**Recent changes to the Umpiring pathway for Bedfordshire**

As a result of a number of County umpiring sub-committee meetings, suggestions have been put to the County Netball Committee in relation to the umpiring pathways and have been ratified. These are not necessarily changes that EN has approved but changes that the County consider are important in providing a clear, concise and credible pathway on the three awards. **All changes are with immediate effect**

Please ensure that your leagues are aware of such changes.

**IO**

Currently the pass mark for the IO written paper is 40/50. As you are aware, Bedfordshire County make this test paper a mandatory part of the mentoring for IOs. The pass mark has increased and is now a minimum of 45/50. Please ensure that all of your IO assessors are aware of this change.

Additionally, if an IO passes their practical assessment and does not umpire at for a season, then they must start the IO pathway from the beginning.

**B award**

In line with the EN conversion rates, if a C award umpire wishes to progress to B, the League Umpiring Secretary (LUS) will liaise with the County Umpiring Secretary (CUS) to inform of this. Before the C award umpire embarks on a B course, the CUS and LUS will consider whether at that stage they have the skills to go forward. This will include the level and competency of the games the umpire is currently engaging in and whether or not they are umpiring at regional schools and County events. The umpire will be provided with appropriate advice and support where necessary.