

Umpire Secretary Report (2015 – 2016 Season)

In the 2015 -2016 season there were 5 refresher courses and 2 beginner courses that were organized by HKHA umpire section. In 2014-2015 season the committee required that each club needed to have the same number of registered umpires as teams; however, there are 7 clubs who have not fulfilled this and so they have been penalized by the Women's Section.

There are 6 new ladies umpires registered this season, so the total number of ladies registered umpires is now 50. There are 36 active umpires who have officiated two or more games during the season. However, out of the 50 registered umpires, there are 3 umpires who only did 1 game and 5 umpires who took the refresher course but didn't fulfill the basic requirement of the HKHA Umpires Section. As a result, there is a chance they will be taken off the umpire list but we are still waiting for the umpire's section's final confirmation.

During the season I found out that there were some ladies umpires who wanted to improve their umpire skills and they approached me to ask some questions. This is a good way to work with the umpires and I hope there will be more ladies umpires willing to do so. We are continuing to look at ways to improve umpiring in Hong Kong. One suggestion for next season will be that teams in Premier to 3rd division must use female umpires from their club to cover their umpire duties. Teams in division 4 and 5 will be able to nominate one male club member to assist them in covering their duties.

I would like to this opportunity to appreciate Melanie Watt, Debby Tang, Lani Jackman, and Boel Chiu who helped me out with most of the umpire appointments this season. Finally, I would like to thanks Phoenix Wong, HKHA administrative staff, for helping to send appointment emails to the umpires during the season.

HKHAWS Umpire Secretary