
Gateball Australia

Referee Accreditation and Reaccreditation Framework

March 2021

1. Introduction

The accreditation and reaccreditation of gateball referees is to be in accordance with this Framework established by Gateball Australia. It is intended to include this document as an appendix to the ACA's *Referee Accreditation and Reaccreditation Program - Referees and Umpires* and needs to be read in conjunction with that document. It is noted that the ACA document meets the requirements of the Sport Australia for officiating.

2. Date of effect

This Framework takes effect from March 2021 and replaces the *Procedures for Referee Accreditation Framework* of February 2020.

3. Definitions

- Gateball Australia (GA) is a business name used by the Australian Croquet Association (ACA) for gateball matters, including ACA membership of the World Gateball Union (WGU). All references to GA are references to the ACA.
- The WGU is the international governing gateball body.
- National Gateball Coordinator (National Coordinator) is an appointed officer of the ACA and is also a Director at the WGU representing GA
- State Gateball coordinators (variously referred to as State Directors, Coordinators or Chairs) are appointed officers of the state croquet associations. Some states have now appointed state refereeing coordinators. Responsibility for refereeing in those states has been delegated to the persons fulfilling those roles.

4. Responsibility

The responsibility for this Framework rests with the National Coordinator in consultation with the state coordinators of refereeing

5. Referee Committee

The Referee Committee is established and comprises the National Coordinator as chair, the state coordinators with responsibility for refereeing and International level referees appointed by the National Coordinator. The Referee Committee shall also fulfil the role of a Complaints Committee and Technical Panel as defined in ACA documents. The Committee shall meet at least once a year, and submit reports

to the ACA. Meetings may be held by correspondence. The duties of the Committee members shall be:

- the planning, implementation, grading and evaluation of examinations;
- overseeing the specified courses to be conducted based on the course items listed in Table 1;
- authorising the examination of International level referee candidates;
- to contribute to discussion on the improvement of refereeing standards in Australia. At the request of the National Coordinator and the Committee, members may undertake specific projects on behalf of GA; and
- to consider and resolve any matters referred.

6. Accreditation levels

Three levels of accreditation can be attained:

International

International level referees may referee any gateball match in Australia or elsewhere.

Acting with the Referee Committee, an International referee can accredit other International referees.

Level 1

Level 1 referees may referee any gateball match in Australia or elsewhere, subject to WGU requirements.

Acting with the National coordinator or the relevant State coordinator, Level 1 referees may examine for Level 2 referee accreditation.

Level 2

This is the base level of accreditation for GA referees.

Level 2 referees may referee at state, regional or club championships and may act as an assistant referee or at the national championships organised by GA.

Until sufficient Level 1 referees are accredited, Level 2 referees may undertake Level 1 refereeing duties (with the exception of examining duties)

7. Examinations

Level 1 and Level 2 referee candidates are to undertake a written and practical examination. International referees are to undertake examinations as set out by the WGU.

8. Accreditation

Those who pass the examinations are to be accredited and records made of such accreditation. The list

of accredited referees is to be maintained by the National Coordinator with the list of referees published on the GA website. State coordinators of refereeing keep detailed records for their states and forward updates to the National Coordinator

9 Reaccreditation

Any referee previously accredited is now required to complete the Sport Australia's's online course, initially the Officiating General Principles Course, but since January 2018, Community Officiating General Principles.

To be reaccredited, all referees are required to complete an activity card providing evidence of updating knowledge and interpretation of current rules, officiating at events, demonstrating competence as a referee and being prepared to participate in a process of review and improvement. Game observations undertaken to meet this requirement should not be signed off by another referee from a player's club unless this is approved by the State Coordinator of Refereeing. This approval will not be granted for referees in isolated situations.

International referees are expected to comply with these processes which will be referred to when reaccreditation is applied for through the WGU.

In addition, Level 1 referees should be able to inform their State Coordinator of Refereeing that they have completed at least **one** of the qualifying activities listed below each year. International referees should complete **two**.

- acted as a tournament referee, assistant tournament referee or state coordinator of refereeing
- presented a referee talk at a competition or delivered/developed referee course materials
- participated in Gateball Australia's Referee Committee or represented GA at an international meeting
- contributed to the revision of Gateball Australia referee exams
- mentored a player who wishes to become a referee
- examined a referee under the guidance of an International or Level 1 referee
- contributed resources on refereeing to the Gateball community
- been part of a referee team at an international event outside Australasia
- any other activity approved by the the GA Referee Committee

Referees who fail to meet reaccreditation requirements are deemed to be inactive. To become reaccredited the following guidelines should apply:

- (I) An inactive referee who has not completed the online course but has continued to remain active as a referee, can be deemed an active referee on completion of the online course provided other reaccreditation criteria have been met
- (II) An inactive referee who has completed the online course, has remained active as a referee but

has not completed any recent annual reaccreditation cards, may become active again on completing at least two annual reaccreditation card or the practical examination under the supervision of their State Coordinator of Refereeing or their nominee (provided they are a referee.)

- (III) An inactive referee who has not completed the online course nor any reaccreditation cards and has not refereed for longer than 1 year has to complete the process for new referees.

10. Obligations of referees

Referees shall:

- Participate in relevant training as required by GA and their relevant state association;
- aim to improve their own refereeing skills, and as competition or refereeing members, actively participate in match championships; and
- when refereeing matches, wear the appropriate identification provided by GA.

11. Particulars

Further details of this Framework are contained in the *Referee Accreditation Framework – Particulars*, with which this document is to be read in conjunction.

12. Modification of Framework

This Framework and Particulars may be amended by GA from time to time.

Referee Accreditation Framework – Particulars

The following clauses provide details on the gateball referee accreditation procedure and should be read in conjunction with the Referee Accreditation and Reaccreditation Framework.

a. Eligibility

To become eligible, prospective referees must be at least 16 years of age, possess a copy of the latest official gateball rulebook and have completed any courses specified by GA; and

- to undertake any referee examination, shall have completed the Australian Sports Commission “Community Officiating General Principles” online course;
- to undertake the Level 2 referee examination, shall possess a minimum of one year’s experience in refereeing at club level and have assisted in refereeing in at least two games at state championships. State coordinators of refereeing, with the agreement of the National Coordinator, may vary this requirement for candidates where attendance at a state championships is difficult. This dispensation should be used sparingly for candidates where the following might apply: the candidate lives in areas remote from other players and where work or family circumstances preclude attendance at a state championships.
- to undertake the Level 1 referee examination, shall possess a minimum of one year’s experience as a Level 2 referee, have refereed in at least two games at a state championships and assisted in at least two games at a national championship and to have completed one of the qualifying activities listed under reaccreditation on Page 4
- to undertake the International referee examination shall possess a minimum of one year’s experience as a Level 1 referee, have refereed in at least two games at state championships and two games at a national championships and to have completed two of the qualifying activities listed under reaccreditation on Page 4

Consistent with ACA procedures, all gateball officials should acknowledge they agree with the ACA Official’s Code of Conduct and undertake their states working with young people check.

b. Application to take examinations

Those intending to take or retake an examination are to apply in writing to the National Coordinator or their state coordinator for refereeing confirming their eligibility according to the above criteria. The application must be endorsed by the candidate’s club gateball coordinator, or, if the candidate is same, by two club members with gateball knowledge and understanding.

The National Coordinator or state coordinator shall assess the application content in accordance with the requirements of the Framework and, if it is confirmed that candidate is compliant, accept the application to take the examination.

c. Examination fees

There are no fees for taking examinations. WGU charges for International Referees will be met from the GA budget.

d. Implementation of examinations

The examinations:

- are to be conducted based on the content listed in Table 2;
- for Level 2, shall be by a Level 1 or International referee as examiner or by the National or a State coordinator for refereeing provided they are qualified referees;
- for Level 1, shall be by an International level referee as examiner, or by the National or a state coordinator provided they are qualified referees; and
- for International level, shall be by an International referee as examiner, or by the National or a state coordinator provided they are qualified referees.
- For any of the examinations, the National or a state coordinator of refereeing may appoint a nominee to conduct an examination where the NC or SC of refereeing does not possess referee qualifications at least equivalent to the level being assessed. The nominee should have qualifications at least at the level being assessed.

e. Evaluating and judging examinations

In determining the pass/fail point, Examiners are to be guided by the following recommended pass/fail points:

International level examinations	Pass = 80% +
Level 1 examinations	Pass = 75% +
Level 2 examination	Pass = 70% +

f. Re-examinations

Should a candidate be unsuccessful in any written examination, the candidate is not entitled to reapply to take the written examination for four months following the original examination. However, if the candidate is unsuccessful in the practical examination, the National or state coordinator can organise for the practical component to be reassessed within four months if the candidate is likely to succeed on repeated practical assessment.

g. Procedures following examination

The procedures after the examination are as follows:

- the examiner notifies the candidate of the result;
- if the candidate passes, the examiner notifies the relevant state coordinator of refereeing and the National Coordinator. The National Coordinator will issue the appropriate referee identification through the relevant State coordinator of refereeing and add the referee's name to the records; and
- if a candidate fails an examination, the examiner should also inform the state coordinator of refereeing and the National Coordinator.

h. Cancellation of accreditation and disqualification

- (a) GA shall cancel the accreditation of a referee if any one of the following circumstances arises in respect of the said referee, and shall inform the referee of the cancellation:
- where an application for cancellation of registration is received from the referee; or
 - where the referee's affiliation with the ACA, including the state association, has lapsed.
- (b) GA may cancel the accreditation of a referee should any one of the following circumstances arise in respect of the said referee, and shall inform the referee of the cancellation:
- the referee is deemed to be unfit, for example by behaving in a way so as to be otherwise severely discredited as a referee;
 - the referee fails to act in accordance with the ACA Officials Code of Behaviour;
 - the referee fails to carry out the obligations of referees as defined below; or
 - where the performance of the referee has been subject to substantiated complaints about fairness, the application of rules or performance in accordance with stipulated referee procedures, complaints should be made to the tournament referee who, in turn, should inform the state coordinator of refereeing and the National Coordinator. A resulting recommendation may be made to the Referee Committee.

If an individual's accreditation has been cancelled by way of:

- sub clause (a), the individual may re-apply to take the examination at any time, provided their affiliation has been renewed.
- sub clause (b), the individual is not entitled to apply to re-take the examination for 12 months following the cancellation.

GA and the state organisations can disqualify or prohibit from taking the examination those who have taken or have attempted to take the examination improperly, whether for themselves or a third person. The processes of appeal, as defined in ACA policy, shall be available in these situations. In respect of

these three conditions, the referee shall have available the processes of appeal as defined in ACA policy.

i. Matters not stipulated

In addition to the matters stipulated, any necessary particulars relating to the implementation of specified courses and examinations will be determined by the National Coordinator consulting with the Referee Committee

Table 1

Referee Training Course Syllabus Introduction

Why do we need referees?

Role and Functions of Referees

What makes a successful referee?

Communication skills

ACA Official's Code of Conduct

Where do gateball rules come from?

Organisation of gateball in Australia and internationally

Croquet Australia, Gateball Australia and the World Gateball Union

The ACA Accreditation and Reaccreditation Program - ACA Referees and Umpires

Gateball Australia Referee Accreditation and Reaccreditation Framework

Sport Australia and Officiating

Championships

Tournament Referees

Role of Referees in a Tournament

Health and Safety

The online course

Playing safely, legal and risk management responsibilities

First Aid

Playing in adverse weather conditions: State Health, Safety and Adverse Weather policies

The Game

Playing court

Equipment

Deciding the Winner when the points are tied

Stroking

Valid and Invalid play

Moving the ball

Gate making and goal-pole making

Touch and spark

In ball, out ball

Referees' Requirements and Duties

Attitude and dress

Duties of referees, recorders and linespersons Decisions

Mistakes

Scorecards

Official Gateball Rules & Guide for Referees

How to use the Rule Book

Other material available

Game Progression

Preparation

Match start and completion

Scoring and win determination

Perfect game

Forfeiture

Cooperation between First and Second Referees

Decision-making positions

First gate

Touch and Sparking

Table 2

Referee Examination Content

Level 2 Referee Examination

Official Gateball Rules

Guide for Referees

Level 2 Referee Practical Examination

Referee hand indications

Practical knowledge of Fouls

Practical understanding of game situations

Test as referee in a match situation

Level 1 Referee Examination

Official Gateball Rules

Guide for Referees

Level 1 Referee Practical Examination

Referee hand Indications

Practical knowledge of fouls

Practical understanding of game situations

Test of referee in match situation

International written examination

Will be consistent with directions from the WGU.