



## Scottish Student Football (SSF)

These guidelines will represent the specific rules and regulations that will govern Scottish Student Football. Where a regulation is not detailed below then the normal rules of the Scottish Football Association shall be applied. SSF will operate under Scottish Student Sport (SSS).

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<b>Who are the member clubs of SSF?</b>	Any University or College team that has entered the BUCS league and are based in Scotland or entered the Scottish Students leagues operated by SSS will automatically become a member of Scottish Student Football.
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<b>What leagues operate under SSF?</b>	There are two league structures that operate under SSF: BUCS Scottish Conference 1A – 6A Scottish Student Football League
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<b>How do you become a member of SSF?</b>	You must have entered one of the leagues listed above and pay the appropriate fee.
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<b>What are the objectives of SSF?</b>	There are three primary objectives of SSF: To promote, foster and help the development of the game of Football within Scottish tertiary education. To make, adopt, vary and publish the rules and regulations governing the programme of league and cup matches (Appendix A). To promote, provide for, regulate and manage a representative programme appropriate to the standard of player and available competition within the sector.
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<b>Do I contact the opposition to arrange a fixture?</b>	All fixtures have been scheduled, in accordance with your published available academic dates, by the SSS staff. If you would like to change the date of any arranged fixture then your respective Sports Union or nominated individual should agree a date suitable to both parties.
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<b>Who do I speak to if I have a problem with SSF?</b>	The Scottish Student Football Coordinator is Ross Campbell. His contact details are as follows: <a href="mailto:R.J.Campbell@hw.ac.uk">R.J.Campbell@hw.ac.uk</a> 0131 451 8414 07775 805 209
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Scottish Student Football

Rules and Regulations – Appendix A

### League Matches

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Promotion /Relegation (BUCS Leagues only)	It is normal that one team shall be promoted and one team shall be relegated each year. SSF and BUCS reserve the right to amend this on an occasion where a Scottish team is relegated / promoted into / out of the premier league.
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Points Per Match	There shall be three points for a win and one point for a draw.
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Equal points	On completion of the Leagues the final positions of teams' level on points shall be decided on games played against each other, then goal difference, then goals scored then the toss of a coin.
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Fixture Cancellation	<p>If a match is cancelled more than 24 hours in advance then the rearranged date of the fixture must be set within 48 hours of the cancellation between the two institutions sports unions or equivalent.</p> <p>If a match is cancelled due to the weather then the teams should apply the same procedure as above.</p> <p>If a match is cancelled within 24 hours of the start time then the team who have cancelled automatically forfeit the game except in the instance of a weather cancellation.</p>
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### Match Organisation

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Kick Off	The normal start time for Wednesday fixtures shall be 14.00 hours where possible.
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Season Calendar	Competition matches shall be played on Wednesday afternoons on the set dates from September until March.
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Match Details	Home teams must provide their Sports Unions or nominated individuals with match information (start time, directions to ground, playing colours, post match catering arrangements, match day contacts), a minimum of 10 days prior to the fixture.
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Arrival at Venue	<p>Teams, both home and away, should arrive at the match venue a minimum of 30 minutes prior to the start of the match and be ready to play a minimum of five minutes before the set time of the kick off.</p> <p>Travel arrangements for away teams should allow for delays caused by travel problems or other unexpected circumstances.</p>
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Appointment of Officials	It is the responsibility of the home team to appoint the referee.
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### **Eligibility**

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Matriculated students only	Players taking part in SSF competitions must be matriculated students of their Institution.
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Players on professional contracts	Matriculated students who are bound by completed player registration forms to represent football clubs other than their institution may, with permission from the Club that holds their registration, represent their institution in SSF competitions.
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Any player competing under this arrangement must provide written proof of permission from the club that holds their player registration within five days if requested by the Coordinator. Failure to do so will result in a possible suspension, ban from the league and the loss of points to the team.

Note: This only applies to SSF Leagues. Those teams who compete in SAFA Leagues at weekends must adhere to the constitution of SAFA and their local league.

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### **Team Lines**

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Completion of team lines	Official team lines giving the full names and team or the SSFC registration details of the players must be completed in duplicate ink for all SSF matches and handed to the match referee prior to the start of the game.
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Referee to return team lines and report	The Referee shall return one copy of the team lines to the SSS Office together with the match result and any official reports and comments.
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Opposing team	The Referee shall give one copy of the team lines to the opposing team prior to the start of the game
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Failure to submit team lines	A fine of £10 will be levied against any club who does not submit team lines prior to the match.
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If a referee does not return team lines	A fine of £10 will be levied against any home team if the team lines are not returned to the SSS office within three weeks of the completion of the match.
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## Referees

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Home teams appoint referees	<p>Qualified Referees must be arranged by the home team.</p> <p>For assistance in appointing referees, you should contact the Secretary from your area. The details of each Secretary can be found on the SFA website or by clicking on the following link:</p> <p><a href="http://www.scottishfa.co.uk/scottish_football.cfm?page=717">http://www.scottishfa.co.uk/scottish_football.cfm?page=717</a></p>
Referee assistants	<p>All BUCS tier 1A fixtures must have Referees' assistants present at each match.</p> <p>Wherever possible Referees' Assistants should be provided and in their absence the two participating teams must provide one person each to run the line.</p>
Hosting referees	<p>The code of good practice should be followed in respect of the hosting of match officials.</p>
Cancelled matches	<p>In the event of a game being postponed by the weather and the Referee being present at the ground, the Referee shall be paid half of the match fee.</p>
Match Fee	<p>The standard match fee is £35.</p>

## Facilities

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Standard facilities	<p>Playing facilities should be of an appropriate quality for SSF competitions and should comply with national governing body regulations.</p>
BUCS Tier 1A	<p>In BUCS 1A pitches should, as a minimum, be roped off to prevent spectator encroachment.</p>
Medical Cover	<p>Host Institutions should ensure that there is an appropriate level of medical/first aid cover available either at or within close proximity of the pitch.</p>
Colour Clash	<p>Where there is a similarity of playing colours, the home team shall change.</p>
Synthetic Pitches	<p>Synthetic pitches are permitted however a booking time of a minimum of 2 hours 30 minutes must be placed.</p>

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## Disciplinary Guidelines

A full breakdown of the disciplinary guidelines is available in appendix 2.

## Rules

All matches shall be played according to the Laws of the Game as approved by the Scottish Football Association.

## Queens Park Shield (QPS)

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History	The QPS is the trophy donated by Queens Park Football Club for the winners of the Scottish Universities league.
Format	The winners shall be decided by a knockout cup competition. The top ranked four teams shall receive a bye to the quarter finals and the bottom ranked eight teams shall play off first.
Participants	There will be twelve University first teams competing for the trophy. The rankings, based on where a team finished last season, are as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Stirling</li><li>2. Edinburgh</li><li>3. Heriot-Watt</li><li>4. Glasgow</li><li>5. Strathclyde</li><li>6. Robert Gordon</li><li>7. Edinburgh Napier</li><li>8. Aberdeen</li><li>9. Dundee</li><li>10. Abertay</li><li>11. St Andrews</li><li>12. Glasgow Caledonian</li></ol>
Cup Draw	The draw and seedings will be made by the SSS office.
Dates of Fixtures	The dates, venues and time shall be issued by the SSS office. The competition shall take place towards the end of the academic year.
Match Draw	If a match ends in a draw after 90 minutes then the referee should instruct the match to go straight to penalty kicks. Normal penalty kick rules should be applied.
Final	The final shall be played at a neutral venue. Date and facility to be confirmed.

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### Conference Cup Matches (CC)

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**Format**                      The CC is played between teams that play in the BUCS league below tier 1A.

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**Cup Draw**                      The draw and seedings will be made by the SSS office.

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**Dates of Fixtures**              The dates are published in advance of the season and played during the league campaign.

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**Match Draw**                      If a match ends in a draw after 90 minutes then the referee should instruct the match to go straight to penalty kicks. Normal penalty kick rules should be applied.

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**Final**                              The final shall be played as part of the SSS Cup Finals day.

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