

positive
Vibes
only[®]

WE ARE
ALL ON THE
SAME TEAM!!



WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM

Most sport requires a referee, umpire, official or judge to make it happen. These people are the unsung heroes, giving up their time for our tamariki and our sports.

Our referees, umpires, officials and judges do what they do because they value what sport has to offer, they want sport to flourish and to be enjoyed. Will they make mistakes? At times. Are those mistakes intentional or made to deliberately disadvantage one team or athlete? No.

In 2023, netball umpires told us that negative sideline behaviour knocks their confidence and makes them want to give up umpiring. Here's what they said they'd like to hear/see from the sidelines:

- Keep feelings about calls to yourself (or say it quietly!)
- Be understanding that umpiring isn't as easy as it looks

Without these referees, umpires, officials and judges putting their hand up to officiate our children's games, there wouldn't be any sport for them to play! So show your support and recognition for them – our taonga – and recognise that they are volunteers doing the best they can for sport and for us.

He waka eke noa – we are all in this together!

