

FAQs:

Current Position of ICUS and the BTEC Qualification

1A - Is the ICUS BTEC Course accredited by QCA?

- Only designated Awarding Bodies receive QCA approval for Courses.
- Edexcel, the leading provider of internationally recognised qualifications, is regulated by the QCA and has accredited ICUS to deliver the BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Cricket Umpiring qualification.

2A - What is the standard of ICUS Course materials for its BTEC Certificate qualification?

- All Course materials - including software - were submitted for rigorous scrutiny, evaluation and approval by Edexcel.

3A - Who will deliver the ICUS BTEC qualification Courses?

- Delivery will be under the control of the ICUS Education & Development Directorate headed by Denis Burns. To date 26 Tutors have been trained and accredited by ICUS to meet its Course Quality Assurance standards.

4A - What's the difference between Edexcel and the QCA?

- The QCA (about to become OfQual) is a Regulatory Body as well as an Awarding Body. It ensures that Awarding Bodies meet exacting standards of Quality Assurance (QA).
- Edexcel is an Awarding Body; in fact it is one of the world's largest and most respected qualifications awarding bodies. Edexcel does not approve submissions (Courses) submitted by any organisation unless and until the Courses and the Centres proposed for delivering those Courses have been rigorously vetted (verified).
- Edexcel offers one of two alternative options to organisations submitting Courses for BTEC award accreditation:
 - The standard National Qualifications Framework route (NQF), like the QCA
 - A Customised Framework route

5A - What's the difference between the standard NQF Route and customised Framework route?

- Not a great deal.
- The BTEC NQF route offers vocational qualifications. Because of this they attract UCAS points (students can use them when applying for Courses at universities etc).
- The BTEC Customised Framework route allows organisations to customise Courses to suit their specific needs. This allows much greater control by the organisation submitting them (e.g. ICUS). The Courses are not entered onto the NQF and are therefore not available to any other organisation to deliver. That is why ICUS chose this option; to retain control over its Courses, Tutors, and Course & Assessment materials.
- Companies who have used the unique services and support of Edexcel include First Group, Standard Life, BT Fleet, Panasonic, Siemens, and the Standards Driving Agency. (see <http://www.edexcel.org.uk/sfc/es/cs/psabs/>)
- The BTEC Levels in the Customised Framework route are equivalent to those in the NQF.

6A - In its April newsletter ECB ACO states that QCA has not approved the ICUS BTEC Course?

- ICUS has never sought QCA approval for its BTEC Course. ICUS is accredited by EDEXCEL, the leading provider of internationally recognised Qualifications.

7A - Has ICUS approached ECB with view to working alongside them?

- Yes, on numerous occasions. Meetings at Lord's have been held over the past 6 months during which ICUS has offered its experienced Tutor teams to deliver training Courses to umpires and scorers nationwide on behalf of the ECB, but unfortunately we have to report that this has been rejected out of hand.

8A - Does ICUS intend to continue as an independent Institute?

- ICUS is an Institute and fully intends to serve umpires and scorers to the very highest standards whilst working alongside those that wish to acknowledge the importance of **freedom of choice**.

9A - Is the ICUS BTEC Level 2 Certificate Course available now?

- Yes the Course has been approved and 3 Courses have already been delivered, from which feedback is available on this website.

10A - What is the cost of this Course?

- The fee for the full Course - covering Unit 1, Unit 2 and Unit 3 and - is £180.

11A - How can I register for an ICUS BTEC Certificate in Cricket Umpiring?

- By following the links on this page to: www.umpires.tv