

LOCAL PLAYER VOLUNTEER INCENTIVE:

ONE SHIFT UMPIRING= 1 FREE WEEK OPEN GYM

TWO SHIFTS UMPIRING= 2 FREE WEEKS OPEN GYM

THREE SHIFTS OR MORE UMPIRING= 1 FREE MONTH OPEN GYM



Midwest Regional Umpire Training Course

COURSE DATE: Friday, May 26th **TIME:** 6:30 - 10 pm

ON COURT TRAINING AND EVALUATION: Saturday, May 27–Monday, May 29th

during the 2023 YONEX SPBA Midwest Open Regional (*time slots listed on application form*)

INSTRUCTORS: Beth Sopka & Ian Counter **DEADLINE:** ASAP! May 19 to submit background checks for those 18 and up

LOCATION: Shannon Pohl Badminton Academy at Adversity Volleyball Center

710 Corporate Woods Pkwy, Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Course Instructors:

National Level 3 Umpire & National Referee Beth Sopka

Pan Am Accredited Umpire & Referee Ian Counter

Why become an umpire?

1. You are a parent your child needs you! (To support them get them food, travel for tournaments ... and then you are stuck in a gym for a whole day and you are driving each other crazy!)
2. You get the best seat in the house for the best matches!
3. You love this sport and you really want to help make more good badminton happen in your area.
4. Improve your own game:
 - a. You will really learn all the Laws in detail and understand why, for example, your 'perfect' winning serve gets faulted when there's an umpire on court!
 - b. You will learn what umpires can and cannot do; when and how to ask for an umpire if you have a problem on the court; what to do if you disagree with an umpire's ruling; etc.
5. Umpires are *totally* cool (well, we like to think so).
6. There are definitely other reasons as well, but these are excellent ones to start. By the way, you likely will never learn the others until you become one ☺

This course is being held prior to the 2023 YONEX SPBA Midwest Open Regional (May 27-29), which will serve as an excellent opportunity for trainees to have full on-court training. It is an excellent opportunity to develop technical official skills while helping an important event run smoothly and to work with a corps of experienced court officials. **This is the biggest and highest level junior badminton event in the Midwest region with 526 participants this year.** It should be a very exciting event with top Junior National players flying in. We will be using 27 courts, depending on the number of entries. This will require a tremendous amount of coordination and help from regional umpires. We are asking for your help umpiring or scorekeeping at the event after the clinic. For those feeling sufficiently prepared, evaluations can be conducted as a part of this event and the written exam can be administered so that by the end of tournament weekend, you could become a fully accredited Regional Umpire.

While junior parents and coaches are strongly encouraged to participate in this training, we are looking for others from the broader badminton community to participate as well –there will be many local opportunities to gain more experience in other junior and adult events in Illinois as well as in other parts of the Midwest Region. Becoming an umpire is one of the very best ways to support the continued growth of our great sport, supporting top quality, on-time competitions.



REGIONAL UMPIRE TRAINING - OVERVIEW

Purpose: Impart the necessary information about laws of badminton, role of umpires and other technical officials, required tools, use of scoresheet and training on proper language and other aspects of court management to those who wish to become certified USAB Regional Umpires.

Program: The clinic's four parts (below) may be conducted all in one session or in separate sessions. Anyone is eligible for the clinic but full certification is only available to current members of USA Badminton age 18 years or older.

- Classroom Instruction & Discussion – This portion of the clinic is typically done first and may take from 1 to 3 hours, depending on the experience / preparation of the attendees.
- Written Test – One-hour test testing knowledge of basic laws, proper language, understanding of game situations, sequence of actions and use of scoresheet. Trainees arrange with instructor to take this when s/he feels prepared for it; this may be done either before or after On Court Practical Training but should be prior to On Court Evaluation. Test must be passed with a minimum score of 80%.
- Practical (On Court) Training – This generally involves demonstration, shadowing, support, observation and feedback as the instructor conducts training during actual matches covering language, calls, scoresheet markings, sequence of actions, use of stopwatch and skills needed for proper and effective observation of players and match situations. Initial matches may be recreational club play but training will proceed to actual tournament matches at the 2019 YONEX SPBA Midwest Open Regional May 26-28th
- On Court Evaluation – This takes place at the 2023 YONEX SPBA Midwest Open Regional May 27-29th with observation conducted by either course instructor or a Tournament Referee as trainee umpires during multiple singles and doubles matches.

Upon completion of all segments of the program and documentation of current USAB membership, the instructor shall notify the Technical Officials Committee and recommend certification. Upon certification, a new umpire's USAB membership card will be updated to reflect this. USAB Umpire shirts may be available for purchase.

Fees: This course is provided free of charge by USAB as supported by annual membership fee. The course includes printed rules, course materials, tournament shirt, standard umpire gear (red / yellow cards), as well as dinner on the night of the clinic and meals during their assigned shifts during the tournament. Please bring a stopwatch with you to the course and tournament if you have one. We will also have some to borrow.

Prerequisites: *Everyone:* Participants should have basic knowledge about badminton, especially court layout, basic equipment and how the game is played and scored both in singles and doubles. Upon registering for a clinic, individuals will be expected to read (prior to the clinic) the [Laws of Badminton](#) as published by the Badminton World Federation. The link is also posted at <https://www.shannonpohl.com/usa-badminton-umpire-clinic/>

Anyone 18 + must also do 3 things prior to the course:

1) Join USA Badminton for an annual membership (\$40) **by 5/19 (sooner if possible)**
<https://usabadminton.org/membership/join-or-renew/>

2) Do a background check through USAB for \$30 **by 5/19 (sooner if possible)**
<https://usabadminton.org/membership/join-or-renew/https://usabadminton.org/membership/ncsi-background-check/>

3) Take the online SafeSport course (free, takes a few hours). **by 5/24 (sooner if possible)**
<https://usabadminton.org/safesport-overview/safesport-training/>

*****These requirements are set by the United States Olympic Committee. Pending how much interest and how much sponsorship money the SPBA can get for the tournament, we hope to be able to reimburse some of these fees to new umpires.**



Midwest Regional Umpire Training Course

DATE: Friday, May 26th 6:30-10pm **LOCATION :** Adversity Volleyball Center, Vernon Hills, IL

Please [email](#) this form to badminton@shannonpohl.com by May 19th and add your name and information in the attending tab to this [google doc](#).

Name _____ Shirt Size (Adult Unisex XS, S, M, L, XL, or XXL): _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ USAB # _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Badminton Club _____ Occupation _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Badminton Background _____

Previous Badminton Technical Official Experience (eg scorekeeper, line judge) _____

Previous Sport Official Experience (sports other than badminton) _____

Reasons for wanting to be an umpire _____

□

For instructor's use only:

CLINIC: ____/____/____ ON-COURT EVALUATION: ____/____/____ WRITTEN TEST: ____/____/____ %

Days and times available to Umpire at Open Regionals:

Please check the times you will be available to do your on court practice and evaluation:

We understand that a three day commitment is a lot to ask, so we are looking to have two shifts each of the on days. This means you could work the early shift one day and the late another day. Of course if you want to be available for the entire tournament, one day, two days, or three days you can and it would be much appreciated!

There will be a hospitality room for all umpires with snacks, coffee, lunch, dinner tc. each day.

The proposed times for the tournament and shifts are noted below. Many of you are parents and we know you want to watch your children's matches - we will accommodate this. You also know how critical it is to have the matches umpired and how important it is to making this event a success.

Last year we set the bar high with a very successful SPBA Midwest Super Regionals, and we will give a lot of effort again to create this a top event!

Thank you in advance for your participation and help.

Name: _____

Saturday, May 27th - play begins at 9am and runs through to 9pm

Umpire Briefing - 8am

- ☐ Early Shift: 8:00 am - 3 pm (7 hours)
- ☐ Late Shift: 2 pm - 9 pm (7 hours)

Sunday, May 28th 9 am - play begins at 9am and runs through to 9pm

Umpire Briefing - 8am

- ☐ Early Shift: 8:00 am - 3 pm (7 hours)
- ☐ Late Shift: 2 pm - 9 pm (7 hours)

Monday, May 29th play begins at 8.30 and runs through to 4pm

Umpire Briefing - 8am

- ☐ Shift: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm (8 hours)