field administration is as important, if not more so, than a referees performances whilst on the field of play.

All promotion candidates must ensure that their levels of administration exceeds the level at which they are aspiring to attain during that promotion season.

Administration encompasses the below aspects which are an integral part of any referees promotion journey;

- Closed Dates – keeping League & County appointment officers informed of when you are or aren't available on a continuous basis, which could be via Pitchside or MOAS
- Observation Games – keeping the County FA Observer Lead informed of when you have been appointed a match which meets the eligibility criteria to be Observed on
- Social Media – Your social media accounts must not contain inappropriate remarks or content
- Confirm Games – ensure your appointment officer and the Home Club are aware you will be officiating their games
- Report Misconduct – in a timely manner via the Whole Game System
- Ad-hoc Emails – respond to all relevant correspondence efficiently
- Promotion Fee – must be paid in line with the below timetable
- Promotion Evening – must attend some form of Promotion Evening

Level 7 to 6 & Level 6 to 5

In order to achieve promotion, each candidate must adhere to the criteria outlined below for the duration of the 2019/20 marking season.

Referees which fail to meet one or more of the below criteria will not be considered for promotion during the 2019/20 marking season.

- Have informed Cumberland FA of their intention to apply for Promotion prior to 30th August 2019
- Have paid the Referee Promotion fee of £20 prior to 30th August 2019
- Referee a minimum of 6 11v11 games that implement the offside law
- Attend a mandatory Cumberland FA Promotion Evening on Monday 4th November 2019
- Take and pass a Referee Promotion Exam
- Inform Cumberland FA of 11v11 appointments via email as soon as known so as to enable them to co-ordinate Referee Observers
- Inform any appointed Observer of cancellations, postponements or any other incidents which delay the original appointment being played immediately
- Receive a minimum of 2 out of 3 Observer Reports at 'Standard Expected' or above
- Maintain the expected standard of administration (which includes reporting of misconduct, confirmation of appointments and confirmation of Observers)

Please find below a timeline of some key dates and actions that should be followed as part of the Referee Promotion process

Promotion Season Timeline for Levels 7-6 & 6 -5

Date	Stage	Action
Thursday 1 st August 2019	Referee Promotion Launch	Submit intention to apply for promotion
Friday 30 th August 2019	Marking season begins, application & payment deadline	Record all games from this date and submit for Observations
Monday 2 nd September 2019	Fitness Testing (Venue TBC)	All candidates must meet the minimum requirements
Monday 21 st October 2019	Fitness Testing (Venue TBC)	For any candidate that doesn't meet the requirements on the 2 nd September
Monday 4 th November 2019	Referee Promotion Evening	All candidates should attend and fulfil promotion requirements e.g. Laws Exam
Monday 2 nd December 2019	1 st Warning Stage	All candidates must have submitted games for Observation
Friday 17 th January 2020	Final Warning Stage	Any Candidates not submitting games will be removed by the end of January
Monday 20 th January 2020	Referee Promotion Re-Launch	Non-responding candidates will be removed, new applications will be considered, accelerated promotions will be announced
Monday 3 rd February 2020	FA CORE Group Nominations	CFA to submit CORE group nominations to the FA
Thursday 30 th April 2020	Promotion Season Ends	All promotion requirements must have been met by this date.
Monday 11 th May 2020	2020/21 Promotion Season Opens	

Level 5 to 4

In order to achieve promotion, each candidate must adhere to the criteria outlined below for the duration of the 2019/20 marking season.

Referees which fail to meet one or more of the below criteria will not be considered for promotion in the current marking season.

- Have informed Cumberland FA of their intention to apply for Promotion prior to 30th August 2019
- Have paid the Referee Promotion fee of £20 prior to 30th August 2020
- Referee a minimum of 20 adult 11v11 games that implement the offside law and act as Assistant Referee on a minimum of 10 adult 11v11 games that implement the offside law
- Attend a Cumberland FA Promotion Evening (including passing a Referee Promotion Exam) on Monday 4th November 2019 and Promotion Meeting at the end of the season
- Attend an FA Promotion Evening (including passing a Referee Promotion Exam) unless the Referee has attended one in previously
- Inform Cumberland FA of open age appointments via email as soon as known so as to enable them to co-ordinate Referee Observers
- Inform any appointed Observer of cancellations, postponements or any other incidents which delay the original appointment being played immediately
- Attend and surpass the minimum required distance at an FA Fitness Test (Referees will only be Observed after attaining this criteria)
- Achieve a minimum average mark of 73 across a minimum of 5 Observations
- Sign and meet the conditions outlined in the Social Media usage document
- Maintain the expected standard of administration (which includes reporting of misconduct, confirmation of appointments and confirmation of Observers)
- Please be aware that moving from Level 5 to 4 is a major refereeing commitment and one you need to be prepared for. This could see travel distances increase as well as the amount of time spent for training and reporting increase.

Level 4 & Beyond

Although the nomination of all Level 5 match officials which meet the promotion criteria is completed by Cumberland FA, the final decision with regards to promotion still lies with The FA Referee Committee.

Once a referee has been promoted to Level 4, their further progression will depend solely on their outstanding ability at that level as determined by The Association.

Cumberland FA Development Pathway

Cumberland FA has development pathway which will cater for all needs of refereeing. Whether you are happy to continue to referee within the junior or senior leagues or wish to try to move through the levels of promotion to get as high as you can Cumberland FA are here to support you on that journey. There has never been a time when we have more formats and options of the game for people to officiate within including; 11v11 weekend through to 5v5 mini soccer, Ability counts PAN disability leagues through to Walking Football Festivals, Academy Football through to Development

Centre Festivals. We will try to support every referee to offer them the most appropriate level of officiating based upon their aspirations and needs. It is imperative that if you are interested in a specific area of the game that you let one of the below contacts know so we can signpost accordingly

Please use the below link to submit your application for promotion:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/bc1491a4d49e484fbf318579354862cf>

Cumberland FA Referee Contacts

CFA Chairman
Fred Conway
07748 142460

Chief Executive Officer
Ben Snowdon
07918083638

U18 Referee Support
James Reid
07918083637

Designated Safeguarding Officer
Mel Sandwith
01900 511800

A note from the Chair:

Firstly thanks for taking the time to consider promotion by reading this document. I would encourage any referee within the county to consider promotion. We have some excellent referees within the county and want to continue to drive standards of refereeing up and by pushing yourself to go forward for promotion. This will hopefully help focus you on your refereeing journey as well as gain some helpful feedback along the way. We look forward to working with you during the 2019/20 season. Should anyone have any queries at all please feel free to contact one of the above members of staff who will be happy to help or support.



Fred Conway
CFA Chairman