

SCOTTISH FA



CLUB ACADEMY SCOTLAND

REGULATIONS

INTRODUCTION

- a) The Club Academy Scotland (“CAS”) and the Advanced Youth Programme are, together, performance-based youth football development programmes organised and managed by the Scottish FA for clubs in membership of the Scottish Professional Football League (“SPFL”). In terms of Article 5.1(b)(vii) and Article 5.2(c)(vii) of the Scottish FA Articles of Association, all such clubs and other appropriate persons under the jurisdiction of the Scottish FA agree to be bound by these Regulations as amended from time to time.
- b) The Judicial Panel shall have jurisdiction, subject to the terms of the Judicial Panel Protocol, to deal with any alleged breach of these Regulations. A club or other person under the jurisdiction of the Scottish FA, if found to have breached these Regulations, shall be liable to such penalty, condition or sanction as the Judicial Panel considers appropriate, including such sanctions as are contained within the Judicial Panel Protocol, in order to deal justly with the case in question, but without prejudice to any other rights or remedies available to the Scottish FA (including, without limitation, the right to review a club’s status within the CAS and the Advanced Youth Programmes and the right to withhold any sums otherwise payable by the Scottish FA to a club in connection with the CAS or Advanced Youth Programme or impose such other financial sanctions as are deemed appropriate).
- c) For the start of Season 2024/25, clubs participating in the CAS and Advanced Youth Programmes have been organised into a grading structure in 2024 based on pre-determined Elite, Performance (Progressive), Performance and Advanced Youth criteria.
- d) The Scottish FA Professional Game Board (“PGB”) will have specific responsibility in considering, devising and advancing criteria and such matters in the CAS or Advanced Youth Programme.
- e) The Scottish FA Licensing Committee will have specific responsibility for the verification of applicable criteria standards developed for implementation within the CAS Programme.
- f) The CAS Games Programme at age levels Under 16 and 17/18s will be organised in the form of a tabulated League system. The Under 17/18 League system at Elite level for Season 2023/24 will be used to determine the club eligible to participate in the UEFA Youth League (2024/25) as Scottish domestic youth champions. The Under 17/18 League System at Elite level for Season (2024/25) will be used to determine the club eligible to participate in the UEFA Youth League (2025/26).
- g) Terms used in these Regulations which are defined in the Scottish FA’s Articles of Association shall have the same meanings in these Regulations, unless the context requires otherwise.

1 / CAS - AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a) To promote, foster and develop the game of Association Football for elite and talented young people at age levels 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s and 17/18s.
- b) To develop a challenging performance environment and structure for Scotland's elite and talented young people through the implementation, assessment and evaluation of agreed CAS standards.
- c) To help children and young people flourish by putting their safety, wellbeing, rights and enjoyment at the heart of CAS football.
- d) To observe and comply with the terms of the Scottish FA Performance Strategy.
- e) To observe the Child Wellbeing and Protection Strategy 2024-29 for Scottish Football and embed the values throughout each club's Academy.
- f) The provision and control of an organised youth development match programme for clubs participating in the CAS Programme in accordance with the principles set out above.
- g) To develop world class standards in all areas of the CAS Programme.

2 / APPLICABLE ELITE, PERFORMANCE (PROGRESSIVE), PERFORMANCE AND ADVANCED YOUTH GRADING

The full schedule of CAS Elite, Performance (Progressive), Performance and Advanced Youth criteria, and information related to the Scottish FA Grading Programme, is contained in the appendices to these Regulations.

Compliance with CAS criteria will be the subject of regular audit and assessment. CAS Information Sheets will require to be submitted to the Scottish FA on a quarterly basis throughout the year. The Scottish FA reserves the right to carry out audit spot checks at clubs without prior notice.

In observing the terms of specified CAS criteria, clubs are obliged to formally notify the Scottish FA of variances which occur outside of designated audit windows.

In addition, and without prejudice, to any other rights or remedies available to the Scottish FA (including, without limitation, the right to review a club's status within the CAS and Advanced Youth Programmes and the right to withhold any sums otherwise payable by the Scottish FA to a club in connection with the CAS or Advanced Youth Programme or impose such other financial sanctions as are deemed appropriate), any failure by a club to comply with any of the CAS Elite, Performance (Progressive), Performance and Advanced Youth criteria shall be deemed to be a breach of these Regulations.

3 / SCOPE OF APPLICATION

Clubs have already been awarded a grading level.

The grading awarded may be reviewed in December 2024 after which time it will remain in place until the end of June 2025, unless a) a club fails to meet its stated minimum criteria standard or b) a club applies for a lower grading level.

Clubs will be monitored against the minimum criteria provided by the clubs.

4 / GAMES PROGRAMME

The Chief Football Officer of the Scottish FA from time to time may make such recommendations to the PPGB in respect of invitations to such club(s) to participate at a specific level within the Games Programme. Such recommendations shall be considered by the PGB in its absolute discretion.

For Season 2024/25, the following Games Programmes will apply at the various levels:

Elite

Age Categories U11 – U15

Elite tier academies will play each other a minimum of three times.

Age Categories U16 and U17/18

Elite tier academies will play each other home and away. The respective leagues will then have a Top 6 / bottom 5 split and subsequently play each other home and away in their respective splits.

Performance (Progressive)

Performance (Progressive) tier academies will play each other and Performance tier academies a minimum of three times.

Performance

Performance tier academies will play Performance (Progressive) tier academies a minimum of three times.

Advanced Youth

Advanced Youth clubs will play each other a minimum of three times.

5 / PLAYERS

a) Eligibility to Play in the CAS Programme

Elite

A club will be permitted to register, by means of the appropriate Scottish FA Form, a maximum of 120 young people in total covering the Under 11 – Under 17/18 age categories during the Season, provided that such maximum figure of 120 must include any young people born on or after 1 January 2015 registered by the club in January 2025.

Performance (Progressive) and Performance

A club will be permitted to register, by means of the appropriate Scottish FA Form, a maximum of 92 young people in total covering the Under 11 – Under 17/18 age categories during the Season, provided that such maximum figure of 92 must include any young people born on or after 1 January 2015 registered by the club in January 2025.

Elite, Performance (Progressive) and Performance

To be eligible to participate in a CAS match, a young person will require to be registered for his club by means of the appropriate Scottish FA Form, except for a young person playing as a Trialist, in accordance with the terms of paragraph 5c) below.

A club's complement of young people may be supplemented by young people registered on a Scottish FA Registration Form for Amateur or Professional Players.

Advanced Youth

A club in the Advanced Youth Programme will be permitted to register a maximum of 16 young people per age level, on the appropriate Scottish FA Registration Form.

The terms and conditions of the Scottish FA Registration Procedures apply.

It is recommended that young people should be involved in at least 75% of fixtures.

b) Applicable Age Levels in the CAS Programme

Elite

July 2024 – June 2025

Age Level 11s	young people born on or after 1st January 2014
Age Level 12s	young people born on or after 1st January 2013
Age Level 13s	young people born on or after 1st January 2012
Age Level 14s	young people born on or after 1st January 2011
Age Level 15s	young people born on or after 1st January 2010
Age Level 16s	young people born on or after 1st January 2009
Age Level 17/18s	young people born on or after 1st January 2007

Performance (Progressive) and Performance

July 2024 – June 2025

Age Level 11s	young people born on or after 1st January 2014
Age Level 12s	young people born on or after 1st January 2013
Age Level 13s	young people born on or after 1st January 2012
Age Level 14s	young people born on or after 1st January 2011
Age Level 15/16s	young people born on or after 1st January 2009
Age Level 17/18s	young people born on or after 1st January 2007

Advanced Youth

July 2024 – June 2025

Age Level 16s young people born on or after 1st January 2009

Age Level 17/18s young people born on or after 1st January 2007

In addition to the age levels defined above, clubs achieving Elite, Performance (Progressive) and Performance status (inclusive) will require to formally demonstrate, in writing, the operation of an organised programme for the sourcing and development of young people aged 9 years and below.

c) Playing of Players without Registration

No more than three (four for 7-a-side, 8-a-side and 9-a-side matches) trial young people (per team) may be allowed to participate in any CAS match. Each trial young person may be allowed to participate in a maximum of five matches (unlimited matches at age level 11s) in the CAS Programme for any one club providing he is otherwise eligible to do so, provided that the PGB shall have discretion to increase such maximum number of matches in circumstances where it deems it appropriate to do so.

Use of Overseas Trialists

Within the CAS Programme, each club shall be entitled to bring a maximum number of 10 overseas trial young people to train and be assessed during the Season.

A club may have the overseas trial young people visit Scotland no more than twice in the Season and for a maximum of two weeks in total in any Season, during which time he/she may play in no more than two CAS games within his relevant age group at 15s level during the two-week period.

A club may list and play only two overseas trial young people in a CAS match at any one time (i.e. leaving space for one Scottish trial young person to be fielded in a match).

The proposed use of overseas trial young people requires to be formally notified to the Scottish FA Registrations Department in writing, together with satisfactory evidence of approvals and welfare arrangements in each case. Such information should be provided at least 10 working days in advance of a young person's proposed visit.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Scottish FA must receive:

1. The young person's parent/guardian's written consent;
2. The written consent of the young person's overseas club; and
3. A wellbeing and protection plan for each young person, detailing his/her travel and accommodation arrangements, which must be in line with the Children's Wellbeing in Scottish Football policy framework.

Upon receipt of the information above, the Scottish FA Registrations Department will contact the foreign national association and request consent for the young person to play in Scotland during the period in question (NB. The 10-day period allows the Registrations Department sufficient time to pursue foreign association consent and allows time for cancellation of arrangements by the club should consent not be provided).

d) Participation in Schools' Football

An Amateur Player Age Group 10-17 registered with a club in full membership of the Scottish FA or in membership of an Affiliated Association or an Affiliated National Association may also play for his/her school team

e) Growth and Maturation Screening

For Season 2024-25, the Scottish FA will introduce Growth and Maturation Screening Protocols. Players within the Club Academy Scotland system will be eligible to play down a biological age group if their maturation age has been determined and approved by the Scottish Football Association (SFA) following the required screening tests. Clubs will be required to submit maturation screening data to the Scottish Football Association to approve. This approval is granted for a period of three months, with the four quarterly windows starting in January, April, July, and October. If approval has not been granted, players will be unable to play down an age group. This will be implemented across all age levels of the CAS programme, on a pilot basis for a one Season period initially.

f) Goalkeepers

A goalkeeper is not permitted to play at the age level immediately below their designated age category, unless the goalkeeper comes under Section 5e) of these Regulations. Please see CAS League Rules relating to age categories Under 16 and Under 18.

g) Approaches by and to Clubs

Other than in accordance with the SPFL Rules in relation to Commitment Letters, which must be strictly adhered to, a club shall not, either directly or indirectly, make any approach to or communicate with a young person registered with another participating club or a player with whom another participating club has entered into a pre-registration agreement which remains current.

h) Player Education / “In-Service” Training

As a minimum requirement, clubs must ensure that young people have access to supplementary educational provision and career planning services developed and provided by the Scottish FA Football Development Department.

Attendance at Scottish FA “in-service” training courses for club coaches and staff involved in the CAS Programme is mandatory.

i) Release of Players for National Squad Gatherings

It is a mandatory obligation for clubs participating in the CAS Programme to release young people selected for Scottish FA National Squad gatherings.

6 / CHILD WELLBEING AND PROTECTION

Academies will create a culture of safety and wellbeing for under 18 players, where young people are empowered through active promotion of their rights.

Academies will comply with the most recent version of the Scottish FA Directive, which provides a framework of minimum standards for the protection and wellbeing of young people involved in Scottish football.

Academies seeking Elite, Performance (Progressive), Performance and Advanced Youth levels, must evidence progress towards embedding sportScotland’s Standards for Child Wellbeing and Protection by undertaking a self-assessment and producing an action plan. Progress will be supported/monitored through the Club Licensing process.

CAS Information Sheets must be submitted by the clubs in Elite, Performance (Progressive), Performance and Advanced Youth levels to the Scottish FA before the start of every Season. The Information Sheet must be accompanied by the Training and Recruitment Record.

Academy staff should not be engaged in their roles until the various requirements detailed on the Training and Recruitment (PVG checks, CWSF training and signing up to Code of Conduct) have been completed. The Scottish FA will cross-reference the information provided on the CAS Information Sheet and the Training and Recruitment Record. Any variances identified may be considered a disciplinary matter under the Scottish FA’s Articles of Association, as the club would be in breach of the terms of the Board Directive on Child Wellbeing and Protection.

7 / FORMAT OF CAS MATCHES

Elite Tier

Age level 11s

The CAS Elite Tier Programme will involve all participating clubs playing 2 x 7-a-side matches for the period July 2024 to June 2025.

7-a-side matches will be played between teams comprising 6 outfield players and a goalkeeper.

The duration of matches played at 11s shall normally be 90 minutes.

The 7-a-side matches will be split into a maximum of six periods of 15 minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period.

The Laws of the Game, as authorised by the International Football Association Board (the “Laws of the Game”), relative to offside will not apply at age level 11s, however, the Laws of the Game relating to the pass back to the goalkeeper will apply.

At age level 11s a retreating line shall be introduced to help to develop the building of play from the defensive area:

- The retreating line shall be 12 yards from the goal line.
- The opposing team shall only be allowed to have one player in the defensive area when the goalkeeper has the ball in his hands.
- A second attacker can only enter the defensive area once the defending outfield player has taken his first touch of the ball.

The Laws of the Game relative to throw-ins will not apply at age level 11s. Instead, a kick-in shall be awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball passes over the touchline, on the ground or in the air. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in:

- if the ball enters the opponents’ goal – a goal kick is awarded.
- if the ball enters the thrower’s goal – a corner kick is awarded.

A player from the team awarded a kick-in will restart play by stopping the ball on the touchline before either dribbling the ball in or passing to a teammate. Players from the opposing team must be at least five yards from the ball during a restart. Kick-ins cannot be played at head height or above and teams are encouraged to have a supply in each goal to allow more ball rolling time throughout matches.

Age level 12s

At age level 12s, for the period July 2024 – December 2024, 2 x 7-a-side matches, each team comprising 6 outfield players and one goalkeeper, and 2 x 9-a-side matches for the period January 2025 – June 2025, each team comprising of 8 outfield players and one goalkeeper.

The duration of matches played at 12s shall normally be 90 minutes.

The 7-a-side and 9-a-side match will be split into a maximum of four periods of 22 and a half minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period.

The Laws of the Game relative to offside will apply at age level 12s.

The Laws of the Game relative to throw-ins will not apply at age level 12s. Instead, a kick-in shall be awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball passes over the touchline, on the ground or in the air. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in:

- if the ball enters the opponents' goal – a goal kick is awarded.
- if the ball enters the thrower's goal – a corner kick is awarded.

A player from the team awarded a kick-in will restart play by stopping the ball on the touchline before either dribbling the ball in or passing to a teammate. Players from the opposing team must be at least five yards from the ball during a restart. Kick-ins cannot be played at head height or above and teams are encouraged to have a supply in each goal to allow more ball rolling time throughout matches.

Age Levels 13s

At age level 13s, for the period July 2024 – December 2024, 2 x 9-a-side matches, each team comprising 8 outfield players and one goalkeeper, and 1 x 11-a-side matches for the period January 2025 – June 2025, each team comprising of 10 outfield players and one goalkeeper.

The duration of matches played at 13s shall normally be 90 minutes.

The 9-a-side match will be split into a maximum of four periods of 22 and a half minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period. The 11-a-side match will be split into a maximum of three periods of 30 minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period. The final 30 period minute period of a match will be divided into two periods of 15 minutes in the interests of fair play (e.g., inclement weather).

The Laws of the Game relative to throw-ins will not apply at age level 13s. Instead, a kick-in shall be awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball passes over the touchline, on the ground or in the air. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in:

- if the ball enters the opponents' goal – a goal kick is awarded.
- if the ball enters the thrower's goal – a corner kick is awarded.

A player from the team awarded a kick-in will restart play by stopping the ball on the touchline before either dribbling the ball in or passing to a teammate. Players from the opposing team must be at least five yards from the ball during a restart. Kick-ins cannot be played at head height or above and teams are encouraged to have a supply in each goal to allow more ball rolling time throughout matches.

Performance Tier

Age level 11s

The CAS Performance Tier Programme will involve all participating clubs playing 1 x 8-a-side preceded by 2 x 5-a-side matches for the period July 2024 to June 2025.

8 -a-side matches will be played between teams comprising 7 outfield players and a goalkeeper.

The duration of matches played at 11s shall normally be 90 minutes.

The 8-a-side matches will be split into a maximum of three periods of 30 minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period.

The 5-a-side matches will be split into two periods of 10 minutes, with a five-minute interval between each period.

Age Level 12s

The CAS Performance Tier Programme will involve all participating clubs playing 1 x 9-a-side preceded by 2 x 5-a-side matches for the period July 2024 to June 2025.

9-a-side matches will be played between teams comprising 8 outfield players and a goalkeeper.

The duration of matches played at 12s shall normally be 90 minutes.

The 9-a-side match will be split into a maximum of three periods of 30 minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period. The final 30 period minute period of a match will be divided into two periods of 15 minutes in the interests of fair play (e.g. inclement weather).

The 5-a-side match will be split into two periods of 10 minutes, with a five-minute interval between each period.

The Laws of the Game relative to offside will apply at age level 12s.

Age Levels 13s

At age level 13s, for the period July 2024 to June 2025, 1 x 11-a-side match, comprising 10 outfield players and one goalkeeper will be played between teams.

The duration of matches played at 13s shall normally be 90 minutes.

The 11-a-side match will be split into a maximum of three periods of 30 minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period. The final 30 period minute period of a match will be divided into two periods of 15 minutes in the interests of fair play (e.g., inclement weather).

The Under 13 match will be played on a modified pitch size.

Please Note: For Year Season 2024/25, when the Elite Tier and Performance Tier match Programmes merge, the Elite Tier games format will be adopted in the Under 11, Under 12 and Under 13 age categories.

Elite, Performance Tiers and Advanced Youth

Age Levels 14s, 15s, 16s and 17/18s

At age levels 14s, 15s and 16s, the CAS Programme will involve all participating clubs playing 11-a-side matches for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

At age level 17/18s, the CAS Programme will involve all participating clubs playing 11-a-side matches for the duration of Season 2024/25.

The duration of matches played at 13s and 14s shall normally be 90 minutes. It is mandatory that matches be split into a maximum of three periods of 30 minutes with a 5-minute interval between each period. The final 30 period minute period of a match will be divided into two periods of 15 minutes in the interests of fair play (e.g. inclement weather).

The format of matches at Age Level 15s and 16s shall be 90 minutes split into two periods of 45 minutes.

The format of matches at Age Level 17s/18s shall be 90 minutes split into two periods of 45 minutes.

At Age Levels Under 11, Under 12, Under 13, Under 14 and Under 15 and Under 16, rolling substitutions may be made throughout the match. This shall be extended to age levels Under 17/18 should the CAS Games Programme not be in tabulated format.

The Scottish FA reserves the right to organise the CAS Games Programme at Under 16 and Under 17/18s in a tabulated League format.

(arrangements by the club should consent not be provided).

a) Match Ball Sizes

A size 4 football should be used for all matches at age levels 11s, 12s and 13s. At all other age levels in the CAS Programme, a size 5 FIFA approved football shall be used.

b) Pitch Sizes

The minimum and maximum size of pitches for each games format will be as follows:

4-a-side matches	20 metres x 30 metres	
5-a-side matches	20 metres x 40 metres	
7-a-side matches	Minimum – 36 metres x 55 metres; Maximum	45 metres x 65 metres
8-a-side matches	Minimum – 36 metres x 55 metres; Maximum	45 metres x 65 metres
9-a-side matches	Minimum – 42 metres x 65 metres; Maximum	47 metres x 75 metres
11-a-side matches	Minimum – 56 metres x 90 metres; Maximum	68 metres x 105 metres

Please note: Under 13 and Under 14 matches, at Elite level, and Under 13 at Performance Tier level will be played on a modified pitch size.

c) Goal sizes

Under 11 matches	full season – 7-a-side goals	6' x 18'
Under 12 matches	full season – 7-a-side goals	6' x 18'
Under 13 matches	full season – development size goals	7' x 21'
Under 14 matches	full season – full size goals	8' x 24'
Under 15 – Under 18 matches	full season – full size goals	8' x 24'

d) Coaching, Advice and Tuition (All Age Levels)

At the conclusion of each period of play, the coaches of each participating club shall be permitted to offer coaching, advice and tuition to players. In addition, the match referee and where applicable, the Referee Observer in attendance, shall also be permitted to offer advice on the Laws of the Game and the reasons for decisions that have taken place during the preceding period of play.

e) All individuals listed on the match day team sheets must be included on the Training and Recruitment Record.

f) Respect for match referees and officials will be demonstrated at all matches at all levels. Where the match officials are under the age of 18 years, the Children's Wellbeing in Scottish Football policy framework also applies to that official.

8 / FORMAT, ORGANISATION & GOVERNANCE OF CAS LEAGUE SYSTEM

Age Level 17/18s

a) Format of 17/18s League System

For Season 2024/25, a system of officially tabulated and recorded League matches will be organised within the 17/18s programme as follows:

All 17/18s League matches will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

A referee and two assistant referees will be appointed to officiate at all fixtures within the Elite Games Programme, with all other category matches being officiated by referee only.

Substitutions

In accordance with the Laws of the Game, a club will be permitted to make a maximum of five substitutions (from seven available substitutes) during the course of a 17/18s League match.

For the avoidance of doubt, a player substituted during a 17/18s League fixture may take no further part in that match.

b) Organisation of Under 16 and Under 17/18s League System – Elite Games Programme

The CAS Under 17/18s League system will be directed and administered by the Scottish FA Competitions Department.

The CAS Under 16 League system will be directed and administered by the Scottish FA Football Department.

A separate set of Competition Rules, for the Elite Games Programme, will be provided to participating clubs by the Scottish FA Competitions Department.

Official team line templates and related match / venue control documentation will be provided to participating clubs prior to the commencement of the League programme.

A system of weekly e-circular communications including results and League table updates will be implemented to assist and support clubs within the programme. Match results and League tables will be published by the Scottish FA via its website.

c) Organisation of Under 16 and Under 17/18s League System – Performance (Progressive) & Performance Games Programme

The CAS Under 16 and Under 17/18s League system will be directed and administered by the Scottish FA Football Department.

Official team line templates and related match / venue control documentation will be provided to participating clubs prior to the commencement of the League programme.

A system of weekly e-circular communications including results and League table updates will be implemented to assist and support clubs within the programme. Match results and League tables will be published by the Scottish FA via its website.

d) Organisation of Under 16 and Under 17/18s League Systems – Advanced Youth Games Programme

The CAS Under 16 and Under 17/18s League system will be directed and administered by the Scottish FA Football Department.

Official team line templates and related match / venue control documentation will be provided to participating clubs prior to the commencement of the League programme.

A system of weekly e-circular communications including results and League table updates will be implemented to assist and support clubs within the programme. Match results and League tables will be published by the Scottish FA via its website.

e) Governance of Under 16 and Under 17/18s League System

As an integral part of the CAS youth development Programme, the Under 16 and Under 17/18s League system will be governed by the administration in accordance with the terms of these Regulations, the Laws of the Game and Scottish FA Articles of Association.

Responsibility for the governance of CAS is vested with the PGB in keeping with the terms of Board Protocols.

9 / MATCH VENUES, DATES, KICK-OFF TIMES AND THE FULFILMENT OF FIXTURES

- a) Venues for matches played in the CAS and Advanced Youth programmes must be selected strictly in accordance with the terms of applicable Elite, Performance (Progressive), Performance and Advanced Youth grading criteria.
- b) Clubs are required to formally notify, in writing, the Scottish FA of the venues at which their matches will be played and must officially register (by means of a match facility pro-forma) their list of proposed playing facilities prior to the commencement of the Season, subject to the above.

- c) Matches in the CAS Elite Programme will be scheduled for and will normally be played on a Saturday (age levels 11s, 13s and 15s) and Sunday (age levels 12s, 14s and 16s). Matches in the CAS Performance Tier Programme will be scheduled for and will normally be played on a Saturday (age levels 12s and 14s) and Sunday (age levels 13s and 16s). Under 17/18 matches in the Elite, Performance (Progressive) and Performance levels will normally be played on Fridays. The matches played in the Advanced Youth level will normally be played on Sundays. The Scottish FA reserves the right to permit matches to be played on other days subject to the substantiated written request of competing clubs.
- d) The Scottish FA reserves the right to co-ordinate the kick-off times of all matches played in the CAS Programme.
- e) **The fulfilment of scheduled fixtures in the CAS and Advanced Youth Programmes is mandatory.**

In circumstances where a club is required to postpone or re-schedule a CAS fixture, formal written notice must be communicated to the club's opponent and the Scottish FA within three working days of the date of the originally scheduled fixture. An official CAS pro-forma will be supplied in this regard. As a courtesy to opponents, clubs wishing to take part in tournaments that fall on scheduled CAS fixture dates must give a six-week period of notice of participation in a tournament. Rescheduled dates for any fixtures that are required to be postponed must be agreed and communicated to the Scottish FA before permission to attend tournaments is considered.

Failure to fulfil CAS fixtures will (i) constitute a breach of these Regulations and the Judicial Panel will have jurisdiction to deal with any such breach and to impose sanctions in relation to it; and (ii) (without prejudice to the foregoing) result in the review of a club's status within the CAS and Advanced Youth Programmes, the withholding of any sums otherwise payable by the Scottish FA to a club in connection with the CAS or Advanced Youth Programme or such other financial sanctions as are deemed appropriate.

10 / PROHIBITION ON REGULAR PAYMENTS

- a) Subject to paragraph 10b) below, no club which is participating in the CAS Elite, Performance (Progressive) or Performance Programme shall be, directly or indirectly in receipt of:
- (i) payments made on a regular basis, irrespective of the regularity of such payments, nor shall it request payments from or on behalf of (or suggest or infer that payments should or could be made by or on behalf of) Academy players; or
 - (ii) any other payment that is or could be inferred to be a contribution towards or otherwise made in connection with the training and development of a player(s) in the CAS Programme, including (without limitation) for club fees, dues or subscriptions, or as part of a lottery or other similar fund-raising scheme, or for any similar purpose. The PGB shall have sole discretion to determine whether any payments received by any such club constitute such payments for the purposes of this Regulation 10.
- b) Notwithstanding the terms of paragraph 10a) above, a club which is participating in the CAS Elite, Performance (Progressive) or Performance Programme shall be entitled to submit a request in writing to the Scottish FA (and the Scottish FA shall be entitled to accept or reject such request at its sole discretion) that such club be permitted to receive a payment(s) that would otherwise be in breach of paragraph 10a) above, provided that any acceptance of any such request by the Scottish FA shall be subject to such conditions as the Scottish FA shall consider appropriate in the circumstances, including (without limitation) any condition(s) which the Scottish FA considers are appropriate in relation to such club's entitlement to receive payment of any Training Compensation under paragraph 1.2 of Annex 8 to the Scottish FA Registration Procedures (as in force and amended from time to time) that would otherwise be payable to the club under the said paragraph 1.2 in connection with any Academy player in respect of whom the club has received a payment that would otherwise breach paragraph 10a).
- c) The Scottish FA reserves the right to request that any club(s) which is participating in the CAS Elite, Performance (Progressive) or Performance Programme submit to the Scottish FA (at any point in time which the Scottish FA, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate) a declaration in such form as the Scottish FA shall prescribe from time to time confirming that such club is not in receipt of any payment(s) which would be in breach of paragraph 10a) above or that it is in receipt of any such payment(s) and, if so, the amount of such payment, together with such other details in respect of the payment(s) as the Scottish FA shall request (acting reasonably).

Without prejudice to any other right or remedy which the Scottish FA may have, it shall be entitled to request that a club which is participating in the CAS Elite, Performance (Progressive) or Performance Programme provide such information and documentation as the Scottish FA shall deem necessary (acting reasonably) to establish whether or not such club is in receipt of any payment that would breach paragraph 10a) above and, if it is, the nature and extent of such payments.

11 / APPOINTMENT OF MATCH OFFICIALS

The Scottish FA shall appoint, through a designated Regional Referee Co-ordinator, a match referee for all matches played in the CAS Programme. The Scottish FA shall decide the tariff for referees at the commencement of each Season.

12 / RESPONSIBILITY OF HOME CLUBS

It is the responsibility of the home club to advise the Scottish FA, the Regional Referee Co-ordinator and referee of the agreed venue, date and time of kick-off for matches played in the CAS Programme.

Notification shall be made in writing at least one week in advance of the match and, in all cases, not less than three working days before the match. Alterations to the venue, date and time of kick-off must also be notified by the home club to its opponents, the referee and the Scottish FA.

13 / DISCIPLINE

Players having received six cautions for breaches of discipline in the CAS Programme will automatically be subject to a one-match ban. A similar one-match ban will also be applied for any sending-off offence.

Suspensions will be recorded and effective in all CAS matches for which the player is eligible. At the interval of any CAS match, which is not tabulated, a team which has had a player or players sent off may introduce substitute players in order to return to a full complement of 11 (where applicable) to start the next period. A player sent off in a CAS match may not play any further part in that match.

Matters of repeated indiscipline by players or clubs will be investigated by the Scottish FA as an integral part of the on-going assessment and evaluation of the CAS Programme, its stated aims and objectives.

14 / TEAM SCOUTS

Team Scouts of clubs participating in CAS will require to complete and sign the Scottish FA's "Officials Registration Form" agreeing to adhere to the Scottish FA's Articles of Association, Registration Procedures and Club Code of Conduct for Child Wellbeing and Protection as agreed or amended from time to time by the Scottish FA, for approaching players of Scottish Youth FA clubs or other Affiliated National Association clubs. Team Scouts will also require to be in attendance, as and when required, at an approved course run by the Scottish FA on the Scottish FA Protocol and any other matters concerning the duties, responsibilities, and obligations on Team Scouts in relation to but not solely limited to the approach to players and clubs. Team Scouts must be included on the Training and Recruitment Record.

SCOTTISH FA



CLUB ACADEMY SCOTLAND