



**WE ARE
ALL
ROUNDERS**



LEVEL 2: Club/Team Umpire Learner Handbook

Learner Name: _____



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1. Introduction

Welcome to the Level 2: Club/Team Umpire Award course. We hope that this will equip you with the knowledge and skills to be able to umpire confidently and successfully. You will be helping to grow the sport of Rounders by enabling people to play in a safe and fair way - and in the spirit of competition. If you have any questions following the course, the staff at Rounders England will be happy to help.

2. Overview of Rounders England

WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO

Our Four Posts Of Focus
To achieve our strategy and reimagine what rounders will look like in 2032 we have developed key areas of focus. Everything we do will deliver against one or more of our four posts.

1 GROW

Creating opportunities for more people to play rounders for fun, to get active or start their rounders journey with the aim of 1 million people playing by 2032. A particular focus will be placed on tackling some of the inequalities that exist within sport and physical activity.

1 MILLION
people playing by 2032

2 ENGAGE

Evolve our membership offer in order to support and service our players, volunteers and our workforce resulting in a happy and engaged community of 100,000 members by 2032.

100,000
members by 2032

3 COMPETE

Expand and develop a fit for purpose competition structure and pathway culminating in a commercially viable national league structure.

COMMERCIALLY VIABLE NATIONAL LEAGUE STRUCTURE

4 CHAMPION

Promote our sport and raise its profile with stakeholders, partners and the media at a national and international level in order to be Commonwealth Games ready by 2032.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES READY
by 2032

WHO WE ARE

Our Purpose
Over the next decade we will grow and develop the Nations much loved game into a thriving, modern, inclusive sport that can be enjoyed by everyone.

How we behave:
We have established a set of behaviours and values that help guide us as an organisation and a sporting community. These will underpin everything we do, not only in delivering our strategy, but also to develop and showcase our personality and culture as a sport.

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

- We listen to and serve our community
- We bring people together.
- We are the best we can be, together
- We reflect and act for our community

WE ARE FOR ALL

- Equality and diversity is a givers
- We are open, inclusive and accessible to all
- We have fun getting active.
- We are fair and respectful

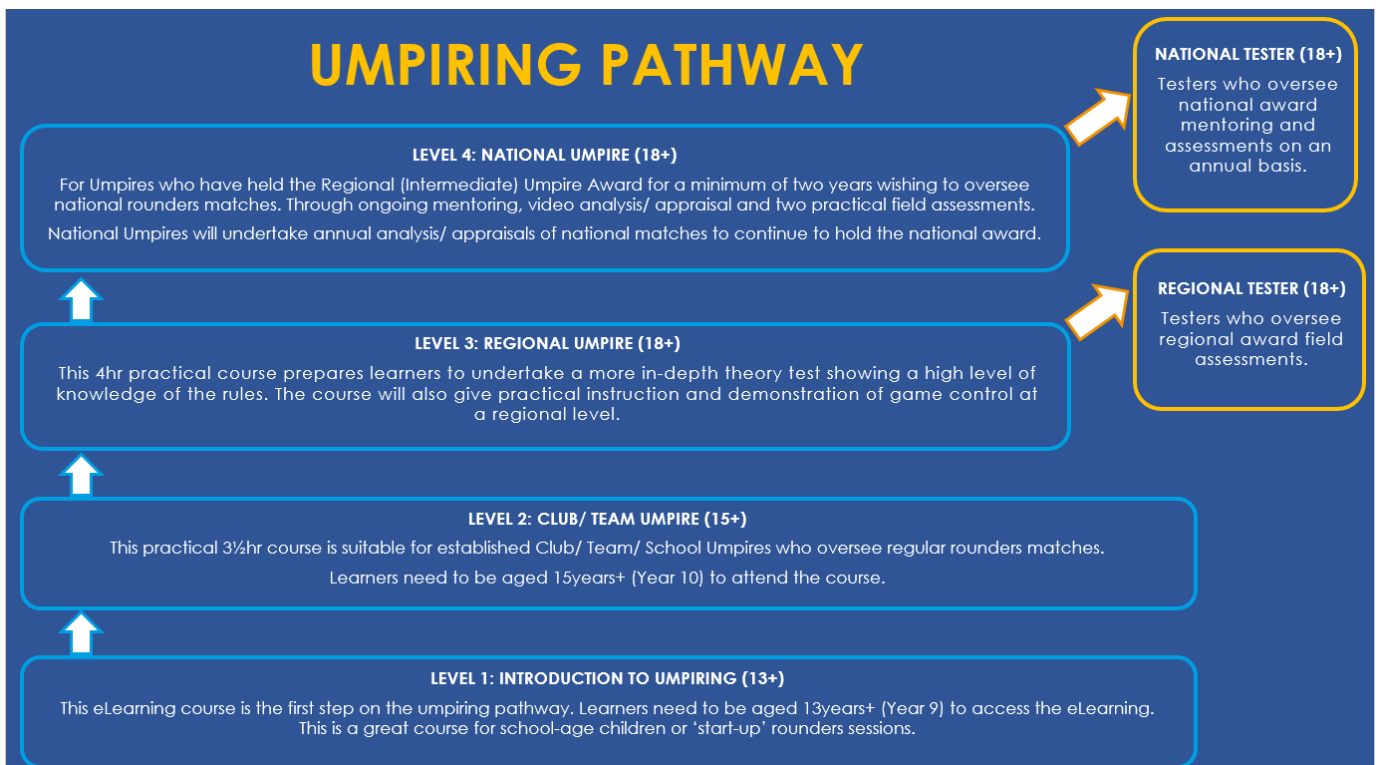
WE DO THE RIGHT THING

- We create a safe and trusted environment
- We are accountable, through a sense of openness and honesty
- We take responsibility for our actions
- We deliver on our promises

WE KEEP MOVING ROUNDERS FORWARD

- We are collectively ambitious
- We remain relevant and adaptable
- We are optimistic and promote progress
- We are brave

3. Umpire Pathway



4. Umpire Responsibilities

Safeguarding

Rounders England is committed to ensuring that everyone who participate in Rounders have a safe and positive experience. We are committed to developing and implementing policies and procedures to ensure that everyone knows and accepts their responsibility in relation to their duty of care for young people.

As an Umpire you hold a position of trust and authority, and you must ensure that you are aware of our Safeguarding policies, and you know your responsibilities. The full policies can be found on the [Rounders England website](#).

If at any time you have any concerns regarding the safety of any individual, in particular children and young people, you should contact either your Club Welfare Officer or the [Lead Safeguarding Officer](#) at Rounders England, whose details are available at www.roundersengland.co.uk

Umpire Code of Practice

Please ensure you read through the Umpire Code of Practice (final pages of this handbook) and sign to confirm you will adhere to this code when umpiring.

Please return a signed copy to workforce@roundersengland.co.uk before the course commences.

Rounders England Policies

All member teams, leagues and individuals are bound by Rounders England's policies.

Working together we can protect and promote the welfare of all people in Rounders so that they can enjoy the sport free from all forms of abuse and exploitation.

<https://www.roundersengland.co.uk/about-us/our-governance/>

Reporting

Who are you working/volunteering for? This may not be Rounders England.

Find out what reporting mechanisms these organisations have in place so you are fully aware of what to do.

For further information & resources on Safeguarding:

Rounders England Website - <https://www.roundersengland.co.uk/safeguarding/>

CPSU (Child Protection in Sport Unit) - www.thecpsu.org.uk

NSPCC - www.nspcc.org.uk

ACT - <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/>

5. Membership

Rounders England membership aims to support, develop and service teams, leagues, schools, Universities and workforce across the country to encourage more people onto the pitch.

As a non-profit national governing body, we are here to help you every step of the way, whether you're just getting started or are already actively involved. Through membership, Rounders England can promote, develop and protect the great sport of Rounders.

Our membership options can be found on the Rounders England website [here](#).

6. Risk Assessments & Health & Safety

What is a risk assessment?

A risk assessment is the process of identifying what hazards currently exist or may appear in the area used for your activity. A risk assessment defines which hazards are likely to cause harm to attendees and visitors.

Why do we complete them?

Safety is paramount, umpires need to identify the potential hazards before each game:

- *Who might be harmed
- *How might they be harmed
- *What measures are in place to reduce the risk
- *What further actions are required to reduce the risk,
- *Provide risk factor rating (low, medium, high)

Playing Area - Check the playing area for any hazards/objects. Ensure the area is set up ready for your match.

Equipment - Make sure the rounders equipment is all safe. You should check your equipment before each match.

Ensure you complete/update a risk assessment and Health & Safety checklist before each game. (templates can be found below)



GENERIC EVENT RISK ASSESSMENT

WHAT ARE THE HAZARDS	RISK	PEOPLE AT RISK	WHAT ARE YOU ALREADY DOING TO CONTROL THE RISKS?	COMMENTS/ FURTHER ACTIONS REQUIRED TO CONTROL THE RISK	RISK RATING L M H	WHO CARRIED OUT THE CHECKS?	INITIAL IF ALL IN PLACE

- This is a generic Event Risk Assessment which identifies the common hazards and control measures associated with this type of event.
- Before the event commences the Event's Organiser must also complete an 'on the day' venue Risk Assessment.

Risk Assessment Carried Out By:

Signed:

Date:

Review Date: Annually

Health & Safety Checklist

Use this template to carry out safety checks/risk assessments for each of your games

Leader		Date	
Facility Name and Location			
Location of the Venue's Health and Safety policy:			
Location of nearest telephone			
Location of First Aid kit			
Emergency Contact Details			
Role	Name	Location	Telephone
<i>Appointed first-aider</i>			
Emergency evacuation procedures:			

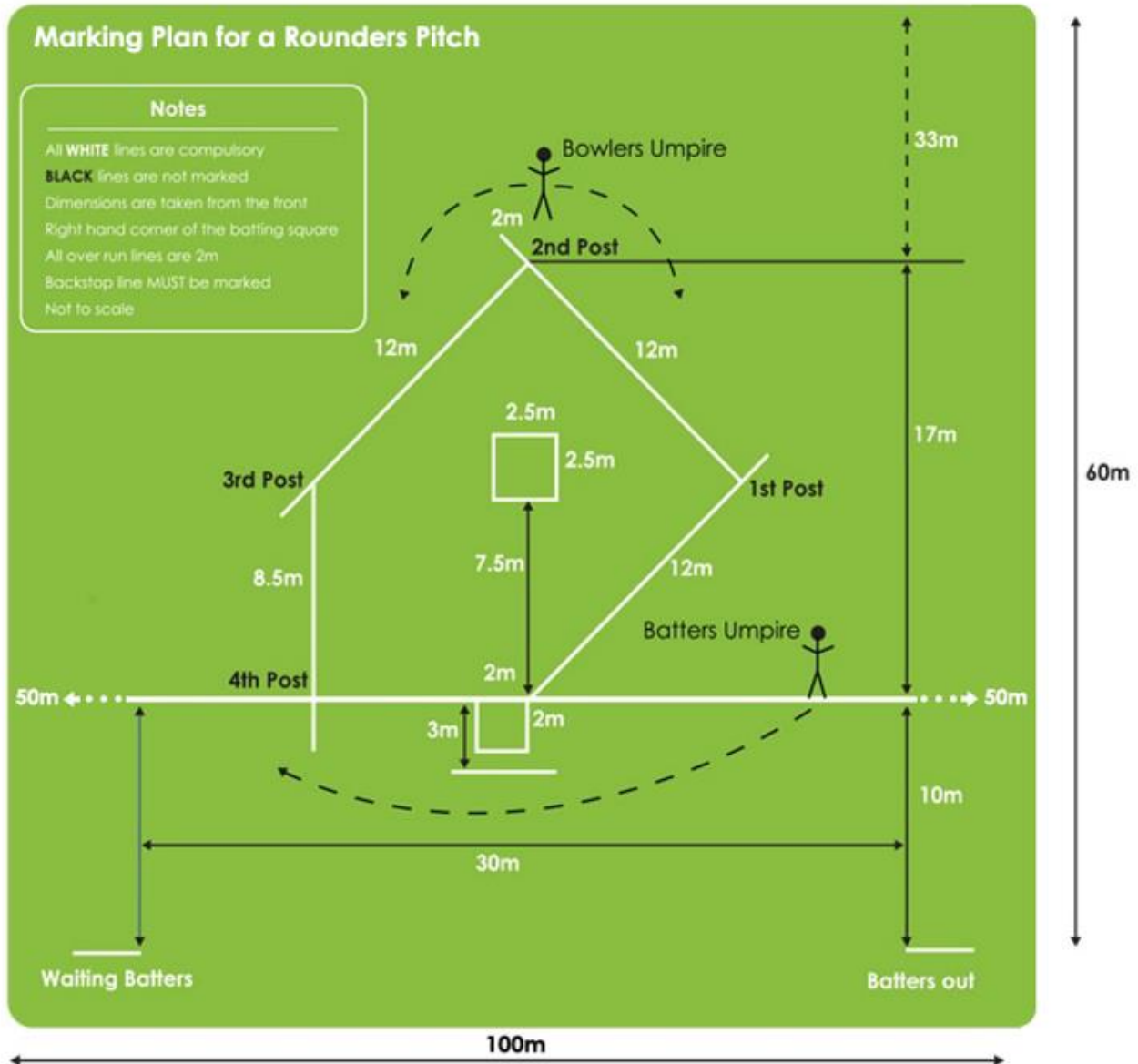
Please tick to confirm that the following items have been checked:

- All equipment is safe, undamaged and appropriate. If any equipment is unsafe, please list it here and confirm who you have reported it to.
- The playing area and facilities have been checked for actual or potential hazards.
- The facility is suitable and appropriate for the planned activities.
- A register of participants has been maintained.
- Participants' previous experience established.
- Participants' clothing, footwear, eyeglasses and jewellery checked as appropriate.

Please tick to confirm that the following have been explained to the participants:

- Health and safety procedures
- The rules of the facility/venue
- Any potential hazards
- The emergency procedures

7. Rounders Pitch set up



8. The Language of Rounders

POSTS	1.2 m high with a safety cap. Wooden posts shall be sheathed in plastic
BASES	Made of a rubber like substance to hold the posts upright
BALL	Can be hard or soft, to specified dimensions
BAT	Made of wood, plastic or aluminium to specified dimensions
BATTING SQUARE	The place where the Batter stands to receive a ball : a marked out square measuring 2 m
BOWLING SQUARE	The place where the Bowler stands to bowl : a marked out square measuring 2.5 m
FORWARD / BACKWARD LINE	The line which the Umpire uses to judge whether a hit is "forward" or "backward". This line is the focal point of the entire pitch layout. Note the line and therefore 4th Post which sits on it is forward
RUNNING TRACK	An area outside the posts where the Batter has right of way
SUBSTITUTE	When the captain replaces a player providing the player is not already out
2m ZONE LINE	Sometimes called the overrun line. Extends 2m beyond each post; if a Batter crosses the line at 1st, 2nd or 3rd and loses contact with the post they will be deemed to have set off to the next post
DEAD BALL	When the Bowler is holding the ball and is standing in the Bowlers square
SIDE OUT	When the ball is placed or thrown into the batting square when there are no Batters waiting to bat
NO BALL	When the ball is bowled to the Batter outside the given parameters
OBSTRUCTION	When a player (either Batter or Fielder) is impeded, a penalty is imposed
ROUNDER SCORED	When the Batter hits the ball with bat or hand holding the bat and runs round the pitch passing all the posts in the correct order
HALF ROUNDER	When the Batter hits the ball with bat or hand holding the bat and runs round the pitch to 2nd or 3rd post
BACKWARD HIT	When the Batter hits the ball with bat or hand holding the bat and the ball goes behind the forward/backward line
INNINGS	When a team goes in to bat. Each team usually has two innings

SIMPLIFIED RULES

TEAMS

- Games are played between two teams. Each team has a maximum of 15 and a minimum of 6 players. No more than 9 players may be on the field at any one time
- If a mixed team—there should be no more than 5 male players
- List of players and substitutes should be submitted to the Umpire prior to play
- Games are usually played over 2 innings
- Players once substituted may return during the game, but batters only in the position of their original number

BATTING

- Wait in the backward area well away from 4th post
- If out, wait in the backward area well away from 1st post
- Enter the batting square when called to do so by the Umpire
- You will have one good ball bowled to you
- Batter can use 2 hands
- You can take a no ball and score in the usual way, but once you reach 1st post you cannot return. You cannot be caught out or stumped out at 1st post on a no ball

NO BALLS

- Not smooth underarm action
- Ball is above head or below knee
- Ball bounces on way to you
- Wide or straight at body
- The Bowler's foot is outside the square during the bowling action

RUNNING AROUND THE TRACK

- If you stop at a post you must keep contact with the post, with hand or bat. If you don't the fielding side can stump the following post to put you out
- You can run on to a post even if it has been previously stumped (you don't score if the post immediately ahead has been stumped)
- When the bowler has the ball in the bowling square you cannot move on, but if you are between posts you can carry on to the next
- You cannot have two batters at a post. The Umpire will ask the first to run on when the second one makes contact
- At a post you do not have to move on for every ball bowled
- Once in contact with the post, you may turn the corner over the 2 metre line. If you turn the corner during a run and there is no contact with the post you will be deemed to have turned the corner and must run on
- You can move on as soon as the ball leaves the Bowler's hand, including no balls
- You must touch 4th post on getting home

SCORING

- 1 Rounder if ball is hit and 4th post is reached and touched before next ball is bowled
- 1 Rounder if ball is hit and 4th post is reached on a no ball (you can't be caught out on a no ball)
- ½ Rounder if 4th post reached without hitting the ball
- ½ Rounder if ball is hit and 2nd or 3rd post reached and touched before next ball is bowled - but if you continue this run and are put out before reaching 4th post, the score will be forfeited
- Penalty ½ Rounder for an obstruction by a fielder
- Penalty ½ rounder for 2 consecutive no balls to same batter
- You can score in the normal way on a backward hit but must remain at 1st post while the ball is in the backward area
- The team with the highest number of Rounders wins
- Penalty ½ rounder to fielding team if waiting batters or batters out obstruct a fielder

OUT WHEN

- Caught
- Foot over front/back line of batting square before hitting or missing a ball
- Running inside post (unless obstructed)
- The post you are running to is stumped
- You overtake another batter on the track
- You obstruct (you have right of way on track only)
- Deliberately throw or drop bat
- Side out
- If ordered to make and maintain contact with the post and refuse to do so
- You lose contact with the post;
- When the bowler has the ball and is in the square (except on an over run)
- During the bowlers action but before they release the ball

ROUNDERS SCORESHEET

Substituted batters may return but only in the position of their original number. If a batter is out, any batters who have batted in that position cannot return.



1ST innings

TEAM _____

MVP	Player Name	Pos'n	Performance	Score
		P1		
		P2		
		P3		
		P4		
		P5		
		P6		
		P7		
		P8		
		P9		
	Substitutes			
		S1		
		S2		
		S3		
		S4		
		S5		
		S6		

Good balls

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30

Positions Out

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

Cumulative Score

1/2	1	1/2	2	1/2	3	1/2	4	1/2	5	1/2	6	1/2	7	1/2	8	1/2	9	1/2	10	1/2	11	1/2	12	1/2
13	1/2	14	1/2	15	1/2	16	1/2	17	1/2	18	1/2	19	1/2	20	1/2	21	1/2	22	1/2	23	1/2	24	1/2	25

Final Score

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2ND innings

TEAM _____

MVP	Player Name	Pos'n	Performance	Score
		P1		
		P2		
		P3		
		P4		
		P5		
		P6		
		P7		
		P8		
		P9		
	Substitutes			
		S1		
		S2		
		S3		
		S4		
		S5		
		S6		

Good balls

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30

Positions Out

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

Final Score

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Umpire Signature _____

See www.roundersengland.co.uk for recommended key for keeping score

ROUNDERS SCORESHEET

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1ST innings

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		S4		
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		S6		

Good balls

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1	2	3
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Cumulative Score

1/2	1	1/2	2	1/2	3	1/2	4	1/2	5	1/2	6	1/2	7	1/2	8	1/2	9	1/2	10	1/2	11	1/2	12	1/2
13	1/2	14	1/2	15	1/2	16	1/2	17	1/2	18	1/2	19	1/2	20	1/2	21	1/2	22	1/2	23	1/2	24	1/2	25

Final Score

--

2ND innings

TEAM _____

MVP	Player Name	Pos'n	Performance	Score
		P1		
		P2		
		P3		
		P4		
		P5		
		P6		
		P7		
		P8		
		P9		
Substitutes				
		S1		
		S2		
		S3		
		S4		
		S5		
		S6		

Good balls

1	2	3
4	5	6
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22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30

Positions Out

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

Final Score

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Umpire Signature _____

See www.roundersengland.co.uk for recommended key for keeping score



Umpires Code of Practice

The integrity of Rounders is embodied in the umpire in whom trust is placed to ensure the game is played by the rules. This Code of Practice is a reminder to umpires of their obligation to maintain fair play and to give both teams the chance to win on merit, by applying the rules in a fair and consistent manner.

All Rounders England Umpires are required to abide by the following Code of Practice and the Rounders England Safeguarding policy and procedures:

Umpires should:

- Always have regard for the health and safety of all participants
- Realise that, as an Umpire, you have a position of trust, particularly when working with young people, therefore you should always be a positive role model, promote ethical principles and fair play
- Be the third team on the field and shall remain neutral working together
- Always have regard for the best interests of the game and shall not circulate by any means (verbal comment, written and published articles, internet forums, blogs, social networking sites) material which may be detrimental to the Governing Body or its members
- Present a professional image at all times such as appropriate dress, timekeeping etc.
- Not use inappropriate behaviour whilst on duty such as smoking, drinking, use of recreational drugs, inappropriate language or unsporting conduct
- Make a clear warning to players when they use abusive or inappropriate language or behaviour
- Only use the unsporting conduct rule if you have already warned the player or the team – the exception to this is gross misconduct e.g. violence
- Not show any favour towards any team or player and adhere to the Rounders England Bribery policy
- Not pass comment on the quality of play or make coaching comments
- Have access to a telephone for immediate contact to emergency services if required
- Be aware that Rounders England takes its commitment to safeguarding children and young people very seriously. As your position may involve substantial contact with young people, you are asked to pay particular attention to the Safeguarding and Equality Policies.
- Ensure that all participants and players are treated with respect and as equals regardless of race, gender, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, social background or culture

Clean Sport

As the National Governing Body for rounders in England we are bound by the Code for Sports Governance Tier 3 as defined by Sport England. An essential part of the code's governance requirements state that we must also demonstrate our compliance to the UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) assurance framework including our support, adoption, and compliance of the anti-doping rules currently in force. As a supporting partner / associate of Rounders England your activities with us may involve you in an aspect of anti-doping control such as educating or advising potential athletes, athlete support personnel or other persons regarding the promotion of the values of Clean Sport. Accordingly, as a valued partner/associate it is a governance requirement that you agree to be bound by the relevant rules laid down in the UK Anti-Doping Policy.

As the National Governing Body, we will always support, endorse, and promote the values of Clean Sport and will act (which may include sanctions) against those in breach of the said rules or any action or incident that causes the sport or the Rounders England organisation to be placed at a risk of being brought into disrepute.

If you would like any further information on any aspect of Clean Sport or anti-doping please contact your Rounders England Anti-Doping Lead, David.bentley@roundersengland.co.uk
As always, thank you for your valued support and quality delivery.

I confirm I have read the above Code of Practice and agree to abide by its content			
Name (Capitals):			
Signed:		Dated:	

This Code is in place to ensure the safety of both the individual signing up to the code and anyone they come in to contact with. If at any time you have any concerns regarding the safety of any individual, in particular children and young people you should contact your Welfare Officer whose details can be accessed via the club notice board or website. Alternatively you can contact the Lead Safeguarding Officer at Rounders England, whose details are available at www.roundersengland.co.uk/safeguarding/