

## Why are some field umpires still in the mix to do the Premier Grand Finals?

They have met the following criteria:

- Trained regularly
- Attended coaching sessions regularly
- Responded to feedback appropriately
- Conducted themselves appropriately on and off the field including their appearance and punctuality
- Performed the following in their matches:
  - ✓ Umpired with a high degree of decisional accuracy: very few missed or unwarranted free kicks; paid out of zone free kicks only when warranted
  - ✓ Acted appropriately when required such as when reportable incidents occur; when a consultation is required; when “blue mooners” occur and their knowledge of the laws enables them to handle the situation appropriately
  - ✓ Demonstrated strong running in situations such as triggering in to volatile situations; getting in position for marking contests; backing out quickly after ball ups; responding to tap throughs; being constantly on the move when in control
  - ✓ Positioned themselves in general play about 20 metres from the play; maintained that distance at scrimmages; maintained a distance of slightly less than a kick away in the two umpire system; used the other umpire’s whistle as a trigger in the two umpire system; maintained their position in zones in the three umpire system; positioned themselves no more than 15 metres away at boundary throw ins; positioned themselves no more than 15 metres away for effective set kick control
  - ✓ Demonstrated strong set kick control including clearing the protected area; communicating effectively with precise instructions; positioning themselves behind the man on the mark at set shots; waiting at set shots until the kicker has stopped moving; ensuring that the free kick recipient at out of bounds set plays starts outside the line
  - ✓ Demonstrated sound observation skills including exercising forward vision while not the umpire in control; after backing out after setting up the mark; when running in to set up the mark
  - ✓ Blown time on only when it was needed such as when 25 metre penalties are paid; at a consultation; when there is an undue delay
  - ✓ Communicated effectively with signals, voice and whistle so that players understand what free kicks are for; spoken to players and officials appropriately
  - ✓ Worked as a team with all the other umpires

If you’re umpiring a final this weekend, work hard and enjoy the experience.

If you missed out on getting one or believe you should be doing a better game, think about which of the areas listed above you need to focus on for next season.