

UMPIRING TERMINOLOGY

Getting netball terminology right is one of the many challenges umpires face at any level. Terminology merely reflects the rule is being penalised. On court the umpire should use the correct sequence of terminology - state the infringement (and if appropriate the team position), penalty to be awarded, to which team and use the correct hand signals to clarify decisions.

Keeping it simple is the essence – the table below gives some suggestions of what, and what not to say

What to Say	What not to Say
Contact	Hand to Ball
Contact	Ball to Hand
Contact	Contact from behind
Replayed ball or Playing the Ball	Double bounce
Incorrect setting or Penalty not set	Reverse the penalty
Delaying play	Time wasting
Obstruction	Falling in
Obstruction	Arms before distance
Obstruction	Too close or Distance
Footwork	Stepping, hopping, dragging
Inappropriate comment and award appropriate penalty under Rule 19 discipline	You can't say that
Moving too soon and award appropriate penalty under Rule 18	You must not move GD
Throwing in offside area WA	WA throwing in from behind an offside area
Simultaneous Offside	Both offside
Incorrect Throw In	Foul throw
Centre Pass not wholly received	Incorrect Centre Pass
Breaking (i.e. Breaking WD)	Offside at Centre Pass
Advantage Goal	Obstruction following a Successful Shot at goal or goal stands