

After the hugely successful launch of the Young Umpire Programme last season Ulster Hockey in partnership with the Ulster Umpires Association and Irish Hockey Association are launching their new training dates for 2018/19 hockey season.

The programme has a theory and practical element with the theory part having more interactive opportunities than last year. Young umpires will get plenty of opportunities to practically umpire with the mentoring and direction of senior umpires during the programme and upcoming youth hockey season.

Young umpires will also be given a whistle, t-shirt and lanyard as part of the programme and will be given opportunities to umpire throughout the hockey season at youth hockey blitzes, final days and indoor competitions.

The Young Umpires training course is designed to be an introduction to hockey umpiring for young people aged 15 to 21. This course will focus on how to umpire youth hockey looking specifically at U9, U11 and U13 youth hockey.

Training will be held regionally and will be led by the Ulster Umpires Association in partnership with Ulster Hockey. The Young Umpires course is the first course in the hockey umpiring pathway and is a great way to get a taste of umpiring.

The course is 2.5 hours in duration and focuses on delivering basic hockey umpiring to U9, U11 and U13 youth hockey. The course will be broken into two parts. There will be time spent inside looking over the theory part of being an umpire (rules, regulations, hand signals etc.) and outside looking at the practical side of umpiring (umpiring young kids).

Ulster Hockey want kids to get as much out of this umpiring course as possible and to ultimately enjoy overseeing youth hockey matches in the coming season.

The cost of the course is £10 per club. This allows you to register 2 umpires and covers the costs of tutelage along with a Young Umpires T- Shirt, whistle and branded lanyard.

You must be between 15 - 21 years of age to take part in this training course.

The four venues for this year's programme will be:

Belfast Harlequins:	Sunday 16th September 9.30am - 12.00pm
Portadown:	Sunday 16th September 1.30pm - 4.00pm
Ballymena:	Monday 17th September 6.30pm - 9.00pm
Cookstown:	Wednesday 19th September 6.30pm - 9.00pm

Please note: Participants will assigned to their nearest venue.

Deadline to register is 3rd September 2018