



REFEREE DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

New Referee Training

Training Process:

Before the training session:

1. Complete Introduction to Officiating Dodgeball online course
2. Email a copy of your certificate to hello@britishdodgeball.com and arrange to attend a training session with a referee mentor which will take place at a British Dodgeball event.
3. Complete a Referee Self-Assessment before the training session, and bring this with you to aid discussions with your referee mentor.
4. Print off this document to complete through the session.

During the training session:

1. **Pre-match:** Discuss your experiences of playing and refereeing dodgeball and other sports with your referee mentor and discuss your self-assessment.
2. **1 match:** Observe a referee mentor officiating and complete Observation 1: Rules Application & Communication. Discuss observations & questions with mentor after the game.
3. **1 match:** Observe a referee mentor officiating and complete Observation 2: Game Management & Safety. Discuss observations & questions with your referee mentor after the game.
4. **1 match:** Complete the Core Values Reflection. Discuss your answers with your referee mentor after the game.
5. **1+ matches:** Referee matches under observation from your referee mentor. Your referee mentor will complete a Referee Standards Assessment, and step in to model or support where necessary. After each match, your mentor will discuss learning points which will help you improve.
6. Once you show you demonstrate Good or Outstanding performance in at least 50% of the standards in each area, you will be signed off to referee at British Dodgeball events independently.
7. Complete Next Steps in partnership with your referee mentor. This will provide you with tangible areas to develop in future as you gain experience officiating the sport of dodgeball.

OBSERVATION 1

Rules Application & Communication

Observe your referee mentor officiating, paying special attention to how he/she applies the rules of the game and communicates with teams and other officials. Link your observations to the [British Dodgeball Refereeing Standards](#).

Rules Application - What rules did the referee clearly apply to the game with regards to:

Opening Rush & Court Boundaries

Live Balls & Valid Attempts

Catching & Blocking

Play Ball & Retrieving

Note down specific situations of when a rule was applied which you wish to discuss further;
What questions do you have for the referee regarding how they applied a certain rule?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

OBSERVATION 1

Rules Application & Communication

Observe your referee mentor officiating, paying special attention to how he/she applies the rules of the game and communicates with teams and other officials. Link your observations to the [British Dodgeball Refereeing Standards](#).

Communication - When & how did the referee communicate:

Verbally		Non-Verbally	
When		When	
How		How	

In what situations did the referee communicate with other officials, coaches or spectators, and what positive impact did this have?

Situations	Impact

Learning - What have you learned about **Rules Application** & **Communication** that you can use to develop your own practice in these areas? You can add to these after a discussion with your referee mentor.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

OBSERVATION 2

Game Management & Safety

Observe your referee mentor officiating, paying special attention to how he/she manages the flow of the game and ensures everyone remains safe throughout. Link your observations to the [British Dodgeball Refereeing Standards](#).

Game Management - How did the referee manage the following:

Scoring

Working out & keeping track of set/match scores

Announcing set/match scores

Timing

Keeping track of time remaining

Announcing time remaining

How did the referee position themselves so they could effectively officiate the match?
What did you see them focusing on so they could effectively monitor plays and events?

Managing Behaviour

Circle the strategies used to de-escalate situations

Take a breath

Ask, don't tell

Non-engagement

Present choices

Firm commands

Apply warnings & sanctions

Other:

Managing Unsporting Actions

What warnings/sanctions were given out and why?

What positive impact did these have?

How did the referee use stoppages at appropriate times to control the flows of the game?
When did referees listen to other officials and how did this positively impact the game?

OBSERVATION 2

Game Management & Safety

Observe your referee mentor officiating, paying special attention to how he/she manages the flow of the game and ensures everyone remains safe throughout. Link your observations to the [British Dodgeball Refereeing Standards](#).

Safety - How did the referee ensure that players were kept safe throughout the match?

Pre-match Checks

Playing environment

Equipment

Players

During the Match

Managing dangerous play (e.g. headshots)

Managing & reporting injuries

How did the referee demonstrate good practice with regards to monitoring for and reporting:

- Safeguarding issues
- Safety issues
- Abusive behaviour

Learning - What have you learned about **Game Management & Safety** that you can use to develop your own practice in these areas? You can add to these after a discussion with your referee mentor.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.



CORE VALUES REFLECTION

Core Values

Spend some time reflecting on how you can demonstrate our core values when representing British Dodgeball. You can consider how to demonstrate these during your upcoming refereeing assessment and also check up on other [British Dodgeball Refereeing Standards](#).

Core Values - How can you demonstrate our core values as a British Dodgeball referee whilst on and off-court?

Professionalism

Behaviour & presentation

Time management of events

Learning Culture

Positive attitude towards learning

Continuous professional development

Understanding the Bigger Picture

We ask that our referees understand how each event you officiate sits within our strategy to develop dodgeball in the UK,

Junior and regional leagues should be fun above all, inspiring a love of the sport and encouraging sustained participation, whilst higher level events should promote dodgeball to all, modelling Dodgeball Code values such as fair play and honesty. As such, we encourage referees to adopt inclusive refereeing practices at events where there are newer or younger participants such as encouraging teams before they play, quickly explaining why they are eliminated from a game to help them better understand the rules and giving encouragement after a team has lost. We expect referees to warn and sanction experienced players who do not model Dodgeball Code behaviours, such as staying in when clearly eliminated from a game.

Assistant referees are an extremely important role in dodgeball, having a direct impact on matches. Referees are in a key position to help direct and develop assistant referees' knowledge of positioning and rules. As such, we want referees who play an active part in briefing and developing assistant referees.

Inclusive refereeing

Developing assistant referees

REFeree STANDARDS ASSESSMENT

Observation Guidance

Referee mentors will assess your officiating performance against the [British Dodgeball Refereeing Standards](#), which outlines the criteria for Outstanding, Good and an Area to Develop for all 26 standards across the 5 categories.

This is not an exam - you referee mentor will examine your performance through a formative and supportive lens so they can understand where your officiating is strong and where you need to develop. Your referee mentor may step in to support your officiating in order to ensure British Dodgeball continues to offer high-quality officiating to competing teams. This may lead to a discussion and learning opportunity after the game.

In order to be signed off to officiate independently for British Dodgeball, your referee mentor must observe or be confident in Good or Outstanding performance of at least 50% of standards in each area. Use the time between each match you officiate to discuss and learn from your referee mentor so you can move closer to demonstrating the required standards.

Rules Application

Outstanding Good Area to Develop Comments

R.1: Demonstrate the safe application of the opening rush rules

R.2: Demonstrate the safe application of the live ball & valid attempt rules

R.3: Demonstrate the safe application of the catching rules

R.4: Demonstrate the safe application of the blocking rules

R.5: Demonstrate the safe application of the play ball rules

R.6: Demonstrate the safe application of the court boundary rules

R.7: Demonstrate the safe application of rules regarding ball retrieval & retrievers

Game Management

Outstanding Good Area to Develop Comments

G.1: Record scores and monitor set & match time

G.2: Demonstrate the use of preventative measures to control the match

G.3: Demonstrate how to manage unsporting conduct by using sanctions

G.4: Demonstrate how to control the flow of the game

G.5: Demonstrate effective positioning & monitoring

G.6: Interact with other match officials when appropriate

REFEREE STANDARDS ASSESSMENT

Communication	Outstanding	Good	Area to Develop	Comments
C.1: Communicate verbally				
C.2: Communicate non-verbally				
C.3: Communicate with other match officials				
C.4: Communicate with captains, coaches & spectators as required				

Safety	Outstanding	Good	Area to Develop	Comments
S.1: Carry out safety checks on players, equipment & match area				
S.2: Demonstrate how to manage dangerous play in the playing environment				
S.3: Monitor & report safeguarding issues, safety issues and abusive behaviour				

Core Values	Outstanding	Good	Area to Develop	Comments
V.1: Professionalism: Be a role model & adhere to code of conduct				
V.2: Professionalism: Manage time effectively				
V.3: Learning Culture: Show willingness to learn & develop				
V.4: Learning Culture: Use reflection to improve practice				
V.5: Bigger Picture: Referee inclusively to foster a love of the game				
V.6: Bigger Picture: Manage & develop assistant referees				

Assessment of: _____

The refereeing standards assessment took place over _____ matches plus a discussion afterwards.

They have demonstrated Good or Outstanding performance in the following no. of standards in the following areas:

Rules Application: /7 Game Management: /6 Communication: /4
 Safety: /3 Core Values: /6

Signed: _____ (referee mentor) Date: _____

Print name: _____

NEXT STEPS

Development Focuses

Complete this in partnership with your referee mentor. This will provide you with tangible areas to develop in future as you gain experience officiating the sport of dodgeball.

Development Focuses - What should you focus on in each area to develop your officiating practice?

Officiating Area

Rules Application

Game Management

Communication

Safety

Core Values

What are the main pieces of learning (e.g. tips, strategies, rules knowledge) that you will take away from this session?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.