

Scottish Student Handball Leagues 2024/25 – Rules and Regulations

All fixtures have been scheduled by the SSS office and should not be changed without the agreement of the SSS staff and the opposing team. The main point of contact at SSS will be:

Sean Berthelsen, SSS Competitions Assistant – sean@scottishstudentsport.com

The fixtures will be published on SSS Playwaze after the entry deadline has passed. Please note that the entry deadline for the 24/25 season is earlier than in previous years, given feedback from the membership. This will be circulated via the relevant Sports Unions. Fixtures are also to be updated with scores by Captains after each match. Please click [HERE](#) for a 'How To' Guide for the SSS Playwaze system to ensure you and your players are signed up.

1. General

All events will be conducted under International Handball Federation (IHF) and Scottish Handball Association (SHA) rules and regulations except where variations are discussed below. At least one representative from each competing team is expected to attend the first SS Handball Captains' Meeting in the given academic year, to encourage knowledge in all teams

2. Eligibility

- a) All players must be a fully matriculated student with a Higher Educational Institution in Scotland and must be members of their relevant Sports Union. Competitors **MUST** be registered on SSS Playwaze in order to participate, if students are to be found in violation of this then a £25 fine will be incurred by the institution for each student not registered on the system
- b) A student team can be made up by players from different colleges/universities, if the players (without exception in the entire season) compete for the same team every time (e.g. an Abertay student can play for University of Dundee, but not for University of St. Andrews in the same season), as long as both Sports Unions agree (as per SSS [Playing for Another Institution Policy](#))

3. Order of Events

- a) A 15-minute warm-up pre-game is mandatory and should be accounted for in facility booking
- b) If both Men's and Women's games are played on the same day and at the same venue (as scheduled by the SSS office), they should be scheduled on an alternating basis e.g. Men's game, Women's game, etc.

4. Facilities Requirements

- a) It is the responsibility of the 'home' team to book the facilities which should, whenever possible, conform to the standard set out by the IHF as listed below:
 - i. Handball court 40x20m, with marked 6m line around goals, a 7m-penalty point and a middle line where goals will be 2x3m
 - ii. Officiating table, banks (spectators, substitutions), clock, flip scoreboard, second stopwatch/phone for penalties will be available for use

- iii. Balls will be a Size 2 for Women's fixtures and Size 3 for Men's fixtures. Should any mixed fixtures take place, a Size 2 ball will be used (e.g. Beach handball)
- iv. Matches will be 2 x 30-minute halves, a 10-minute half-time and up to 4 time-outs per match (1 'time-out' per team, per half as outlined)

5. Scoring and Refereeing

- a) All games must be officiated by at least one official who has the equivalent of a SHA Academy Referee qualification or have attended a Reffin' Brilliant course (see SSS website)
- b) Table referees and officials appointment(s) are the responsibility of the 'home' team. If they cannot provide referees/officials, this must be made clear to SSS at the earliest opportunity
- c) It is recommended that there are two referees and two people for the table officiating duty
- d) Each team can request a maximum of 1 team 'time-out' per half (max. 2 per team per match)
- e) It is important that students participating in the SS Handball leagues uphold fair play values, with respect to both the opposing team and the officials to ensure a positive experience for all

6. Fixture Administration

- a) Should a team be unable to attend a match they can ask for a re-arrangement. The request should be discussed with at least two of the three parties below, one of which must be the opposing team:
 - i. The SSS Competitions Assistant (administrator of the league), Sean Berthelsen
 - ii. The Scottish Student Handball Chair, Alice Hedemo
 - iii. The opposing team
- b) A valid cause must be presented. If a team fails to show up and there has been no request for a rearrangement, the game will count as a forfeit and will be scored as outlined in 6.c)
- c) In case of a forfeit, the winning team is awarded three points and a score of 10:0
- d) If a team forfeits one fixture, a warning will be issued. If an institution concedes two fixtures, the SSS Competitions Assistant will speak with the relevant Sport Union Fixture Administrator. If three or more fixtures are forfeited, the Chair and SSS staff member will discuss further punishment with the relevant institution i.e. the cost of the travelling team
- e) Fixtures and venues will be confirmed at least 7 days in advance

7. Officials

- a) It is the responsibility of the 'home' team to provide officials as stated above. However, both teams should contribute to the team of officials (e.g. one referee from each team, table officials are can be from either institution). They must sign the official match sheet
- b) At least one of the officials must have the equivalent of a SHA Academy Referee qualification or have attended a Reffin' Brilliant course, as per '5. Scoring and Refereeing', above

8. Reporting of Scores and Times

- a) The [Match Report Card](#) is provided by the institution and must contain the following data: full names of all players, goals scored per player, the overall score after each goal and penalties
- b) A copy/photo of good quality of the Match Report Card, should be retained by both teams should it be required by SSS office at any point of the season
- c) It is the responsibility of the 'home' team to update SSS Playwaze with the result of each match and the Match Report within 3 days (72 hours) of the fixture being completed
- d) Failure to upload the result by the 'home' team or the repeated changing of a result after the 72-hour period will see the institution incur a £25 fine for each occurrence throughout the year

9. Complaints

- a) If a team has concerns about a fixture not adhering to regulations, it is recommended that they inform the SSS Competitions Assistant at the earliest possible opportunity
- b) A 'Playing Under Protest' (PUP) Form should be completed in advance of the match taking place should either team be concerned, and signed by both captains where at all possible
- c) If a team wishes to appeal a result, they should provide all information possible (including PUP) to their Sports Union who will get in touch with the SSS Office. SSS staff (with assistance from the Scottish Student Handball Chair when appropriate) will consider the appeal and communicate the decision through the Sports Union in a timely manner
- b) The SSS Competitions Assistant and Head of Competitions will review all cases presented by teams and any sanctions will be enforced by the respective institution's Sports Union
- c) If more information comes to light after the completion of a fixture where a team is in breach of any of the above rules and regulations, it is important that you speak to your Sports Union within the next 24 hours so any complaints can be raised with SSS in a timely fashion

10. League Points

- a) Teams will be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss
- b) If a team concedes a walkover (i.e. forfeits a fixture), the winning team will receive the standard 3 points for a win with a scoreline of 10:0, as outlined in 6.c) above
- c) In the case of a tie on points, the position in the League table will be determined by direct comparison of the fixture results, then goal difference and finally by goals scored. If any of these results include a win via forfeit, these will be excluded when calculating final placings

11. League Deadlines and Fines

- a) Failure to complete a fixture by **Wednesday 12th February 2025** will result in a £25 fine for each team involved in the fixture
- b) Failure to update SSS Playwaze with result will result in the 'home' team being fined £25

12. British University Handball Championships

- a) The British University Handball Championships (BUHC) is a two-day event over a designated weekend (**8th-9th March 2025**) at a centralised venue determined by the BUCS

main office and England Handball Association. Qualifiers for the 'Cup' and 'Trophy' competitions take place on Day 1 and Finals on Day 2

b) The BUHC competition level entered by a team (Cup or Trophy) depends on their finishing position in the Scottish Student Handball League. The top two teams will participate in the 'Cup' competition, the 3rd and 4th placed teams will compete in the respective 'Trophy' event

c) A team that finishes top-four in the Scottish Student Handball League but **does not** intend to compete at the British University Handball Championships **will not** be allowed to participate at Scottish Student Handball League Finals Day 24/25. Their space will be taken by the next best-placed team i.e. fifth-place team in the league

d) The spaces available for the Scottish teams attending the BUHC competition is reviewed annually, please note that the above is subject to change throughout the 24/25 season

