

BUCS SPORT SPECIFIC REGULATIONS – SIGNIFICANT CHANGES FOR 2024-25 (VERSION 1)

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SUMMARY

This document highlights some of the changes to BUCS' Sport Specific Regulations for the 2024-25 season that institutions/Playing Entities should be aware of.

It is not a record of all changes, as it does not contain details of any minor editorial changes, such as wording changes which do not affect the purpose of the regulations, or changes to numbering where regulations have been reordered.

Updated versions of this document will be published should there be further updates to regulations following its initial publication.

Sport	Regulation Number	Previous Regulation	New Regulation	Reason
American Football	N/A	<p>*Notification of changes to BAFA rulebook for 2023-24 season, 2024-25 season and 2025-26 season*</p> <p>See here https://rules.bafra.info/docs/2023/BAFA/BAFA%20rule%20changes%202023.pdf).</p>	<p>*Notification of changes to BAFA rulebook for 2024-25 season and 2025-26 season*</p> <p>See here for changes to the BAFA rulebook for the 2024-25 season and here for the changes for the 2023-24 season which gives advance notice of some further changes for the 2025-26 season.</p> <p>See here https://rules.bafra.info/docs/2024/BAFA/BAFA%20rule%20changes%202024.pdf) and here https://rules.bafra.info/docs/2023/BAFA/BAFA%20rule%20changes%202023.pdf).</p>	Changes which are compulsory for BUCS to follow and will therefore affect members. Notice periods for future changes give institutions time to ensure compliance.
American Football	AMF 1	<p>AMF 1 Open Championships The BUCS American Football Championships are an Open Championships. Open Championships have no gender-based eligibility requirements and individuals may participate whatever their gender identity.</p>	<p>AMF 1 Open Championships There shall be an Open Team Championships. Open Championships have no gender-based eligibility requirements and individuals may participate whatever their gender identity. The programme shall include leagues and knockout competitions as per BUCS general regulations, Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and Appendix 10 ('BUCS Promotion, Relegation and Knockout Information').</p>	For clarity and consistency with other sport specific regulations.
American Football	AMF 4	<p>AMF 4 Goalposts All Premier Tier league and National Championship knockout matches shall be played with goalposts as a minimum standard. In all other matches, teams can agree to play without goalposts.</p>	<p>AMF 4 Goalposts</p> <p>AMF 4.1 Premier Tier leagues and National Championship and National Vase knockout competitions Matches shall be played with goalposts as a minimum standard.</p> <p>AMF 4.2 All other leagues and knockout competitions Teams can agree to play without goalposts.</p>	To reflect the introduction of a National league in the Premier Tier above the North/South leagues and the introduction of a National Vase knockout competition below the National Championship.

American Football	AMF 10	<p>AMF 10 Minimum number of players for a fixture to start or continue In relation to BAFA regulation 5.1 and BAFA rule 13-8-6, the minimum number of players required for a fixture to start will be 18.</p>	<p>AMF 10 Minimum number of players for a fixture to start or continue In relation to BAFA regulation 5.1 and BAFA rule 13-8-6, the minimum number of players required for a fixture to start will be 22.</p>	<p>This regulation was changed at the start of the 2023-24 season to increase the number to 18 from 11. It was highlighted at that stage that the intention will be to further increase the number to 22 for the 2024-25 season. This is to bring our competition in line with NGB guidance and also with the BAFA Adult National Leagues.</p> <p>Looking at squad sizes this season, no team had less than 22 players in their squad when squads were reviewed "after the first two rounds of the season" and at the end of the season. The team with the smallest squad had 25 players and they conceded walkovers in 4 out of their 5 fixtures. The average squad size across all teams was 50.</p>
American Football	AMF 11.1	<p style="text-align: center;">AMF 11 Coaches</p> <p>AMF 11.1 In relation to BAFA rule 13-8-6 and BAFA regulation 5.1, for each match, each team must have, at the field, a minimum of two licensed (as defined in BAFA rule 13-8-4) coaches who hold a current valid BAFCA level 1 or higher qualification. As per BAFA rule 13-8-6, this minimum only needs to be met at the scheduled kick-off time; thereafter the minimum number is one who must be on the sideline at all times.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AMF 11 Coaches</p> <p>AMF 11.1 In relation to BAFA rule 13-8-6 and BAFA regulation 5.1, for each match, each team must have, at the field, a minimum of three licensed (as defined in BAFA rule 13-8-4) coaches who all hold at least a current valid BAFCA level 1 qualification. One of the three coaches must hold a current valid BAFCA level 2 or higher qualification. As per BAFA rule 13-8-6, this minimum only needs to be met at the scheduled kick-off time; thereafter the minimum number is one who must be on the sideline at all times.</p>	<p>This regulation was changed at the start of the 2023-24 season to increase the minimum number of coaches from one BAFCA Level 1 coach to two BAFCA Level 1 coaches. It was highlighted at that stage that the intention would be to increase this to a minimum of three coaches all holding a BAFCA Level 1 qualification at least and one of those three coaches holding a BAFCA Level 2 or higher qualification. This will bring our competition in line with NGB guidance and also the BAFA Adult National Leagues.</p> <p>Over the last two seasons (2022-23 and 2023-24), we have offered BUCS teams funded BAFCA Level 1 and Level 2 courses. From this, 214 Level 1 courses were taken up and 38 Level 2 courses were taken up.</p>

<p>American Football</p>	<p>AMF 15</p>	<p>AMF 15 Separating teams tied on league points In an exception to REG 8.3.7, where either REG 8.3.7.3.2.1 or REG 8.3.7.4.2 are required to be utilised, average points conceded of fixtures played shall be considered, not goal difference. If this does not separate the tie, then the process will move straight to the coin toss as per REG 8.3.7.3.2.5 or REG 8.3.7.4.6.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7 Calculating final league positions REG 8.3.7.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system (unless sport specific regulations state differently):</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then REG 8.3.7.3 or REG 8.3.7.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3 Tie between two teams REG 8.3.7.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a ‘home’ and ‘away’ basis, the aggregate score of the two (or more) matches will determine the higher placed team.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.2 Where the result between the two teams does not determine a winner, if the tie on points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to them or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated goal/set/point/rubber (dependent on the sport)</p>	<p>AMF 15 Calculating final league positions AMF 15.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system: AMF 15.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then AMF 10.3 or AMF 10.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p>AMF 15.3 Tie between two teams AMF 15.3.1 Where two teams are tied on league points, the result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a ‘home’ and ‘away’ basis, the aggregate score of the two matches will determine the higher placed team. If this does not determine the higher placed team; AMF 15.3.2 Average points conceded shall be used to determine the higher placed team. If the tie on league points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to them or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on league points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated average points conceded shall be used to determine the higher placed team. AMF 15.3.3 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.</p> <p>AMF 15.4 Tie between three or more teams AMF 15.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on league points, a table shall be formed to calculate their final league positions using the results between the relevant teams as per AMF 15.4.2 - AMF 15.4.3. AMF 15.4.2 The teams tied will be ranked based on</p>	<p>American Football specific regulation expanded to avoid the need for the reader to bounce back and forth with REG 8.3.7 which will make it easier to understand how final league positions are calculated in American Football.</p>
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difference shall be used to determine the higher placed team as follows:

REG 8.3.7.3.2.1 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.3 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.4 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.5 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4 Tie between three or more teams

REG 8.3.7.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on points, a table shall be formed to calculate the higher placed team from the results between the relevant teams.

REG 8.3.7.4.2 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf) in the mini

league points accumulated (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

AMF 15.4.3 The teams tied will be ranked based on average points conceded (the lower the better).

AMF 15.4.4 If a tie cannot be broken using the system above, then the final league positions of any teams still tied shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

		<p>league.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.3 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf) in the mini league.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.4 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent in the mini league shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.5 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.</p>		
American Football	AMF 16.1	<p>AMF 16 Knockout competition draws</p> <p>AMF 16.1 National Championship For the National Championship knockout competition, the Quarter-Final draw, involving the top four teams from the Premier Tier North and South leagues, will be determined based on league positions. There will be no seeding and teams will progress through a pre-determined bracket draw with the first named</p>	<p>AMF 16 Knockout competition draws</p> <p>AMF 16.1 National Championship For the National Championship knockout competition, the Semi-Final draw, involving the top four teams from the Premier Tier National league, will be determined based on league positions. There will be no seeding, and teams will progress through a pre-determined bracket draw</p>	<p>To reflect the introduction of a National league in the Premier Tier above the North/South leagues and the introduction of a National Vase knockout competition below the National Championship.</p>

		(home) team hosting the Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches.	with the first named (home) teams hosting the Semi-Final matches.	
American Football	AMF 16.2 (NEW)	N/A	<p>AMF 16 Knockout competition draws</p> <p>AMF 16.2 National Vase For the National Vase knockout competition, the Quarter-Final draw, involving the top four teams from the Premier Tier North and South leagues, will be determined based on league positions. There will be no seeding, and teams will progress through a pre-determined bracket draw with the first named (home) teams hosting the Quarter-Final and Semi-Final matches.</p>	To reflect the introduction of a National league in the Premier Tier above the North/South leagues and the introduction of a National Vase knockout competition below the National Championship.
Basketball	BAS 2	<p>BAS 2 Affiliations All institutions/Playing Entities, teams and players must affiliate to their respective National Governing Body (NGB) as per the requirements of the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document. Failure to affiliate institutions/Playing Entities, teams or players to the relevant NGB by the deadlines stated in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document will result in sanctions being imposed as outlined in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document and the possibility of further disciplinary action.</p> <p>BAS 2.1 Players must be able to present their individual licences at each fixture should they be requested to do so. Players unable to evidence their licensing at a fixture should be noted on team sheets but are able to play, however, any institution/Playing Entity found to have fielded players without the appropriate licensing in place will face sanctions as outlined in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document.</p>	<p>BAS 2 Affiliations All institutions/Playing Entities, teams, players and coaches must affiliate to their respective National Governing Body (NGB) as per the requirements of the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document. Failure to affiliate institutions/Playing Entities, teams, players or coaches to the relevant NGB by the deadlines stated in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document will result in sanctions being imposed as outlined in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document and the possibility of further disciplinary action.</p> <p>BAS 2.1 Players and coaches must be able to present their individual licences at each fixture should they be requested to do so. Players and coaches unable to evidence their licensing at a fixture should be noted on the scoresheet but are able to participate, however, any institution/Playing Entity found to have fielded any player(s) and/or coach(es) without the appropriate licensing in place will face sanctions as outlined in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document.</p>	To reflect the requirement for coaches to have a licence as per the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document.

Basketball	BAS 5	<p style="text-align: center;">BAS 5 Balls</p> <p>BAS 5.1 For all Men's fixtures the ball shall not be less than 74.9cm and not more than 78cm in circumference (size 7). It shall not weigh less than 567g and not more than 650g.</p> <p>BAS 5.2 For all Women's fixtures the ball shall not be less than 72.4cm and not more than 73.7cm in circumference (size 6). It shall not weigh less than 510g and not more than 567g</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BAS 5 Balls</p> <p>BAS 5.1 For all Men's fixtures the ball shall not be less than 74.9cm and not more than 78cm in circumference (size 7). It shall not weigh less than 567g and not more than 650g.</p> <p>BAS 5.2 For all Women's fixtures the ball shall not be less than 72.4cm and not more than 73.7cm in circumference (size 6). It shall not weigh less than 510g and not more than 567g</p> <p>BAS 5.3 For all Premier Tier/National Championship matches, Wilson Evo NXT balls must be used. For all other matches, BUCS recommends use of Wilson Evo NXT balls.</p>	<p>Requirement to use a specific ball at Premier Tier/National Championship level is being introduced to align standards of match experience. Wilson Evo NXT ball selected due to BUCS's partnership with Wilson through which institutions can get discounted balls.</p> <p>For all other matches, a specific model of ball is not required, but institutions are encouraged to use the same model as is required at Premier Tier/National Championship level.</p>
Fencing	FEN 3	<p>FEN 3 Fencing Safety Equipment All competitors clothing and equipment shall conform to current British Fencing regulations: (Presented as a table in regulations) Jackets – CEN 1, 350 Newtons Plastron – CEN 2, 800 Newtons Breeches – CEN 1, 350 Newtons Masks – CEN 1 (350N.bib) All masks must be fitted with safety back straps Gloves – Sabre – FIE 800 Newtons Sabre Glove, Foil & Epee 350 Newton Glove Socks – Long socks covered by the bottom of the breeches</p>	<p>FEN 3 Safety The British Fencing Standards and Guidelines for Safety in Fencing shall be followed, including the minimum safety standards for clothing.</p>	<p>Direct reference to the the British Fencing Standards and Guidelines for Safety in Fencing ensures that the BUCS regulation does not become out of date or contradictory.</p>
Fencing	FEN 11	<p>FEN 11 Matches will include Foil, Epee and Sabre. For each weapon, teams will be of three fencers plus the option of a nominated reserve. A weapon match will use the relay formula. Should there be a tie on hits at time, then an extra minute will be fenced with one team being given priority on the toss of a coin. The next hit or priority at the end of the minute will decide the weapon victory. The winning team will be the team with the highest hits total over the three weapons.</p> <p>FEN 11.1 In the event of a tie on hits after the three weapons, the winner will be the team that has won the most weapons</p>	<p>FEN 11 Each fixture will consist of Foil, Epee and Sabre matches. For each weapon match, teams will be of three fencers plus the option of a nominated reserve. Each weapon match will use the relay formula. Should there be a tie on hits at time, then an extra minute will be fenced with one team being given priority on the toss of a coin. The next hit or priority at the end of the minute will decide the weapon match victory. The winning team will be the team with the highest hits total over the three weapon matches.</p> <p>FEN 11.1 In the event of a tie on hits after the three weapons matches, the winner will be the team that has won the most weapon matches.</p>	<p>To ensure clear and consistent use of terminology throughout the regulations.</p>

Fencing	FEN 12	<p>FEN 12 The two team captains, in advance of the match, shall agree the order in which weapons are fought.</p> <p>FEN 12.1 In the event of lack of agreement there shall be a draw for the order of weapons. The order of fights shall conform to FIE (International Fencing Federation) regulations.</p> <p>FEN 12.2 The bout order must be decided using a 'coin toss' at the start of the match.</p>	<p>FEN 12 Order of weapon matches and bouts</p> <p>FEN 12.1 The two team captains, in advance of a fixture starting, shall agree the order in which the weapon matches shall be fought. In the event of lack of agreement there shall be a draw.</p> <p>FEN 12.2 In leagues where teams are scheduled to play each other twice, the first named (home) team shall be recognised on the scoresheet as Team A and thus fencers 1, 2 and 3, the opposition as Team B and thus fencers 4,5 and 6. In leagues where teams are scheduled to play each other once, and in all knockout competitions, the team captains, in advance of the fixture starting, shall conduct a coin toss to determine which team shall be recognised as Team A and which as Team B. In all cases, the order of the individual fencers within each team shall be decided by the respective team captain.</p> <p>FEN 12.3 The bouts of each weapon match shall be fought in the following order: 3-6, 1-5, 2-4, 1-6, 3-4, 2-5, 1-4, 2-6, 3-5.</p>	<p>FEN 12.2 was added for the 2021-22 season to try and provide clarity regarding designation of teams, however the change and language used actually made it less clear and seemed contradictory, with some interpreting it to refer to the order of fights covered under FEN 12.1.</p> <p>The updated FEN 12 and sub-regulations aims to finally now provide clarity with regards to designation of teams on scoresheets and how the order of weapon matches, order of bouts and designations of individual fencers to bouts shall be made.</p>
Fencing	FEN 13	<p>FEN 13 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 ('BUCS Match Officials Requirements').</p> <p>FEN 13.1 Officials should rotate between matches where possible.</p>	<p>FEN 13 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 ('BUCS Match Officials Requirements').</p> <p>FEN 13.1 Officials should rotate between weapon matches where possible.</p>	To ensure clear and consistent use of terminology throughout the regulations.
Fencing	FEN 14	FEN 14 Electrical apparatus shall be used for all matches.	FEN 14 Electrical apparatus shall be used for all fixtures.	To ensure clear and consistent use of terminology throughout the regulations.
Fencing	FEN 15	FEN 15 Team captains are required to check the British Fencing memberships of the opposing team prior to the start of each league and knockout match. Fencers should bring a print out of their confirmation on the British Fencing website or be able to demonstrate their membership online.	FEN 15 Team captains are required to check the British Fencing memberships of the opposing team prior to the start of each fixture. Fencers should bring a printout of their confirmation on the British Fencing website or be able to demonstrate their membership online.	To ensure clear and consistent use of terminology throughout the regulations.

Football	FOO 9.1	<p style="text-align: center;">FOO 9 Discipline</p> <p>FOO 9.1 All matches are played under the auspices of the International Football Association Board (IFAB). However, the discipline regulations and processes followed shall be those of the relevant Home Nation Football Association(s).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOO 9 Discipline</p> <p>FOO 9.1 The discipline regulations and processes followed shall be those of the relevant Home Nation Football Association(s).</p> <p>FOO 9.1.1 For Scottish institutions/Playing Entities, the Scottish Student Football Disciplinary Guidelines issued by Scottish Student Sport (SSS) in consultation with the Scottish Amateur Football Association (SAFA) shall apply.</p>	For clarity.
Football	FOO 9.2	<p style="text-align: center;">FOO 9 Discipline</p> <p>FOO 9.2 Temporary dismissals (Sin Bins) Temporary Dismissals, otherwise known as Sin Bins, are mandatory for matters of dissent by players across all BUCS Football.</p> <p>FOO 9.2.1 Players will only go in the Sin Bin for dissent cautions. Dissent is the use of words or gestures questioning or undermining the referee’s decision. Examples of dissent are: Shouting at the referee, questioning the referee’s ability, slamming the ball into the ground, sarcastically clapping a decision.</p> <p>FOO 9.2.2 Sin Bins will be indicated by the referee showing a yellow card and clearly pointing with both arms to the side lines. In grounds where there are technical areas, the player in question must go to their team’s technical area. Elsewhere, players must leave the pitch and watch from the touchline with other non-playing staff. A player in the Sin Bin is permitted to warm up.</p> <p>FOO 9.2.3 Sin Bins will only be administered to those players on the field of play – substitutes or substituted players will be cautioned for dissent as per the standard rules.</p> <p>FOO 9.2.4 For matches of 90 minutes, players spend 10 minutes in the Sin Bin. For matches of all other lengths, players spend 8 minutes in the Sin Bin. The Sin Bin period only commences when the referee restarts play, and the referee shall include</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOO 9 Discipline</p> <p>FOO 9.2 Temporary dismissals (sin bins) Temporary Dismissals – otherwise known as ‘sin bins’ – are mandatory for acts of dissent by players across all BUCS Football in accordance with the following regulations. Guidance on temporary dismissals/sin bins is available from IFAB, the FA and the FAW.</p> <p>FOO 9.2.1 Players will only go into the sin bin for dissent cautions. Sin bins apply to all players (including goalkeepers) but not to cautionable (Yellow Card) offences committed by a substitute or substituted player. Dissent is the use of words or gestures questioning or undermining the referee’s decision. Examples of dissent are: Shouting at the referee, questioning the referee’s ability, slamming the ball into the ground, sarcastically clapping a decision.</p> <p>FOO 9.2.2 Duration of a sin bin For matches of 90 minutes, players spend 10 minutes in the sin bin. For matches of all other lengths, players spend 8 minutes in the sin bin. The Sin Bin period only commences when the referee restarts play, and the referee shall include in the Sin Bin period any time ‘lost’ for a stoppage for which ‘additional time’ will be allowed at the end of the half. If the sin bin period has not expired at the end of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 1st half: It continues into the 2nd half; • The 2nd half: It continues into extra time (where applicable); 	Sin bins have been in place for dissent in BUCS football since the 2019-20 season, however the International Football Association Board (IFAB) has recently made changes to their Guidelines for Temporary Dismissals. FOO 9.2 updated accordingly and links to new guidance from the FA and FAW (with all grassroots football in England and Wales now having sin bins in place for dissent) have been added to support institutions and match officials.

in the Sin Bin period and time 'lost' for a stoppage for which 'additional time' will be allowed at the end of the half. If the Sin Bin period has not expired at the end of:

- The 1st half: Continues into the 2nd half;
- The 2nd half: Continues into extra time;
- Extra time: Player can participate in penalties

FOO 9.2.5 The referee shall decide when a player can return to play.

FOO 9.2.6 A player in the Sin Bin cannot be substituted until their suspension period expires and cannot be substituted if all substitutions have already been made.

FOO 9.2.7 Whilst in the Sin Bin, if a player commits a yellow or red card offence, they cannot take any further part in the match and cannot be substituted.

FOO 9.2.8 If a player commits a yellow card offence on the field of play in addition to a period in the Sin Bin, they will continue to play.

FOO 9.2.9 If a player commits a second dissent caution and no other offences, they will receive a second Sin Bin after which they can't take any further part in the match but can be substituted if the team has substitutions remaining.

FOO 9.2.10 If a player commits a second dissent caution and has already been booked, they will take no further part in the match and cannot be substituted.

FOO 9.2.11 There's no limit on the number of players that can be in the Sin Bin at any one time. However, if a team is reduced to less than seven players due to Sin Bins, the match will be abandoned as covered under IFAB Laws of the Game.

FOO 9.2.12 Sin Bin yellow cards shall count towards a player's seasonal tally of yellow cards.

FOO 9.2.13 Use of foul and abusive language is still a red card offence.

- Extra time: Player can participate in penalty kicks (where applicable)

FOO 9.2.3 Match Day process

FOO 9.2.3.1 Sin bins will be indicated by the referee showing a yellow card and to the touchline where they player must go. In grounds where there are technical areas, the player in question must go to their team's technical area. Elsewhere, players must leave the pitch and watch from the touchline with their team's non-playing staff, unless 'warming up' (under the same conditions as a substitute).

FOO 9.2.3.2 Whilst in the sin bin, if a player commits a Yellow or Red Card offence (including dissent), they cannot take any further part in the match and cannot be substituted.

FOO 9.2.3.3 A player can only return to the field of play with the referee's permission at a stoppage in play.

FOO 9.2.3.4 If a player receives a second Yellow Card for any type of offence (including dissent), they will be shown a Red Card and dismissed from the field of play.

FOO 9.2.3.5 A player in the sin bin can only be substituted after the sin bin period has ended and only if their team has not used all its permitted substitutions.

FOO 9.2.3.6 There's no limit on the number of players that can be in the sin bin at any one time. However, if a team is reduced to less than seven players due to sin bins, the match will be abandoned as covered under the IFAB Laws of the Game.

FOO 9.2.4 Sin bin Yellow Cards are reported as per any other Yellow Cards, are subject to the same administration fees, and shall count towards a player's seasonal tally of Yellow Cards.

FOO 9.2.5 For clarity, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or actions is still a Red Card offence.

Football	FOO 9.3	<p style="text-align: center;">FOO 9 Discipline</p> <p>FOO 9.3 Suspensions A suspension issued against a player, club or team official as a result of a disciplinary matter in BUCS Football shall only apply to BUCS Football unless the suspension applied is advised by the relevant Home Nation Football Association to apply to 'all football'. A suspension issued against a player, club or team official as a result of a disciplinary matter in any non-BUCS Football competition shall not apply to BUCS Football unless the suspension applied is advised by the relevant Home Nation Football Association to apply to 'all football'</p> <p>FOO 9.3.1 In Scotland, no player, club or team official may participate in any student football fixture while serving a ban from a recognised football association or affiliate body (to include student, amateur, junior or senior football). Any bans issued by Scottish Student Sport (SSS) will be enforced in student football only, although SSS retain the right to pass any serious misconduct cases to the relevant association or affiliate body.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOO 9 Discipline</p> <p>FOO 9.3 Suspensions No individual, team, or club may participate in any BUCS football fixture whilst serving a suspension imposed by the relevant Home National Football Association (or a delegated authority) that would apply to BUCS football. In cases of doubt as to whether a suspension would apply to BUCS football, institutions/Playing Entities should check with the body which issued the suspension.</p>	<p>Old wording of FOO 9.3 and FOO 9.3.1 was not in alignment with how suspensions are now being treated across the Home Nations. To avoid BUCS regulations becoming out of alignment in future, the relevant discipline regulations and processes (as per FOO 9.1) should be referred to and where there is any doubt regarding whether a suspension applies to BUCS football, the body issuing the suspension should be contacted for clarification.</p>
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Hockey	HOC 5	<p>HOC 5 Team selection/Player movement</p> <p>HOC 5.1 Goalkeepers Goalkeepers are permitted to move down one team from a team they have established normality for to play as a goalkeeper only in order to cover injury. Evidence that players are moving down to cover injury may be required. For example, a goalkeeper who has established normality for a 2nd Team may play for the 3rd Team, in the goalkeeper position only. However, teams should be aware that REG 11.1.4 still applies.</p> <p>HOC 5.2 Senior International players and Great Britain Elite Development Programme Squad Players On league weeks when Senior International/GB EDP players are not released for BUCS selection due to their international commitments (training or competition), as confirmed to BUCS by the Senior International/GB EDP Head Coaches, 2nd Team players are able to move up to the 1st Team to cover the absence without it counting towards their 'normality' tally (as described in REG 11.1.3) under the following conditions:</p> <p>HOC 5.2.1 The names of the 1st Team player(s) unavailable due to Senior International/GB EDP commitments (training or competition) and the name(s) of the 2nd Team players 'playing up' as cover must be submitted via email to discipline@bucs.org.uk prior to the start of the relevant fixture to be eligible for normality exemption.</p> <p>HOC 5.2.2 Failure to provide names in advance will mean that the fixture will count towards 'normality' for the 2nd Team player(s) 'playing up'.</p> <p>HOC 5.2.3 This is in addition to, and does not supersede any other elements of, REG 11.1.</p> <p>HOC 5.3 Contraventions of player movement in accordance with these regulations will result in appropriate disciplinary action, in accordance with REG 5.</p>	<p>HOC 5 Team selection</p> <p>HOC 5.1 Goalkeepers Goalkeepers are permitted to move down one team from a team they have established normality for to play as a goalkeeper only in order to cover injury. Evidence that players are moving down to cover injury may be required. For example, a goalkeeper who has established normality for a 2nd Team may play for the 3rd Team, in the goalkeeper position only. However, teams should be aware that REG 11.1.2.1 still applies.</p> <p>HOC 5.2 Senior International players and Great Britain Elite Development Programme Squad Players On league weeks when Senior International/GB EDP players who an institution would internally consider a "1st Team player" are not released for BUCS selection due to their international commitments (training or competition), as confirmed to BUCS by the Senior International/GB EDP Head Coaches, players who an institution would not internally consider a "1st Team player" are able to "move up" to the 1st Team to cover the absence without it counting towards their 'normality' tally (as described in REG 11.1.2.2) under the following conditions:</p> <p>HOC 5.2.1 The names of the "1st Team player(s)" unavailable due to Senior International/GB EDP commitments (training or competition) and the name(s) of the players 'playing up' as cover must be submitted via email to discipline@bucs.org.uk prior to the start of the relevant fixture to be eligible for normality exemption.</p> <p>HOC 5.2.2 Failure to provide names in advance will mean that the fixture will count towards 'normality' for the player(s) 'playing up'.</p> <p>HOC 5.2.3 This is in addition to, and does not supersede any other elements of, REG 11.1.</p>	<p>Wording of HOC 5.2 updated for clarity and references to sub-regulations of REG 11 updated to reflect changes to these.</p> <p>Old HOC 5.3 containing reference to "disciplinary action, in accordance with REG 5" removed as breaches of normality would be dealt with under REG 11.1.2.2.</p>
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Lacrosse	LAC i - LAC iii	<p>LAC i The BUCS Lacrosse Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and rules of World Lacrosse (WL)1&2.</p> <p>LAC ii In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>LAC iii In the event that these regulations contradict the rules of World Lacrosse (WL)1&2, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>1: Please note that BUCS has adopted the World Lacrosse Men's Field Lacrosse Official Playing Rules (2021-2023) for the Men's Lacrosse programme for the 2023-24 season. As ever, any BUCS regulations shall supersede the WL rules, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>2: Please note that BUCS has not adopted the World Lacrosse Women's Field Lacrosse Official Playing Rules (2022-2024), published in December 2022, for the Women's Lacrosse programme for the 2023-24 season. As such, the rules as they stood in the World Lacrosse Women's International Official Playing Rules (2020-2022) amended by the World Lacrosse Women's Rules Memorandum (2021-01-24) shall stand for the 2023-24 season. As ever, any BUCS regulations shall supersede the WL rules, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p>	<p>LAC i The BUCS Lacrosse Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and rules of World Lacrosse (WL)1&2.</p> <p>LAC ii In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>LAC iii In the event that these regulations contradict the rules of World Lacrosse (WL)1&2, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>1: Please note that BUCS has adopted the World Lacrosse Men's Field Lacrosse Official Playing Rules (2021-2023) for the Men's Lacrosse programme for the 2024-25 season. As ever, any BUCS regulations shall supersede the WL rules, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>2: Please note that BUCS has not adopted the World Lacrosse Women's Field Lacrosse Official Playing Rules (2022-2024), published in December 2022, for the Women's Lacrosse programme for the 2024-25 season. As such, the rules as they stood in the World Lacrosse Women's International Official Playing Rules (2020-2022) amended by the World Lacrosse Women's Rules Memorandum (2021-01-24) shall stand for the 2024-25 season. As ever, any BUCS regulations shall supersede the WL rules, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p>	<p>To recognise that BUCS women's lacrosse will not yet be following the latest edition of the World Lacrosse rulebook, in line with domestic NGBs.</p>
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Lacrosse	LAC 3	<p>LAC 3 Pitches Pitches must be marked to the minimum dimensions as outlined in the rules of World Lacrosse for the specific gender competition. Unified pitch markings to be used if shared between both codes. It is the responsibility of the first named (home) team when confirming the fixture (note REG 9.5) to advise the opposition team and all match officials of the playing surface and on any footwear restrictions and the type of surface to be used (note REG 9.3.3).</p>	<p>LAC 3 Pitches</p> <p>LAC 3.1 Playing field dimensions and markings shall be as per the rules of World Lacrosse being followed as per LAC i-LAC iii, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitches may be 91-110 metres long and 50-60 metres wide. When reducing the length of the pitch from that of the rules of World Lacrosse: Remove equal amounts from both areas to the side of the centreline; The distance from each goal line to end line remains as per that of the rules of World Lacrosse; The distance from each restraining line to goal line remains as per that of the rules of World Lacrosse; The length of the wing line on each side of the centre is half the distance from the centreline to the men's restraining line. When reducing the width of the pitch from that of the rules of World Lacrosse: Remove an equal amount from each side of the field in the area between the wing line and the sideline. • Lines can be between 5-10cm in width if shared with any other sport(s), preferably 10cm for the men's centreline and 5-5.1cm for all other lines. • It is recommended, but not required, that all lines be painted white, and where some line markings are shared with any other sport(s), it is not a requirement that all the line markings being are the same colour. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unified pitch markings can be used if shared between both codes. <p>LAC 3.2 It is the responsibility of the first named (home) team when confirming the fixture (note REG 9.5) to advise the opposition team and all match officials of the playing surface and on any footwear restrictions and the type of surface to be used (note REG 9.3.3).</p>	<p>It was identified that strict adherence to the rules of World Lacrosse for pitch dimensions and markings was a higher requirement than for other domestic competitions. The updated regulation wording clarifies what variations to the rules of World Lacrosse are permitted.</p>
Lacrosse	LAC 8	<p>LAC 8 Duration of play In a variation to the rules of World Lacrosse, there shall be no use of stopping clocks, only running clocks.</p>	<p>LAC 8 Duration of play With the exception of the National Championship and National Trophy finals, in a variation to the rules of World Lacrosse, there shall be no use of stopping clocks, only running clocks.</p>	<p>It is recognised that institutions may find challenges with facilitating stopping clocks relating to officials and facility requirements, but BUCS is able to enable the use of stopping clocks for finals at BUCS Big Wednesday (as was actually the case in 2024) enabling these matches to</p>

				align with top level domestic and international matches.
Lacrosse	LAC 11 (NEW)	N/A	<p>LAC 11 If during a match, the scoreline reaches a point where one team has scored eight more goals than the other, then the restart following the goal which led to this scoreline shall be uncontested, with the ball awarded to the losing team at the halfway line to restart play. All players will remain under the same field constraints as if it was a contested restart. This shall continue to be the case after each goal scored until the score difference becomes less than eight goals, at which point a contested restart shall be reintroduced.</p>	<p>When the scoreline in a match reaches a difference of eight goals, to help prevent a blowout from occurring and to keep the game's participants engaged, the restart of the game following a goal will not be contested and instead possession be awarded directly to the losing team from the halfway line instead, but players will remain constrained within the field areas as if it was a contested restart. This is to ensure that possession can be gained by the trailing team within their attacking zone. If the score difference becomes less than eight goals, the contested restart is reintroduced.</p> <p>The match officials would offer the uncontested restart to the losing team upon the game score-line reaching a difference of 8 goals, for example 9-1. The losing team can decline it, but the option would remain their choice if they did decline and wanted it latterly. If the scoreline changes to be within eight goals, for example 9-2, the restart following the goal would automatically become contested once again.</p> <p>This is to try and balance possession when a possible blowout is occurring as the teams playing are superior/inferior in skill.</p> <p>To apply to all league matches at Tier 1 and below and National Trophy and Conference based knockout competition matches.</p>

Lacrosse	LAC 12	<p>LAC 12 Additional Premier Tier/National Championship specific requirements</p> <p>LAC 12.1 Facilities should be of an appropriate quality for Premier Tier/National Championship matches and should comply with National Governing Body regulations for matches of this standard.</p>	REMOVED	<p>This regulation is a very generic one that was written in for various BUCS sports years ago and effectively meaningless for Lacrosse as there are not NGB regulations regarding facilities for "matches of this standard" as compared to any other BUCS lacrosse match. BUCS's Lacrosse Advisory Group are considering if there are any additional requirements that should be in place for Premier Tier/National Championship matches and if they deem there to be, these will be brought as future regulation change proposals.</p>
Netball	NET i-NET iii	<p>NET i The BUCS Netball Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and the World Netball (formerly International Netball Federation) Rules of Netball.</p> <p>NET ii In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>NET iii In the event that these regulations contradict the World Netball (formerly International Netball Federation) Rules of Netball, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p>	<p>NET i The BUCS Netball Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and the World Netball Rules of Netball.</p> <p>NET ii In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>NET iii In the event that these regulations contradict the World Netball Rules of Netball, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p><i>BUCS netball – along with most domestic competitions – will be following the 2024 edition of the Rules of Netball this season. Helpful resources have been published by World Netball and England Netball, with the latter running webinars to help individuals understand the changes. Please ensure that your teams and any match officials you use are aware of the changes and make the most of these resources.</i></p>	<p>To recognise that BUCS netball will be following the latest edition of the World Netball Rules of Netball, in line with domestic NGBs.</p>
Netball	NET 5.4	<p>NET 5 Facility and equipment requirements</p> <p>NET 5.4 Match ball A World Netball (formerly International Netball Federation) regulation ball should be used for all fixtures where possible.</p>	<p>NET 5 Facility and equipment requirements</p> <p>NET 5.4 Match balls For all fixtures the first named (home) team shall provide at least two balls which meet the specifications of the World Netball Rules of Netball, which shall be given to the umpires prior to</p>	<p>Regulation updated to remove "where possible" as the World Netball requirements are the very basic standards for balls that should be in place for all matches. Clarification added that it is the first named (home) team that is</p>

		Teams must supply at least two suitable match balls to the umpires in advance of the match.	the fixture starting. One of these shall be selected by the umpires as the match ball and shall be used throughout the match unless the umpires instruct that it is replaced by a spare match ball.	responsible for providing the match balls and how/when the match ball may be changed.
Netball	NET 6.3	<p align="center">NET 6 Pre-match procedures</p> <p>NET 6.3 Clothing Teams must carry an alternate set of playing bibs for use where a clash occurs. The home team is responsible for changing colour.</p>	<p align="center">NET 6 Pre-match procedures</p> <p>NET 6.3 Players' clothing and equipment Rules 3.9-3.13 of the World Netball Rules of Netball are varied as follows:</p> <p>NET 6.3.1 Playing uniforms do not have to be registered or include a player's name and/or team number.</p> <p>NET 6.3.2 A team's playing uniform must be distinct from the opposing team's playing uniform. In the event that it is not, REG 9.4 shall apply. Whilst adherence to REG 9.4 should avoid a kit clash from being identified at a match, teams must carry an alternate set of playing bibs for use where this may occur.</p> <p>NET 6.3.3 On-court captain identification</p> <p>NET 6.3.3.1 For Premier Tier and National Championship matches, the on-court captain must wear identification such as an arm band, a patch on their playing uniform, or electrical tape secured around the player's upper arm.</p> <p>NET 6.3.3.2 For Tier 1 and below league matches, and National Trophy and Conference Cup/Trophy/Shield knockout competition matches, it is preferable that the on-court captain wears identification as per NET 6.3.3.1, but verbal confirmation to the umpires prior to the match starting (or an on-court captain being changed) shall be acceptable.</p>	Regulation updated in response to changes to the World Netball Rules of Netball, to provide more flexibility for BUCS netball where appropriate.
Rugby League	Appendix 5 (BUCS Match Officials Requirements)	<p align="center">Appendix 5 extract:</p> <p>All Leagues and Knockout Competitions: Number of referees required = 1; Minimum level of qualification = Level 1; Neutral = Yes.</p>	<p align="center">Appendix 5 extracts:</p> <p>National League and National Championship: Number of referees required = 1; Minimum level of qualification = Graded; Neutral = Yes.</p> <p>All other Leagues and Knockout Competitions:</p>	As per the National League proposal paper, Appendix 5 is being updated to reflect that the RFL will be appointing graded officials to all National League and National Championship matches to reflect the standard of competition.

			Number of referees required = 1; Minimum level of qualification = Level 1; Neutral = Yes.	
Rugby League	RUL 1	<p>RUL 1 There shall be a Team Championships for Men. The programme shall include leagues and knockout competitions as per BUCS general regulations, Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and Appendix 10 ('BUCS Promotion, Relegation and Knockout Information').</p> <p>RUL 1.1 BUCS and the RFL reserve the right to decide on the final structures of the Premier Tier leagues and associated playoff format/fixtures based on the geographical location and suitability of those teams eligible to compete at that level.</p> <p>RUL 1.2 All BUCS leagues sit within Tier 5 of the RFL competition structure.</p>	<p>RUL 1 There shall be a Team Championships for Men. The programme shall include leagues and knockout competitions as per BUCS general regulations, Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and Appendix 10 ('BUCS Promotion, Relegation and Knockout Information').</p>	<p>RUL 1.1 removed as no longer needed with new structure and the existence of REG 8.1.</p> <p>RUL 1.2 moved to be part of RUL 2 which it links with.</p>
Rugby League	RUL 2	<p>RUL 2 Each institution/Playing Entity participating in BUCS Rugby League agrees to observe the Community Game Operational Rules which includes the RFL's Anti-Doping Rules, Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Rules, Safeguarding Policy, Diversity and Anti-Racism Policies, Respect Policy and any other rules and policies that may from time to time be adopted by the RFL through the RFL Board and shall ensure that each of their members, employees, officials, volunteers, spectators and similar shall observe such rules and policies and shall make it a condition of employment or engagement or of participation in any rugby league competition that each such members, employees, officials, volunteers, spectators or similar shall observe such rules and policies.</p>	<p>RUL 2 All BUCS rugby league competitions sit within Tier 5 of the RFL competition structure. As a result, and for the avoidance of doubt, any Institution/Playing Entity participating in BUCS Rugby League is subject to the RFL's Tiers 4-6 (Community Game) Operational Rules, except where these are varied by these BUCS regulations as agreed with the RFL.</p>	<p>Old RUL 1.2 merged with RUL 2 as the two were linked. RUL 2 shortened and simplified.</p>

Rugby League	RUL 3.1	<p>RUL 3 Membership, affiliations, player registrations and personnel</p> <p>RUL 3.1 All institutions/Playing Entities must be an associated member of the RFL. Any institution/Playing Entity which applies for membership to participate in the BUCS Rugby League Championships must follow the BUCS New Member Institution Guidelines. The RFL reserve the right upon written request to review an application submitted for special case participation.</p> <p>RUL 3.2 All teams must affiliate to the RFL as per the requirements of the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document by the deadline stated in the BUCS Sport Specific Document. Failure to do so will lead to sanctions as outlined in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document and possibly further disciplinary action.</p>	<p>RUL 3 Membership, affiliations, player registrations and personnel</p> <p>RUL 3.1 All institutions/Playing Entities must be an associated member of the RFL and all teams must be affiliated to the RFL as per the requirements of the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document by the deadline stated in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document. Failure to do so will lead to sanctions as outlined in the BUCS Sport Specific Affiliations Document and possibly further disciplinary action.</p>	<p>Following discussions with the RFL and BUCS's Rugby League Advisory Group, it has been confirmed that the 'BUCS New Member Institution Guidelines' is a reference to REG 2/BUCS's membership regulations, so there is no need for reference to this here. 'Special case participation' clause has not been used since Rugby League became a BUCS programme and removed as BUCS would always want any institution entering a team to be eligible under BUCS' general regulations.</p> <p>Remaining wording of old RUL 3.1 and RUL 3.2 merged to align with the wording in the Sport Specific Affiliations Document.</p>
Rugby League	RUL 3.4	<p>RUL 3.4 At the start of each season teams must register the following personnel with the RFL Competition Officer (competitions@rfl.uk.com):</p> <p>RUL 3.4.1 Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central point of contact - Main University (staff) contact - Designated Match Day contact - Committee Details <p>- Head Coach (RFL UKCC Level 2 or the Teaching Equivalent)</p> <p>RUL 3.4.2 Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistant Coach(es) (RFL UKCC Level 2 or the Teaching Equivalent) - RFL Accredited Game Day Manager(s) - Qualified First Aider(s) 	REMOVED	Regulation not needed. These details will be captured as part of the RFL affiliation process moving forward.
Rugby League	RUL 6.3	<p>RUL 6 Match Day operations</p> <p>RUL 6.3 Medical requirements</p> <p>RUL 6.3.1 As a minimum, the host institution/Playing Entity for each match must ensure that there are ample first aiders within close</p>	<p>RUL 6 Match Day operations</p> <p>RUL 6.3 Medical requirements</p> <p>RUL 6.3.1 Premier Tier/National Championship As a minimum, the host institution/Playing Entity for each match must ensure that there is a dedicated qualified</p>	With the competition restructure and introduction of a National League, BUCS's Rugby League Advisory Group strongly feels that teams at this Premier Tier/National Championship level should be required to have a higher level of

<p>enough proximity of the pitch to provide immediate emergency care as and when required. Any host venue must demonstrate on request a risk assessment and plan in the event that each first aider at the venue is providing care (e.g. stopping matches from progressing until resource is available). It is recommended that a dedicated qualified first aider is pitchside for each match, but this cannot be a player named on the fixture team sheet.</p> <p>RUL 6.3.1.1 Any team found to be in breach of this regulation will be subject to the following sanctions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1st offence: £100 fine - 2nd offence: £400 fine - 3rd offence: Suspended from participating in fixtures until proof of compliance can be provided by way of an updated risk assessment <p>RUL 6.3.2 Head injuries and concussion Sub-section 6 of the First Aid Standards (Section F6) of the RFL's Tiers 4-6 (Community Game) Operational Rules should be referred to for managing any head injuries or concussion.</p> <p>RUL 6.3.3 As well as being recorded on the RFL Team Sheet (RUL 9), any serious injury (including suspected concussion) is to be reported by teams to the RFL via their Serious Injury and Concussion Reporting Form within 24 hours of the completion of the match in which it occurred.</p>	<p>first aider pitchside to provide immediate care. It is highly recommended that there is also a dedicated sports therapist pitchside.</p> <p>RUL 6.3.1.1 Any institution/Playing Entity found to be in breach of RUL 6.3.1 for reasons deemed to be within their reasonable control by the BUCS Executive will be subject to the following sanctions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1st offence per team: £250 fine - 2nd offence per team: £750 fine - 3rd offence per team: Team suspended from participating in fixtures until proof of plan for compliance can be provided for future fixtures <p>RUL 6.3.2 Tier 1/National Trophy and Tier 2 and below/Conference Cup As a minimum, the host institution/Playing Entity for each match must ensure that there are ample first aiders within close enough proximity of the pitch to provide immediate emergency care as and when required. Any host venue must demonstrate on request a risk assessment and plan in the event that each first aider at the venue is providing care (e.g. stopping matches from progressing until resource is available). It is recommended that a dedicated qualified first aider is pitchside for each match, but this cannot be a player named on the fixture team sheet.</p> <p>RUL 6.3.2.1 Any institution/Playing Entity found to be in breach of RUL 6.3.2 for reasons deemed to be within their reasonable control by the BUCS Executive will be subject to the following sanctions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1st offence per team: £100 fine - 2nd offence per team: £400 fine - 3rd offence per team: Team suspended from participating in fixtures until proof of compliance can be provided by way of an updated risk assessment <p>RUL 6.3.3 Head injuries and concussion Sub-section 6 of the First Aid Standards (Section F6) of the RFL's Tiers 4-6 (Community Game) Operational Rules should be referred to for managing any head injuries or concussion.</p> <p>RUL 6.3.4 As well as being recorded on the RFL Team</p>	<p>medical cover at fixtures, which would be more in line with what the RFL requires for all their Community Game competitions. It is also noted that the majority of teams that will be playing in the National League for the 2024-25 season are already complying with the new medical requirements proposed.</p> <p>Following a review of feedback on the National Competitions Group Feedback Tracker and minutes of the meeting on 04/06/24, the proposed change to requirements for Premier Tier/National Championship level has been amended so that only a dedicated qualified first aider is required, with the presence of a sports therapist (rather than a physio) alongside them highly recommended. Clarification added that fines sanctions will only be applied where breach of the regulation is deemed within the reasonable control of the institution/Playing Entity</p>
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			Sheet (RUL 9), any serious injury (including suspected concussion) is to be reported by teams to the RFL via their Serious Injury and Concussion Reporting Form within 24 hours of the completion of the match in which it occurred.	
Rugby League	RUL 10.5	RUL 10.5 Each team is required to list all starting players and replacements (substitutes) on their BUCS Team Sheet (REG 10.2) and on the RFL Team Sheet (RUL 9) for the match.	RUL 10.5 Each team is required to list all starting players and replacements (substitutes) on their BUCS Team Sheet (REG 11.2) and on the RFL Team Sheet (RUL 9) for the match.	Incorrect reference to REG 10.2 changed to REG 11.2.
Rugby League	RUL 10.7	<p>RUL 10.7 Supported Teams</p> <p>RUL 10.7.1 Where an institution/Playing Entity has a second team and/or any lower ranked team(s) within the lowest tier in their Conference, then they can apply for their lowest ranked team to be recognised as a Supported Team.</p> <p>RUL 10.7.2 An application for a Supported Team for the 2023-24 season must be submitted by email to fixtures@bucs.org.uk by Monday 16 October 2023.</p> <p>RUL 10.7.3 A Supported Team will be permitted to field up to five players per match who have established normality for a higher ranked team (Note REG 11.1.3).</p> <p>RUL 10.7.4 A Supported Team will not be eligible for promotion under any circumstances. Should a supported team occupy a promotion spot at the end of the season, the opportunity for promotion will be offered to the highest finishing team that is not a Supported Team. For the avoidance of doubt, once a team has been confirmed and recognised as supported team, in the instance that team does not field any players who have established normality for a higher ranked team throughout the season, this regulation will still apply.</p> <p>RUL 10.7.5 A Supported Team will not be permitted to compete in any knockout competition.</p>	<p>RUL 10.7 Supported Teams</p> <p>RUL 10.7.1 Where an institution/Playing Entity has a second team and/or any lower ranked team(s) within the lowest tier in their Conference, then they can apply for their lowest ranked team to be recognised as a Supported Team.</p> <p>RUL 10.7.2 An application for a Supported Team for the 2024-25 season must be submitted by email to fixtures@bucs.org.uk by Monday 23 September 2024.</p> <p>RUL 10.7.3 A Supported Team will be permitted to field up to five players per match who have established normality for a higher ranked team (Note REG 11.1).</p> <p>RUL 10.7.4 A Supported Team will not be eligible for promotion under any circumstances. Should a supported team occupy a promotion spot at the end of the season, the opportunity for promotion will be offered to the highest finishing team that is not a Supported Team. For the avoidance of doubt, once a team has been confirmed and recognised as supported team, in the instance that team does not field any players who have established normality for a higher ranked team throughout the season, this regulation will still apply.</p> <p>RUL 10.7.5 A Supported Team will not be permitted to compete in any knockout competition.</p>	<p>Application deadline updated for the 2024-25 season.</p> <p>Reference to REG 11.1.3 changed to REG 11.1 due to changes to REG 11.1 and sub-regulations for 2024-25 season.</p>

Rugby Union	RUU 2.3	<p>RUU 2 BUCS Super Rugby (Men’s National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.3 Match Officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 (‘BUCS Match Officials Requirements’).</p> <p>RUU 2.3.1 Officials for all BUCS Super Rugby fixtures will be appointed centrally by the RFU (in England) and WRU (in Wales), with the addition of a 4th official being required.</p>	<p>RUU 2 Men’s BUCS Super Rugby (Men’s National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.3 Match Officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 (‘BUCS Match Officials Requirements’).</p> <p>RUU 2.3.1 Officials for all Men’s BUCS Super Rugby fixtures will be appointed centrally by the RFU (in England) and WRU (in Wales), with the addition of a 4th official being required which it is the responsibility of the first named (home) institution/Playing Entity to arrange.</p>	To clarify that responsibility for arranging a 4th official sits with institutions/Playing Entities.
Rugby Union	RUU 7.3	<p>RUU 7 Women’s National league and National Championship knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 7.3 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 (‘BUCS Match Officials Requirements’).</p>	<p>RUU 7.3 Match Officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 (‘BUCS Match Officials Requirements’).</p> <p>RUU 7.3.1 Officials for all Women’s BUCS Super Rugby fixtures will be appointed centrally by the RFU (in England), SRU (in Scotland) and WRU (in Wales).</p>	To reflect new arrangements agreed with the NGBs.
Rugby Union	RUU 3.2	<p>RUU 3 Men’s North 1/South 1/North 2/South 2 leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 3.2 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 (‘BUCS Match Officials Requirements’).</p> <p>RUU 3.2.1 For Men’s North/South 1/2 league fixtures, the RFU central appointments body or the local appointments body will appoint the referee and where possible touch judges. The first named (home) institution/Playing Entity is responsible for confirming appointments have been made, for contacting the officials concerned with match information, and covering the costs of the appointments.</p> <p>RUU 3.2.1.1 Where officials (referee and/or touch judges) are not appointed centrally, the host institution shall be responsible for sourcing the necessary officials.</p>	<p>RUU 3 Men’s North 1/South 1/North 2/South 2 leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 3.2 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 (‘BUCS Match Officials Requirements’).</p>	There is no agreement in place with the RFU to appoint officials below the level of National League/National Championship, so RUU 3.2.1 is removed as it is not what happens in practice and was likely kept in incorrectly when BUCS Super Rugby was brought in above what was Premier North/South A/B (now North/South 1/2). As per REG 10.2, it is the responsibility of the first named (home) institution/Playing Entity to arrange all appropriate match officials.

Rugby Union	REMOVED (FORMERLY RUU 1.8)	<p align="center">RUU 1 General</p> <p>RUU 1.8 Scorecards It is the responsibility of the first named (home) team for each match to complete a BUCS Rugby Union Scorecard in full, ensure it is signed by both captains and the referee, and submit it to their Athletic Union (or equivalent) for retention until the end of the season. Both teams must agree the score and method of scoring (i.e. number of tries, conversions, penalties and drop goals) so that the correct points will be awarded when the result is entered on BUCS Play.</p>	REMOVED	Following discussion with the Rugby Union Sport Advisory Group it is thought likely that few, if any, teams complete a scorecard as per RUU 1.8. With BUCS Play enabling captains to add results teams now have the ability to record the data on the system straight after the match and so this can replace the need to record on a hard copy scorecard.
Rugby Union	RUU 1.8 (NEW)	N/A	<p align="center">RUU 1 General</p> <p>RUU 1.8 Post Protectors It is the responsibility of the first named (home) team for each match to ensure that post protectors are in place. If no post protectors are in place, then a match must not proceed.</p>	It is believed that this will already be the case but is being written in to the regulations to ensure that expected safety requirements are in place for all BUCS rugby union fixtures.
Rugby Union	RUU 2.2.2.1	<p>RUU 2 BUCS Super Rugby (Men’s National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p align="center">RUU 2.2 Fixture Administration</p> <p align="center">RUU 2.2.2 Fixture dates</p> <p>RUU 2.2.2.1 League matches All BUCS Super Rugby league matches must take place on the date as set by BUCS. Unless REG 14 applies, only in exceptional circumstances and with written agreement of both institutions and written approval from the BUCS Executive may league matches take place on an alternative date. Once agreed and approved, BUCS Play must be updated immediately.</p> <p>RUU 2.2.2.1.1 Should REG 14 apply, dates offered by both institutions to play the rearranged fixture must fall within the below windows: - For matches originally scheduled in match weeks 1-6, rearranged fixtures must be played by 12</p>	<p>RUU 2 Men’s BUCS Super Rugby (Men’s National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p align="center">RUU 2.2 Fixture Administration</p> <p align="center">RUU 2.2.2 Fixture dates</p> <p>RUU 2.2.2.1 League matches All matches must take place on the date as set by BUCS. Unless REG 14 applies, only in exceptional circumstances and with written agreement of both institutions and written approval from the BUCS Executive may league matches take place on an alternative date. Once agreed and approved, BUCS Play must be updated immediately.</p> <p>RUU 2.2.2.1.1 Should REG 14 apply, dates offered by both institutions to play the rearranged fixture must fall within the below windows: - For matches scheduled (either originally or due to a previous rearrangement) in match weeks 1-6, rearranged fixtures must be played by 10 November</p>	Wording of RUU 2.2.2.1.1 updated to make it clear that the same principles apply when a match previously rearranged may need to be rearranged again. Dates updated for the 2024-25 season.

November 2023. (The Sunday after blank fixture week 1)

- For matches originally scheduled in match weeks 7-11, rearranged fixtures must be played by 21 January 2024. (The Sunday before match week 12 following the Christmas break)
- For matches originally scheduled in match weeks 12-15, rearranged fixtures must be played by 25 February 2024. (The Sunday after blank fixture week 2)
- For matches originally scheduled in match week 16, rearranged fixtures must be played by 10 March 2024. (The Sunday before match week 18)
- For matches originally scheduled in match week 17, rearranged fixtures must be played by 17 March 2024. (The Sunday after match week 18)
- Matches from match week 18 that require a rearrangement must be played by the league deadline, in accordance with Appendix 2 ('BUCS Leagues and Knockouts – Dates and Deadlines').

RUU 2.2.2.1.2 Teams shall not be permitted to reschedule a BUCS Super Rugby fixture such that it would mean that fewer than 36 hours have elapsed since the kick-off time of the last BUCS Super Rugby fixture played by either team, or that fewer than 36 hours would remain between the kick-off time of said fixture and that of the next BUCS Super Rugby fixture scheduled for either team.

RUU 2.2.2.1.3 RUU 2.2.2.1 does not prevent institutions 'reversing' fixtures – that is changing who the host institution is for each of the two scheduled league matches between the two teams

2024. (The Sunday after blank fixture week 1)

- For matches scheduled (either originally or due to a previous rearrangement) in match weeks 7-11, rearranged fixtures must be played by 19 January 2025. (The Sunday before match week 12 following the Christmas break)
- For matches scheduled (either originally or due to a previous rearrangement) in match weeks 12-15, rearranged fixtures must be played by 23 February 2025. (The Sunday after blank fixture week 2)
- For matches scheduled (either originally or due to a previous rearrangement) in match week 16, rearranged fixtures must be played by 9 March 2025. (The Sunday before match week 18)
- For matches scheduled (either originally or due to a previous rearrangement) in match week 17, rearranged fixtures must be played by 16 March 2025. (The Sunday after match week 18)
- Matches from match week 18 that require a rearrangement must be played by the league deadline, in accordance with Appendix 2 ('BUCS Leagues and Knockouts – Dates and Deadlines').

RUU 2.2.2.1.2 Teams shall not be permitted to reschedule a Men's BUCS Super Rugby fixture such that it would mean that fewer than 36 hours have elapsed since the kick-off time of the last Men's BUCS Super Rugby fixture played by either team, or that fewer than 36 hours would remain between the kick-off time of said fixture and that of the next Men's BUCS Super Rugby fixture scheduled for either team.

RUU 2.2.2.1.3 RUU 2.2.2.1 does not prevent institutions 'reversing' fixtures – that is changing who the host institution is for each of the two scheduled league matches between the two teams

Rugby Union	RUU 2.4	<p>RUU 2 BUCS Super Rugby (Men's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.4 Team selection</p> <p>RUU 2.4.1 Players can be listed on team sheets for up to, and including, 11 National league fixtures and still be eligible to play for a lower ranked team. Once a player has been listed on team sheets for 12 National league fixtures they are locked to that team and no longer eligible to represent lower ranked teams for the remainder of the season in any league or knockout competition. This supersedes the 'normality' of more than 50% in REG 11.1.3.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.2 International commitment exemptions On league weeks when players are not released for BUCS selection due to their international commitments (training or competition), 2nd Team players are able to move up to the 1st Team to cover the absence without it counting towards their 'normality' tally (as per REG 11.1.3/RUU 2.4.1) under the following conditions:</p> <p>RUU 2.4.2.1 The names of the 1st Team player(s) unavailable due to international commitments (training or competition), evidence of their selection, and the name(s) of the 2nd Team players 'playing up' as cover must be submitted via email to discipline@bucs.org.uk prior to the start of the relevant fixture to be eligible for normality exemption.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.2.2 Failure to meet the requirements of RUU 2.4.2.1 in advance will mean that the fixture will count towards 'normality' for the 2nd Team player(s) 'playing up'.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.2.3 This is in addition to, and does not supersede any other elements of, BUCS REG 11.1.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.3 Front row players, except for full internationals, are permitted to move down one team from a team they have established normality</p>	<p>RUU 2 Men's BUCS Super Rugby (Men's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.4 Team selection</p> <p>RUU 2.4.1 International commitment exemption On league weeks when players who an institution would internally consider a "1st Team player" are not released for BUCS selection due to their international commitments (training or competition), players who an institution would not internally consider a "1st Team player" are able to "move up" to the 1st Team to cover the absence without it counting towards their 'normality' tally (as described in REG 11.1.2.2) under the following conditions:</p> <p>RUU 2.4.1.1 The names of the "1st Team player(s)" unavailable due to international commitments (training or competition), evidence of their selection, and the name(s) of the players 'playing up' as cover must be submitted via email to discipline@bucs.org.uk prior to the start of the relevant fixture to be eligible for normality exemption.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.1.2 Failure to meet the requirements of RUU 2.4.1.1 in advance will mean that the fixture will count towards 'normality' for the player(s) 'playing up'.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.1.3 This is in addition to, and does not supersede any other elements of, REG 11.1.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.2 Front row players, except for full internationals, are permitted to move down one team from a team they have established normality for to play in a front row position only. For example, a prop who has established normality for a 2nd Team may play for the 3rd Team, in a front row position only. However, teams should be aware that REG 11.1.2.1 still applies.</p> <p>RUU 2.4.2.1 For playoff fixtures, players shall only be eligible to move down one team if it can be evidenced that they are covering an injured front row player.</p>	<p>The old RUU 2.4.1 has been removed to bring the Men's Rugby Union National League line with all other BUCS leagues, following REG 11.1.2.2 in terms of 'normality'. It only allowed for two more selections (11 rather than 9) and with such flexibility, the international commitment exemption has not been used since the regulations as currently written came into place. The international commitment exemption will remain in place, as with the change regarding 'normality' it may now be utilised, but the wording has been updated for clarity.</p> <p>Old RUU 2.4.4 containing reference to "disciplinary action, in accordance with REG 5" removed as breaches of normality would be dealt with under REG 11.1.2.2.</p>
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Rugby Union	<p>RUU 2.4.3/RUU 3.3.2 (FORMERLY RUU 2.7.3/RUU 3.6.3)</p>	<p>RUU 2 BUCS Super Rugby (Men's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations/RUU 3 Men's North 1/South 1/North 2/South 2 leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.7/RUU 3.6 BUCS Super Rugby playoffs</p> <p>RUU 2.7.3/RUU 3.6.3 In order to be eligible to compete in each of the BUCS Super Rugby playoff matches players must have been named on Team Sheets (REG 11.2) in at least 33% of league fixtures for the team they wish to represent. The exemptions to this being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Evidenced medical dispensation. - A player that has established normality (REG 11.1) for a lower ranked team, and hence would be eligible to be called up, evidenced through Team Sheets (REG 11.2). 	<p>RUU 2 Men's BUCS Super Rugby (Men's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations/RUU 3 Men's North 1/South 1/North 2/South 2 leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.4/RUU 3.3 Team Selection</p> <p>RUU 2.4.3/RUU 3.3.2 In order to be eligible to compete in each of the Men's BUCS Super Rugby playoff matches players must have been named on Team Sheets (REG 11.2) in at least 33% of the league fixtures that season for the team they wish to represent. The exemptions to this being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where it is evidenced that a player was unable to be named for 66% or more of the league fixtures that season for the team in question for medical reasons and/or not being released for BUCS selection due to international commitments (full international or U20, training or competition). - Where a player has established normality (REG 11.1.2.2) for a lower ranked team that season, and hence would be eligible to be called up, evidenced through Team Sheets (REG 11.2). 	<p>International commitments added as a valid exemption, with the wider regulation wording updated to clarify how applied.</p> <p>Moved to sit with other team selection regulations.</p>

Rugby Union	RUU 2.4.4 (NEW)	N/A	<p>RUU 2 Men's BUCS Super Rugby (Men's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.4 Team Selection</p> <p>RUU 2.4.4 In order to be eligible to compete in each of the Men's BUCS Super Rugby National Championship matches players must have been named on Team Sheets (REG 11.2) in at least 33% of the league fixtures that season for the team they wish to represent. The exemptions to this being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where it is evidenced that a player was unable to be named for 66% or more of the league fixtures that season for the team in question for medical reasons and/or not being released for BUCS selection due to international commitments (full international or U20, training or competition). - Where a player has established normality (REG 11.1.2.2) for a lower ranked team that season, and hence would be eligible to be called up, evidenced through Team Sheets (REG 11.2). 	<p>To protect the league programme and support from professional clubs with release to play in BUCS fixtures. More players will be released to play in the league If it can impact their eligibility for the National Championship knockout competition. Supported by LMC.</p> <p>This is a replication of the updated regulation for the Men's BUCS Super Rugby playoff matches, including international commitments being a valid exemption.</p> <p>Sits with other team selection regulations.</p>
Rugby Union	RUU 2.8 (NEW)	Men's BUCS Super Rugby MOS: Results must be submitted online via BUCS Play by 10.00am the following day (including weekends).	<p>RUU 2 Men's BUCS Super Rugby (Men's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 2.8 Results The results of all Men's BUCS Super Rugby matches, including the number of tries, conversions and penalties, must be entered, and approved, on BUCS Play no later than 2 hours after a match finishing.</p>	<p>To allow results to be better publicised and correct league tables produced ASAP following the fixture.</p> <p>Requirement moved from MOS to regulations as more appropriate place for it to sit.</p>

Rugby Union	RUU 3.1.1	<p>RUU 3 Men's North 1/South 1/North 2/South 2 leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 3.1 Fixture Administration</p> <p>RUU 3.1.1 Facilities should be of an appropriate quality and should comply with National Governing Body (Home Union) regulations for matches of this standard. Pitches should, as a minimum, be roped off to a distance of three metres to prevent spectator encroachment and post protectors must be in place.</p>	<p>RUU 3 Men's North 1/South 1/North 2/South 2 leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 3.1 Fixture Administration</p> <p>RUU 3.1.1 Pitches should, as a minimum, be roped off to a distance of three metres to prevent spectator encroachment.</p>	<p>Wording stating that facilities "should be of an appropriate quality and should comply with National Governing Body (Home Union) regulations for matches of this standard" removed as this doesn't mean anything unless said standards are specified.</p> <p>Requirement for post protectors now covered under new RUU 1.8 which requires them for all rugby union matches.</p>
Rugby Union	RUU 6.5.7.4	<p>RUU 6 Men's Tier 5 and below leagues and Conference Shield knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 6.5 Replacements, front row requirements, scrummage and player matching</p> <p>RUU 6.5.7 Player matching</p> <p>RUU 6.5.7.4 In the event that a team drops below 10 players the match may continue unless the referee deems the match to be unsafe. In this instance the match must stop and the matter shall be referred to the BUCS Executive. A decision will then be made on whether to take the result as it stands or award a walkover to the non-offending team.</p>	REMOVED	<p>World Rugby Laws do not state a minimum number of players for a match to continue. Neither do the rules the Home Unions have in place for their competitions. A team dropping below 10 players is not in itself a safety/welfare issue, as other rules and regulations, such as uncontested scrums, are in place.</p>

Rugby Union	RUU 7.4.2/RUU 8.3.2 (FORMERLY RUU 7.7.2/RUU 8.6.2)	<p>RUU 7 Women's National league and National Championship knockout competition specific regulations/RUU 8 Women's North/South leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 7.7/RUU 8.6 Women's National League playoffs</p> <p>RUU 7.7.2/RUU 8.6.2 In order to be eligible to compete in each of the National League playoff matches players must have been named on Team Sheets (REG 11.2) in at least 33% of league fixtures for the team they wish to represent. The exemptions to this being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidenced medical dispensation. - A player that has established normality (REG 11.1) for a lower ranked team, and hence would be eligible to be called up, evidenced through Team Sheets (REG 11.2). 	<p>RUU 7 Women's BUCS Super Rugby (Women's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations/RUU 8 Women's North/South leagues and National Vase knockout competition specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 7.4/RUU 8.3 Team Selection</p> <p>RUU 7.4.2/RUU 8.3.2 In order to be eligible to compete in each of the Women's BUCS Super Rugby playoff matches players must have been named on Team Sheets (REG 11.2) in at least 33% of the league fixtures that season for the team they wish to represent. The exemptions to this being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where it is evidenced that a player was unable to be named for 66% or more of the league fixtures that season for the team in question for medical reasons and/or not being released for BUCS selection due to international commitments (full international or U20, training or competition). - Where a player has established normality (REG 11.1.2.2) for a lower ranked team that season, and hence would be eligible to be called up, evidenced through Team Sheets (REG 11.2). 	<p>International commitments added as a valid exemption, with the wider regulation wording updated to clarify how applied.</p> <p>Moved to sit with other team selection regulations.</p>
Rugby Union	RUU 7.4.3 (NEW)	N/A	<p>RUU 7 Women's BUCS Super Rugby (Women's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations</p> <p>RUU 7.4.3 In order to be eligible to compete in each of the Women's BUCS Super Rugby National Championship matches players must have been named on Team Sheets (REG 11.2) in at least 33% of the league fixtures that season for the team they wish to represent. The exemptions to this being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where it is evidenced that a player was unable to be named for 66% or more of the league fixtures that season for the team in question for medical reasons and/or not being released for BUCS selection due to international commitments (full international or U20, training or competition). 	<p>To protect the league programme and support from professional clubs with release to play in BUCS fixtures. More players will be released to play in the league If it can impact their eligibility for the National Championship knockout competition. Supported by LMC.</p> <p>This is a replication of the updated regulation for the Women's BUCS Super Rugby playoff matches, including international commitments being a valid exemption.</p> <p>Sits with other team selection regulations.</p>

			- Where a player has established normality (REG 11.1.2.2) for a lower ranked team that season, and hence would be eligible to be called up, evidenced through Team Sheets (REG 11.2).	
Rugby Union	RUU 7.8 (NEW)	Women's National League MOS: Results must be submitted online via BUCS Play by 10.00am the following day (including weekends).	RUU 7 Women's BUCS Super Rugby (Women's National league and National Championship knockout competition) specific regulations RUU 7.8 Results The results of all Women's BUCS Super Rugby matches, including the number of tries, conversions and penalties, must be entered, and approved, on BUCS Play no later than 2 hours after a match finishing.	To allow results to be better publicised and correct league tables produced ASAP following the fixture. Requirement moved from MOS to regulations as more appropriate place for it to sit.
Rugby Union	RUU 10.5.8.4	RUU 10 Women's Tier 2 and below leagues and Conference Cup knockout competition specific regulations RUU 10.5 Replacements, front row requirements, scrummage and player matching RUU 10.5.8 Player matching RUU 10.5.8.4 In the event that a team drops below 10 players the match may continue unless the referee deems the match to be unsafe. In this instance the match must stop and the matter shall be referred to the BUCS Executive. A decision will then be made on whether to take the result as it stands or award a walkover to the non-offending team.	REMOVED	World Rugby Laws do not state a minimum number of players for a match to continue. Neither do the rules the Home Unions have in place for their competitions. A team dropping below 10 players is not in itself a safety/welfare issue, as other rules and regulations, such as uncontested scrums, are in place.

Sailing	SAI 2.1	<p style="text-align: center;">SAI 2 Team formats</p> <p>SAI 2.1 Fleet Racing Championships SAI 2.1.1 Men's Team Championships Teams are made up of the top three boats of all males from each institution/Playing Entity who have raced in fleets of 15 or more, calculated at the end of the event. If a class has less than 15 entries and is combined with another class, a boat which would have raced in the former class will not count. SAI 2.1.2 Women's Team Championships Teams are made up of the top three boats of all females from each institution/Playing Entity who have raced in fleets of 15 or more, calculated at the end of the event. If a class has less than 15 entries and is combined with another class, a boat which would have raced in the former class will not count.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SAI 2 Team formats</p> <p>SAI 2.1 Fleet Racing Championships SAI 2.1.1 Open Team Championships Teams are made up of the top three boats from each institution/Playing entity (not including boats of solely females) who have raced in fleets of 15 or more, calculated at the end of the event. Following the entry deadline; if a class has less than 15 entries and is combined with another class, all boats in the combined class will be awarded points as if they had initially entered into that class. SAI 2.1.2 Female Team Championships Teams are made up of the top three boats of all females from each institution/Playing Entity who have raced in fleets of 15 or more, calculated at the end of the event. Following the entry deadline; if a class has less than 15 entries and is combined with another class, all boats in the combined class will be awarded points as if they had initially entered into that class.</p>	<p>The intention of the changes within SAI 2.1.1 from a Men's to an Open Team Championships is to allow institutions with smaller pools of sailors to still be eligible to compete. Currently, if an institution can only fund to send three boats to the event, they will have to choose between an all male or all female team. The British Universities Sailing Association (BUSA) feedback from their membership has demonstrated that this is not encouraging an even ratio of male to female competitors.</p> <p>The intention of the changes within SAI 2.1.1 and SAI 2.1.2 for when classes are merged is to allow all competitors in a merged class to be eligible for collecting BUCS Points.</p>
Squash	SQU 11 (NEW)	<p>REG 8.3.7 Calculating final league positions REG 8.3.7.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system (unless sport specific regulations state differently): REG 8.3.7.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then REG 8.3.7.3 or REG 8.3.7.4 shall be followed as applicable. REG 8.3.7.3 Tie between two teams REG 8.3.7.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two (or more) matches will determine the higher placed team.</p>	<p>SQU 11 Calculating final league positions SQU 11.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system: SQU 11.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then SQU 11.3 or SQU 11.4 shall be followed as applicable. SQU 11.3 Tie between two teams SQU 11.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two matches will determine the higher placed team. If this does not determine the higher placed team; SQU 11.3.2 Rubbers and games data shall be used as per SQU 11.3.3 - SQU11.3.5. If the tie on league</p>	<p>Squash specific regulation created to enable the elements only relevant to squash to be removed from REG 8.3.7 and to make it easier to understand how final league positions are calculated in squash.</p>

REG 8.3.7.3.2 Where the result between the two teams does not determine a winner, if the tie on points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to them or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated goal/set/point/rubber (dependent on the sport) difference shall be used to determine the higher placed team as follows:

REG 8.3.7.3.2.1 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.3 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent shall be deemed the higher placed team.

As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.4 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to either of the teams or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on league points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated rubbers and sets data shall be used.

SQU 11.3.3 The team with the higher rubbers difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

SQU 11.3.4 The team with the higher number of rubbers won shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

SQU 11.3.5 The team with the higher games difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

SQU 11.3.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

SQU 11.4 Tie between three or more teams

SQU 11.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on league points, a table shall be formed to calculate their final league positions using the results between the relevant teams as per SQU 11.4.2 - SQU 11.4.5.

SQU 11.4.2 The teams tied will be ranked based on league points accumulated (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

SQU 11.4.3 The teams tied will be ranked based on rubbers difference (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

SQU 11.4.4 The teams tied will be ranked based on the number of rubbers won (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

SQU 11.4.5 The teams tied will be ranked based on games difference (the higher the better).

SQU 11.4.6 If a tie cannot be broken using the system above, then the final league positions of any teams

REG 8.3.7.3.2.5 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4 Tie between three or more teams

REG 8.3.7.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on points, a table shall be formed to calculate the higher placed team from the results between the relevant teams.

REG 8.3.7.4.2 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf) in the mini league.

REG 8.3.7.4.3 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf) in the mini league.

REG 8.3.7.4.4 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent in the mini league shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4.5 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall

still tied shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

		be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.		
Table Tennis	TAB 8 (NEW)	<p>REG 8.3.6 League points</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.1 Unless stated otherwise in the relevant BUCS sport specific regulations, three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.2 Unless stated otherwise in the relevant BUCS sport specific regulations, where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), three points shall be given to the non-offending team and three points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	<p>TAB 8 League points</p> <p>TAB 8.1 Three points will be awarded for a win and no points for a loss.</p> <p>TAB 8.2 Where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), three points shall be given to the non-offending team and three points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>TAB 8.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	To sit alongside new table tennis specific regulation on calculating final league positions. Part of a wider piece to move REG 8.3.6 to sport specific regulations.
Table Tennis	TAB 9 (NEW)	<p>REG 8.3.7 Calculating final league positions</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system (unless sport specific regulations state differently):</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then REG 8.3.7.3 or REG 8.3.7.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3 Tie between two teams</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two (or more) matches will determine the higher placed team.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.2 Where the result between the two teams does not determine a winner, if the tie on points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to them or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void</p>	<p>TAB 9 Calculating final league positions</p> <p>TAB 9.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system:</p> <p>TAB 9.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then TAB 9.3 or TAB 9.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p>TAB 9.3 Tie between two teams</p> <p>TAB 9.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two matches will determine the higher placed team. If this does not determine the higher placed team;</p> <p>TAB 9.3.2 Matches and games data shall be used as per TAB 9.3.3 - TAB 9.3.5. If the tie on league points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to either of the teams or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on league points and the team(s) conceding the</p>	Table tennis specific regulation created to enable the elements only relevant to table tennis to be removed from REG 8.3.7 and to make it easier to understand how final league positions are calculated in table tennis.

fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated goal/set/point/rubber (dependent on the sport) difference shall be used to determine the higher placed team as follows:

REG 8.3.7.3.2.1 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.3 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.4 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.5 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4 Tie between three or more teams

REG 8.3.7.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied

walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated rubbers and sets data shall be used.

TAB 9.3.3 The team with the higher matches difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

TAB 9.3.4 The team with the higher number of matches won shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

TAB 9.3.5 The team with the higher games difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

TAB 9.3.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

TAB 9.4 Tie between three or more teams

TAB 9.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on league points, a table shall be formed to calculate their final league positions using the results between the relevant teams as per TAB 9.4.2 - TAB 9.4.5.

TAB 9.4.2 The teams tied will be ranked based on league points accumulated (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

TAB 9.4.3 The teams tied will be ranked based on matches difference (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

TAB 9.4.4 The teams tied will be ranked based on the number of matches won (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

TAB 9.4.5 The teams tied will be ranked based on games difference (the higher the better).

TAB 9.4.6 If a tie cannot be broken using the system above, then the final league positions of any teams still tied shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

		<p>on points, a table shall be formed to calculate the higher placed team from the results between the relevant teams.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.2 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf) in the mini league.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.3 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf) in the mini league.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.4 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent in the mini league shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.5 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.</p>		
Tennis	TEN 3	<p>TEN 3 Tournament structure and entries See Appendix 1 (‘BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points’) and the entry information for all competitions offered as part of the BUCS</p>	<p>Individual Championships</p> <p>TEN 3 There shall be a separate tournament for each event as listed in Appendix 1 (‘BUCS Competition</p>	<p>Updated to support the addition of the new regulations TEN3.1, TEN 3.2 and TEN 3.3.</p>

		Tennis Individual Championships. All competition specific event information will be available in the event entry information and pre-event information.	Offer and Associated BUCS Points'). The entry information and pre-event information for each event shall contain event specific information, including the tournament structure and format, any entry requirements, and/or any entry restrictions. However, the following shall apply to all events:	
Tennis	TEN 3.1 (NEW)	Individual Championships N/A	Individual Championships TEN 3.1 Match format All matches shall be the best of three sets. The first two sets shall be tie-break sets (the tie-break shall be introduced at six games all) and when the score is one set all the deciding set shall be a 10-point match tie-break.	The format has previously been three tiebreak sets, but this was not written in to these regulations. This change is being introduced due to concerns regarding the length of matches, pressure on facilities and the cost of facility hire, and player welfare - especially during the main draw finals.
Tennis	TEN 3.2 (NEW)	Individual Championships N/A	Individual Championships TEN 3.2 Coaches Each Singles player/Doubles pair may have one nominated coach sitting on court for the duration of the match. If a Singles player/Doubles pair does not have a qualified coach available, a player from their institution may be nominated. Coaching advice can only be given during change of ends and the coach may only enter/leave the court during a change of ends.	Coaching is already permitted for the Team Championships (TEN 10), so this brings the Individual Championships in alignment.
Tennis	TEN 3.3 (NEW)	Individual Championships N/A	Individual Championships TEN 3.3 In the instance where a player is late for a BUCS Individual Championships match, the following shall apply: - If they are more than 15 but less than 30 minutes late for the match time, they shall concede the first set. - If they are 30 or more minutes late for the match time they shall concede the match.	There was a specific case at BUCS Individual Championships qualifying event where a player was 28 minutes late and due to the centre closing, part way through the match the referee had no choice but to disqualify the player that was late. This new regulation to cover such a scenario is suggested by BUCS's Tennis Advisory Group.

Tennis	TEN 6.1	<p>TEN 6 Match format Each match shall consist of two doubles rubbers and four singles rubbers.</p> <p>TEN 6.1 For the 2023-24 season, Full Set format tennis shall be played in all leagues and knockout competitions except for the following in which Fast4 format tennis shall be played:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Men's Scottish Tier 6 leagues (6A) and Scottish Conference Trophy - Men's Northern Tier 5 leagues (5A) and Northern Conference Trophy - Men's Midlands Tier 5 leagues (5A) and Midlands Conference Trophy - Men's Western Tier 3 leagues (3A) and Western Conference Trophy - Men' South Eastern Tier 5 leagues (5A) and South Eastern Conference Trophy - Women's Scottish Tier 3 leagues (3A) and Scottish Conference Trophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women's Northern Tier 3 leagues (3A) and Northern Conference Trophy - Women's Midlands Tier 4 leagues (4A) and Midlands Conference Trophy - Women's Western Tier 3 leagues (3A) and Western Conference Trophy - Women's South Eastern Tier 3 leagues (3A) and South Eastern Conference Trophy 	<p>TEN 6 Match format Each match shall consist of two doubles rubbers and four singles rubbers.</p> <p>TEN 6.1 For the 2024-25 season, Full Set format tennis shall be played in all leagues and knockout competitions except for the following in which Fast4 format tennis shall be played:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Men's Scottish Tier 6 leagues (6A) and Scottish Conference Trophy - Men's Northern Tier 5 leagues (5A) and Northern Conference Trophy - Men's Midlands Tier 5 leagues (5A) and Midlands Conference Trophy - Men's Western Tier 3 leagues (3A) and Western Conference Trophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Men' South Eastern Tier 5 leagues (5A) - Women's Scottish Tier 4 leagues (4A) and Scottish Conference Trophy - Women's Northern Tier 4 leagues (4A) and Northern Conference Trophy - Women's Midlands Tier 4 leagues (4A) and Midlands Conference Trophy - Women's Western Tier 3 leagues (3A) and Western Conference Trophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women's South Eastern Tier 3 leagues (3A) and South Eastern Conference Trophy 	To reflect applicable leagues and knockout competitions for 2024-25.
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Tennis	TEN 7.2.2	<p>TEN 7.2.2 Nominations Prior to the start of the fixture, captains shall provide the names of any players that may be selected. Nominations for the doubles rubbers shall be made in writing no later than prior to the start of the first doubles rubber. Nominations for the singles rubbers shall be made in writing no later than the prior to the start of the first singles rubber.</p> <p>TEN 7.2.2.1 Singles nominations Teams consisting of more than four players may nominate players for singles rubbers, not including their highest ranked player(s) in the match day squad, but teams must play in rank order. For example, if a team takes six players to a match, they will rank their players as they are playing on the day as 1-6 across the whole team based on where they sit on the ranking list, but they can choose that 3-6 will play as their singles 1-4, their two highest ranked players in attendance only participating in the doubles.</p> <p>TEN 7.2.2.2 Doubles nominations Doubles pairings must play with the strongest pair as pair 1. The best doubles pair should be decided by the sum of the players' rankings in each pair, with the smallest sum playing as the 'best doubles pair'. Players' rankings are as per the published BUCS Squad Ranking List. If the sums of the singles players' positions are equal (e.g. 1+5 and 2+4 or 21+25 and 22+24), the best doubles pair should include the highest ranked player (i.e. 1+5 or 21+25 would be the best doubles pair).</p>	<p>TEN 7.2.2 Nominations Prior to the start of the fixture, captains shall provide the names of any players (maximum of 6 as per TEN 9.7) that may be selected. Nominations for the doubles rubbers shall be made in writing no later than prior to the start of the first doubles rubber. Nominations for the singles rubbers shall be made in writing no later than the prior to the start of the first singles rubber.</p> <p>TEN 7.2.2.1 Singles nominations Teams consisting of more than four players may nominate any four of these players for singles rubbers, but the chosen four players must play in rank order as per their current places on their institution/Playing Entity's ranking list. For example, if a team takes six players to a match, they will rank their players as they are playing on the day as 1-6 across the whole team based on where they sit on their institution/Playing Entity's ranking list, but they can choose that 3-6 will play as their singles 1-4, their two highest ranked players in attendance only participating in the doubles. Another example would be that a team may choose that players 2-5 play as singles 1-4, with players 1 and 6 only playing in the doubles rubbers.</p> <p>TEN 7.2.2.2 Doubles nominations Teams consisting of more than four players may nominate any four of these players for doubles rubbers, but the chosen doubles pairings must play with the strongest pair as pair 1. The best doubles pair should be decided by the sum of the players' current places on their institution/Playing Entity's ranking list in each pair, with the smallest sum playing as the 'best doubles pair'. If the sums of the singles players' positions are equal, for example 1+5 and 2+4 or 21+25 and 22+24, the best doubles pair should include the highest ranked player. So, in the given examples, 1+5 and 21+25 would be the best doubles pair.</p>	<p>The current regulation wording of TEN 7.2.2.1 - despite having been changed for the 2023-24 season - has continued to be found confusing by teams, with it being in multiple ways. For example, some teams have interpreted that if there are 6 players in a team, the highest two ranked of these players (1 and 2 on the day) aren't allowed to be nominated for the singles, when the intention of the wording is to confirm that they can be, but don't have to be.</p> <p>The updated wording throughout TEN 7.2.2 and sub-regulations is intended to clarify the situation.</p>
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Tennis	TEN 10	<p>TEN 10 Coaches Each team may have their nominated coach sitting on court for any or all rubbers in the match. If a team does not have a coach with them, then any team member not playing at the time may be nominated. Coaching advice can only be given during change of ends and the coach may only enter/leave the court during a change of ends.</p>	<p>TEN 10 Coaches Each team may have a nominated coach sitting on court for each rubber in the match. If a team does not have one or more qualified coaches with them, then any team member not required to be playing at the time may be nominated. Coaching advice can only be given during change of ends and the coach may only enter/leave the court during a change of ends.</p>	<p>Updated to clarify that teams are not limited to one coach per fixture, but per rubber.</p>
Tennis	TEN 11.1.2	<p>TEN 11.1 Full Set format</p> <p>TEN 11.1.2 The singles rubbers shall be the best of three sets. The first two sets shall be tie-break sets (the tie-break shall be introduced at six games all) and when the score is one set all the deciding set shall be a 10-point match tie-break.</p> <p>TEN 11.1.2.1 In all National League and National Championship fixtures, if a singles rubber goes to a third set and there is more than 30 minutes remaining of the court booking, then the third set shall also be a tie-break set. Note: If singles rubbers are being played first, the last 30-minutes of court booking is defined as the doubles start time. For example, a 10:00 singles start means that a match tiebreak third set is played only if the first two sets finish after 11:30. If the match result is already decided any remaining singles rubbers may, by mutual consent, play a deciding 10-point match tie-break as the third set.</p>	<p>TEN 11.1 Full Set format</p> <p>TEN 11.1.2 The singles rubbers shall be the best of three sets. The first two sets shall be tie-break sets (the tie-break shall be introduced at six games all) and when the score is one set all the deciding set shall be a 10-point match tie-break.</p>	<p>TEN 11.1.2.1 has been removed, so that TEN 11.1.2 now applies to all singles rubbers at all levels.</p> <p>Having been monitored over multiple seasons now, a number of National League and National Championship matches have been taking too long resulting in court time running over.</p> <p>For the Super Weekends, this change will help prevent late finishes, which may also be of help for Wednesday matches where students and coaches are travelling home late. Generally it will reduce the pressure on facilities, may help reduce costs, and is better for player welfare.</p>
Tennis	TEN 12 (NEW)	<p>REG 8.3.6 League points</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.1 Unless stated otherwise in the relevant BUCS sport specific regulations, three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.2 Unless stated otherwise in the relevant BUCS sport specific regulations, where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), three points shall be given to the non-offending team and three points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	<p>TEN 12 League points</p> <p>TEN 12.1 Three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.</p> <p>TEN 12.2 Where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), three points shall be given to the non-offending team and three points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>TEN 12.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	<p>To sit alongside new tennis specific regulation on calculating final league positions. Part of a wider piece to move REG 8.3.6 to sport specific regulations.</p>

Tennis	TEN 13 (NEW)	<p>REG 8.3.7 Calculating final league positions</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system (unless sport specific regulations state differently):</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then REG 8.3.7.3 or REG 8.3.7.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3 Tie between two teams</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two (or more) matches will determine the higher placed team.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.2 Where the result between the two teams does not determine a winner, if the tie on points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to them or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated goal/set/point/rubber (dependent on the sport) difference shall be used to determine the higher placed team as follows:</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.2.1 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf).</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf).</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.2.3 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG</p>	<p>TEN 13 Calculating final league positions</p> <p>TEN 13.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system:</p> <p>TEN 13.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then TEN 13.3 or TEN 13.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p>TEN 13.3 Tie between two teams</p> <p>TEN 13.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two matches will determine the higher placed team. If this does not determine the higher placed team;</p> <p>TEN 13.3.2 Rubbers and sets data shall be used as per TEN 13.3.3 - TEN 13.3.5. If the tie on league points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to either of the teams or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on league points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated rubbers and sets data shall be used.</p> <p>TEN 13.3.3 The team with the higher rubbers difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;</p> <p>TEN 13.3.4 The team with the higher number of rubbers won shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;</p> <p>TEN 13.3.5 The team with the higher sets difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;</p> <p>TEN 13.3.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be</p>	<p>Tennis specific regulation created to enable the elements only relevant to tennis to be removed from REG 8.3.7 and to make it easier to understand how final league positions are calculated in tennis. During the 2023-24 season there were some questions regarding REG .3.7.3.2.3/REG 8.3.7.4.4 and that the "equivalent" was deemed to be for Tennis, which is/was sets, as the next scoring level down below rubbers.</p>
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8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher 'Games' difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent shall be deemed the higher placed team.
 As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.4 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher 'Points' difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher 'Points' scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.5 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4 Tie between three or more teams

REG 8.3.7.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on points, a table shall be formed to calculate the higher placed team from the results between the relevant teams.

REG 8.3.7.4.2 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf) in the mini league.

REG 8.3.7.4.3 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf) in the mini league.

REG 8.3.7.4.4 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher 'Games' difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or

determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

TEN 13.4 Tie between three or more teams

TEN 13.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on league points, a table shall be formed to calculate their final league positions using the results between the relevant teams as per TEN 13.4.2 - TEN 13.4.5.

TEN 13.4.2 The teams tied will be ranked based on league points accumulated (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

TEN 13.4.3 The teams tied will be ranked based on rubbers difference (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

TEN 13.4.4 The teams tied will be ranked based on the number of rubbers won (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

TEN 13.4.5 The teams tied will be ranked based on sets difference (the higher the better).

TEN 13.4.6 If a tie cannot be broken using the system above, then the final league positions of any teams still tied shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

		<p>equivalent in the mini league shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.5 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher 'Points' difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher 'Points' scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.4.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.</p>		
Volleyball	VOL 4.1.2	<p>VOL 4 Fixture administration and arrangements</p> <p>VOL 4.1 Court bookings and timings</p> <p>VOL 4.1.2 The warm up start time (note VOL 4.1.1) is the fixture start time and should be the time that is posted on BUCS Play. This cannot be before the relevant time stated in REG 9.3.5/REG 9.3.5.1.</p>	<p>VOL 4 Fixture administration and arrangements</p> <p>VOL 4.1 Court bookings and timings</p> <p>VOL 4.1.2 The warm up start time (note VOL 4.1.1) is the fixture start time and should be the time that is posted on BUCS Play. This cannot be before the relevant time stated in REG 9.3.5.</p>	Updated to reflect changes to structure of REG 9.3.5.

Volleyball	VOL 12 (NEW)	<p align="center">REG 8.3.6 League points</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.1 Unless stated otherwise in the relevant BUCS sport specific regulations, three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.2 Unless stated otherwise in the relevant BUCS sport specific regulations, where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), three points shall be given to the non-offending team and three points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>REG 8.3.6.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	<p align="center">VOL 12 League points</p> <p>VOL 12.1 Three points will be awarded for a win and no points for a loss.</p> <p>VOL 12.2 Where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), three points shall be given to the non-offending team and three points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>VOL 12.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	To sit alongside new volleyball specific regulation on calculating final league positions. Part of a wider piece to move REG 8.3.6 to sport specific regulations.
Volleyball	VOL 13 (NEW)	<p align="center">REG 8.3.7 Calculating final league positions</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system (unless sport specific regulations state differently):</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then REG 8.3.7.3 or REG 8.3.7.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p align="center">REG 8.3.7.3 Tie between two teams</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two (or more) matches will determine the higher placed team.</p> <p>REG 8.3.7.3.2 Where the result between the two teams does not determine a winner, if the tie on points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to them or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on points and the team(s) conceding the</p>	<p align="center">VOL 13 Calculating final league positions</p> <p>VOL 13.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split by the following sequential system:</p> <p>VOL 13.2 A team tied on points who has conceded at least one voluntary walkover shall automatically be placed below any other tied teams who have conceded fewer voluntary walkovers. If a tie still exists, then VOL 13.3 or VOL 13.4 shall be followed as applicable.</p> <p align="center">VOL 13.3 Tie between two teams</p> <p>VOL 13.3.1 The result between the teams will be the determining factor in placing one team above the other. Where fixtures are played on a 'home' and 'away' basis, the aggregate score of the two matches will determine the higher placed team. If this does not determine the higher placed team;</p> <p>VOL 13.3.2 Sets and points data shall be used as per VOL 13.3.3 - VOL 13.3.5. If the tie on league points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to either of the teams or any void fixtures, all the relevant results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on league points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated sets and points data</p>	<p>Volleyball specific regulation created to enable the elements only relevant to volleyball to be removed from REG 8.3.7 and to make it easier to understand how final league positions are calculated in volleyball.</p> <p>Use of points data was added for 2017-18 however, 'points' scored is not appropriate to use as the total number that can be scored is not limited. For example, the winner of a set would be first to 25 points except that if the score reaches 24-24 the winner is then the team with two clear points, also if a fifth set is played this is only first to 15 points. So, in a fixture where any sets go past 25 points needed to win them, then that team will record more 'points for' than a team that plays in fixtures where they win all sets with 25 points - this is further complicated when a fifth set is played.</p> <p>Points data is not currently captured on BUCS Play, but all of this data should be recorded on scoresheets as per VOL 11, so institutions should have this available if needed.</p>

walkover(s)/void match(es)) will be removed from the results table and the recalculated goal/set/point/rubber (dependent on the sport) difference shall be used to determine the higher placed team as follows:

REG 8.3.7.3.2.1 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf).

REG 8.3.7.3.2.3 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.4 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.7.3.1 – REG 8.3.7.3.2.2 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.3.2.5 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4 Tie between three or more teams

REG 8.3.7.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on points, a table shall be formed to calculate the higher placed team from the results between the

shall be used.

VOL 13.3.3 The team with the higher sets difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

VOL 13.3.4 The team with the higher number of sets won shall be deemed the higher placed team. If a tie still exists;

VOL 13.3.5 The team with the higher points difference shall be deemed the higher placed team.

VOL 13.3.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

VOL 13.4 Tie between three or more teams

VOL 13.4.1 Where three or more teams are tied on league points, a table shall be formed to calculate their final league positions using the results between the relevant teams as per VOL 13.4.2 - VOL 13.4.5.

VOL 13.4.2 The teams tied will be ranked based on league points accumulated (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

VOL 13.4.3 The teams tied will be ranked based on sets difference (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

VOL 13.4.4 The teams tied will be ranked based on the number of sets won (the higher the better). If a tie still exists;

VOL 13.4.5 The teams tied will be ranked based on points difference (the higher the better).

VOL 13.4.6 If a tie cannot be broken using the system above, then the final league positions of any teams still tied shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

relevant teams.

REG 8.3.7.4.2 Goal/Set/Point/Rubber difference as applicable to each sport (Games in Golf) in the mini league.

REG 8.3.7.4.3 The higher number of Goals/Sets/Points/Rubbers scored (Games in Golf) in the mini league.

REG 8.3.7.4.4 In the sports of Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Games’ difference (not Rubbers/Matches) or equivalent in the mini league shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis and Tennis, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches in these sports on official scorecards, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4.5 In the sport of Volleyball, where the higher placed team cannot be determined by REG 8.3.4.7.1 – REG 8.3.7.4.3 above, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ difference shall be deemed the higher placed team. If this still does not determine the higher placed team, then the team with the higher ‘Points’ scored shall be deemed the higher placed team. As per sport specific regulations for Volleyball, institutions will be responsible for supplying full records of all matches on official score sheets, if requested by the BUCS Executive.

REG 8.3.7.4.6 If the higher placed team cannot be determined from the system above, then this shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the BUCS Executive.

Water Polo	WAT i - WAT iii	<p>Wednesday 18 January 2023 - BUCS Response to World Aquatics' (FINA's) Rule Amendments</p> <p>On 25 October 2022 World Aquatics (FINA) announced that new rules and adjustments would come into place on 1 January 2023. An updated set of rules is however not yet published on the World Aquatics website.</p> <p>BUCS can confirm that no changes will be made to BUCS competitions for the remainder of the 2022-23 season, i.e., the BUCS regulations remain unchanged, and the World Aquatics (FINA) rules applied will be those prior to the 1 January 2023 update.</p> <p>The BUCS Executive and Water Polo Advisory Group will review the amendments as part of the annual regulations review and confirm any changes for the 2023-24 season.</p> <p>WAT i The BUCS Water Polo Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and the FINA Water Polo Rules (2019-2021)*.</p> <p>WAT ii In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>WAT iii In the event that these regulations contradict the FINA Water Polo Rules (2019-2021)*, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>*Please note that the following FINA Water Polo Rules are not currently being adopted by BUCS and will be reviewed for 2023-24:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The use of a time-out button for team officials. - The introduction of an ADDITIONAL Re-entry area between the goal line and the centre field line on the team's half of field of play (for flying substitutions). 	<p>WAT i The BUCS Water Polo Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and the Water Polo Rules of the World Aquatics (WA) Competition Regulations (In force as from 1 January 2024).</p> <p>WAT ii In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>WAT iii In the event that these regulations contradict the Water Polo Rules of the World Aquatics (WA) Competition Regulations (In force as from 1 January 2024), these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.</p> <p>*Please note that the following elements of the World Aquatics (WA) Water Polo Rules are not currently being adopted by BUCS and will be reviewed for 2025-26:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'Flying substitutions' and therefore the requirement for there to be lateral/'flying substitution' areas. - Video Assistant Referees and the VAR protocol. 	<p>Having done a review with the BUCS Water Polo Advisory Group, the BUCS Executive believe we are now in a position to adopt the current World Aquatics (WA) rules, which will bring BUCS in alignment with other domestic competitions.</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The use of automatic visual effects, surrounding the penalty box. i.e. Signalling the last five seconds of the expiration of the exclusion time or the time when the excluded player is allowed to come back into the game. -The use of video monitoring system to determine goal or no goal (WP 11 Video Assistant Referee). -The use of audio equipment by the game referees. -The use of the GVMS (Game Video Monitoring System) for identifying and sanctioning incidents of brutality or extreme violence that occurred but were not appropriately punished or identified during a game. 		
Water Polo	WAT 1	<p>WAT 1 There shall be separate Team Championships for Men and Women. The programme for each Championships shall include leagues and knockout competitions as per BUCS general regulations, Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and Appendix 10 ('BUCS Promotion, Relegation and Knockout Information').</p>	<p>WAT 1 There shall be separate Open and Female Team Championships. The programme for each Championships shall include leagues and knockout competitions as per BUCS general regulations, Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and Appendix 10 ('BUCS Promotion, Relegation and Knockout Information').</p> <p>WAT 1.1 Eligibility for these Championships shall be in line with the Transgender and Non-Binary Competition Policies of Scottish Swimming, Swim England, and Swim Wales, however should an individual be eligible under these policies for either Championships, once they have been selected (listed on a team sheet) for a team in a specific Championships (Open or Female) they may not then compete for a team in the other Championships for the remainder of the season.</p>	To provide clarity on how BUCS's Water Polo Championships align with the Transgender and Non-Binary Policy of the NGBs whose policies BUCS follows as per REG 4.3.

Water Polo	WAT 2	<p>WAT 2 Match format and timings</p> <p>WAT 2.1 Men's and Women's Premier Tier/Championship</p> <p>WAT 2.1.1 BUCS recommends that at least 75 minutes of pool time are booked (longer for knockout competition fixtures). Institutions/Playing Entities failing to book sufficient time will be considered to have defaulted on the match if for any reason there is insufficient time to bring the fixture to a conclusion.</p> <p>WAT 2.1.2 The duration of matches and intervals shall be as per the FINA Water Polo Rules. In the event of a tie after full-time in a knockout match, the outcome of the match shall be determined by following the penalty shootout process of the FINA Water Polo Rules.</p> <p>WAT 2.2 Men's and Women's Tier 1/Trophy and Tier 2 and below/Conference Cup</p> <p>WAT 2.2.1 BUCS recommends that at least 70 minutes of pool time are booked (longer for knockout fixtures). Institutions/Playing Entities failing to book sufficient time will be considered to have defaulted on the match if for any reason there is insufficient time to bring the fixture to a conclusion.</p> <p>WAT 2.2.2 The duration of matches and intervals shall be: 4 periods of 7 minutes with 2 minutes rest interval between each period. In the event of a tie after full-time in a knockout match, the outcome of the match shall be determined by following the penalty shootout process of the FINA Water Polo Rules.</p>	<p>WAT 2 Match format and timings</p> <p>WAT 2.1 Premier Tier/National Championship</p> <p>WAT 2.1.1 The duration of matches shall be as per the WA Water Polo Rules. In the event of a tie after four periods in a league match, the result shall be a draw. In the event of a tie after four periods in a knockout competition match, the outcome of the match shall be determined by following the penalty shoot out process of the WA Water Polo Rules.</p> <p>WAT 2.1.2 Pools must be booked for an appropriate length of time to allow for the full conclusion of the match including a warm up. A minimum of 75 minutes of pool time must be booked for all matches. Institutions/Playing Entities failing to book at least this minimum amount of pool time will be considered to have defaulted on the match if for any reason there is insufficient time to bring the fixture to a conclusion.</p> <p>WAT 2.2 Tier 1/National Trophy and Tier 2 and below/Conference Cup</p> <p>WAT 2.2.1 The duration of matches shall be as per the WA Water Polo Rules, except that the intervals between periods shall be two minutes. In the event of a tie after four periods in a league match, the result shall be a draw. In the event of a tie after four periods in a knockout competition match, the outcome of the match shall be determined by following the penalty shoot out process of the WA Water Polo Rules.</p> <p>WAT 2.2.2 Pools must be booked for an appropriate length of time to allow for the full conclusion of the match including a warm up. A minimum of 75 minutes of pool time must be booked for all matches. Institutions/Playing Entities failing to book at least this minimum amount of pool time will be considered to have defaulted on the match if for any reason there is insufficient time to bring the fixture to a conclusion.</p>	<p>Premier Tier/National Championship: Minimum pool time booking requirements updated and changed from recommendations to provide more clarity on what is the minimum accepted and if not booked will see an institution/Playing Entity forfeit a match if it can't be completed.</p> <p>Originally proposed (and recommended by National Competitions Group in July 2024) change to all Premier Tier league matches to have a winner by use of penalty shoot out if tied after four periods in line with what now happens at World Aquatics and European Aquatics competitions and in the British Water Polo League not yet being introduced as development of BUCS Play functionality needed and further review of impact on other regulations required alongside the proposed change to allocation of league points for these matches.</p> <p>Tier 1/National Trophy and Tier 2 and below/Conference Cup: Match duration brought in line with other domestic competitions. Minimum pool time booking requirements updated and changed from recommendations to provide more clarity on what is the minimum accepted and if not booked will see an institution/Playing Entity forfeit a match if it can't be completed.</p>
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Water Polo	WAT 3.7	<p>WAT 3 Field of play and equipment</p> <p>WAT 3.7 Possession/Shot clocks For Premier Tier/Championship fixtures possession/shot clocks are compulsory. For all other fixtures, possession/shot clocks are not compulsory, but where not provided it is a requirement to have an audible whistle to signal the end of possession.</p>	<p>WAT 3 Field of play and equipment</p> <p>WAT 3.7 Possession/Shot clocks For Premier Tier and National Championship fixtures possession/shot clocks are compulsory. For all other fixtures, possession/shot clocks are not compulsory, but where not provided it is a requirement to have an audible whistle to signal the end of possession.</p> <p>WAT 3.7.1 Failure to provide possession/shot clocks for Premier Tier and National Championship fixtures will result in a £100 fine per instance of this breach for the home team. Away teams cannot claim a walkover, play under protest or appeal, as the match can still go ahead timed by the officials and with use of an audible whistle to signal the end of possession.</p>	<p>Where possession/shot clocks are not provided when compulsory a fixed sanction has been introduced and clarification provided that teams cannot claim walkovers, play under protest or appeal for this reason, in line with what is in place for BUCS basketball (BAS 7.1).</p>
Water Polo	WAT 3.8 (NEW)	N/A	<p>WAT 3 Field of play and equipment</p> <p>WAT 3.8 WA rule 18.1.4 with regard to water temperature shall not apply.</p>	<p>In previous editions of the World Aquatics (formerly FINA) rules, there was no specification for temperature and so BUCS has not enforced such a requirement.</p>
Water Polo	WAT 3.9 (NEW)	N/A	<p>WAT 3 Field of play and equipment</p> <p>WAT 3.9 WA rule 18.1.5 with regard to light intensity shall not apply.</p>	<p>In previous editions of the World Aquatics (formerly FINA) rules, there was no specification for light intensity and so BUCS has not enforced such a requirement.</p>
Water Polo	WAT 4	<p>WAT 4 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 ('BUCS Match Officials Requirements').</p>	<p>WAT 4 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 ('BUCS Match Officials Requirements').</p> <p>WAT 4.1 The use of audio equipment by the referees is not required but is permitted.</p>	<p>To now permit use of audio equipment, which was trialled at BUCS Big Wednesday 2024, but not making it a requirement for any/all fixtures.</p>

Water Polo	WAT 6	<p>WAT 6 Teams and substitutes FINA WP 5 shall be followed with the following exceptions:</p> <p>WAT 6.1 Squad size Each team shall consist of a maximum of thirteen players: eleven field players and two goalkeepers. A team shall start the game with not more than seven players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper and who shall wear the goalkeeper's cap. Six reserves may be used as substitutes. One of the reserves may also be used as a substitute goalkeeper but must wear a red cap. A team playing with less than seven players shall not be required to have a goalkeeper.</p> <p>WAT 6.2 Minimum number of players for a fixture to start The minimum number of players per team required for a fixture to start will be six.</p> <p>WAT 6.3 At any time in the game, a player may be substituted by leaving the field of play at the team's designated substitution areas. The substitute may enter the field of play from the exclusion re-entry area as soon as the player has visibly risen to the surface of the water within the re-entry area.</p> <p>Substitution from the designated lateral substitution area is allowed when both players, the exiting player and the substitute, are in the water, outside of the field of play and touch hands above the water. If the team has less than seven players, the team shall not be required to have a goalkeeper.</p> <p>No substitution shall be made under this Rule between the time a referee awards a penalty throw and the taking of the throw.</p> <p>[NOTE: In the event that the goalkeeper is not entitled or able to participate, a team playing with seven players shall be required to play with an alternative goalkeeper who shall wear a red cap.]</p> <p>WAT 6.4 FINA WP 5.9 shall not apply.</p> <p>WAT 6.5 Should a goalkeeper retire from the game through any medical reason, the referees shall allow an immediate substitution.</p>	<p>WAT 6 Teams and substitutes WA rule 2 shall be followed with the following variations:</p> <p>WAT 6.1 Team composition</p> <p>WAT 6.1.1 Each team shall consist of a maximum of thirteen players. A team shall start the game with not more than seven players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper and who shall wear the goalkeeper's cap. Six reserves may be used as substitutes. Any of the reserves may be used as a substitute goalkeeper but must wear a red cap. A team playing with less than seven players shall not be required to have a goalkeeper.</p> <p>WAT 6.1.2 The minimum number of players per team required for a fixture to start will be six.</p> <p>WAT 6.2 Substitution Procedure</p> <p>WAT 6.2.1 At any time in the game, a field player or goalkeeper may be substituted by leaving the field of play at the team's exclusion re-entry area. The substitute may enter the field of play from the exclusion re-entry area as soon as the player has visibly risen to the surface of the water within the re-entry area and touched hands above the water with the substitute. A substitute shall be ready to replace a player, without delay. If the substitute is not ready, the game shall continue without the substitute and, at any time, the substitute may then enter the field of play from the team's designated substitution areas, after touching hands where applicable.</p> <p>WAT 6.2.2 No substitution shall be made under WAT 6.2.1 between the time a referee awards a penalty throw and the taking of the throw. If a goalkeeper is substituted under WAT 6.2.1, this can be by any of the reserves to act as a substitute goalkeeper, but they must wear a red cap, unless the team is playing with less than seven players in which case they are not required to have a goalkeeper. A goalkeeper who has been replaced by a substitute may play in any position.</p>	<p>Updated to reflect the current edition of the WA rules, but:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maintaining BUCS not requiring teams to have a reserve goalkeeper and instead having six reserves who can be substituted to be a field player or goalkeeper. - reflecting the fact that BUCS has not adopted 'flying substitutions' and therefore the requirement for there to be lateral/'flying substitution' areas.
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Water Polo	WAT 7	<p style="text-align: center;">WAT 7 League points</p> <p>WAT 7.1 Two points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.</p> <p>WAT 7.2 Where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), two points shall be given to the non-offending team and two points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>WAT 7.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WAT 7 League points</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WAT 7.1 Premier Tier</p> <p>WAT 7.1.1 Three points will be awarded for a win in regular time, two points for a win after a penalty shoot out, no points for a loss in regular time, and one point for a loss after a penalty shoot out.</p> <p>WAT 7.1.2 Where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), three points shall be given to the non-offending team and three points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>WAT 7.1.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WAT 7.2 Tier 1 and below</p> <p>WAT 7.2.1 Two points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.</p> <p>WAT 7.2.2 Where a walkover has been awarded/conceded (REG 13), two points shall be given to the non-offending team and two points deducted from the offending team.</p> <p>WAT 7.2.3 No points will be awarded to either team in the case of a void fixture.</p>	<p>Following a review of feedback on the National Competitions Group Feedback Tracker and minutes of the meeting on 04/06/24, the proposed change to Premier Tier is being put forward again as there was only reasoning given for rejecting it by one institution (on the tracker) and they currently do not have any teams in the Premier Tier or Tier 1. On the tracker 10 institutions said they supported/agreed (1 with a current Premier Tier team), 7 put N/A or abstain, and just the one institution rejected the change.</p> <p>Premier Tier: Links to proposed change to WAT 2.1 to all Premier Tier league matches to have a winner (by use of penalty shoot out if tied after four periods) introduced to be in line with what now happens at World Aquatics and European Aquatics competitions and is also anticipated to be being introduced for the British Water Polo League. Points awarded updated accordingly to match these other competitions. Please also note accompanying changes to WAT 2.1 and that implementation will be subject to BUCS Play functionality being in place.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tier 1 and below: No changes.</p>
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Water Polo	WAT 8	<p>WAT 8 Championship/Trophy Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals</p> <p>WAT 8.1 The eight teams qualifying for the Championship/Trophy Quarter-Finals may agree to organise fixtures for the Quarter-Final and Semi-Final rounds in the following format. Should agreement not be reached by all teams, fixtures will take place in standard knockout format.</p> <p>WAT 8.1.1 The eight teams that progress through Rounds 1 (Last 32) and 2 (Last 16) of the Trophy/Round 1 (Last 16) of the Championship will play in a Northern or Southern round robin in two groups of four.</p> <p>WAT 8.1.2 These round robin 'Semi-Finals' are to be organised by the qualifying institutions/Playing Entities.</p> <p>WAT 8.1.3 The top team from each group will contest the Trophy/Championship Final which shall be held at a venue decided by BUCS.</p>	REMOVED	<p>This option has not been taken up since this regulation was introduced in 2017-18 following BUCS stopping organising a 'Final 8s' event, so there does not appear to be any appetite for it.</p>
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