



Urdd Football 2026

General Rules and Regulations

1) Competition Order

Registration will open from 9:00am with games starting at 10:00, running through the day until 16:30. More information about timings will be put on our website.

Games will be a maximum of 6 minutes per half with a maximum of a minute for half time. No additional time due to injuries will be added.

2) Draw

20 Teams competing – 4 Groups of 5

-1st and 2nd from each Group go through to the last 8 of the Cup

-3rd and 4th from each Group go through to the last 8 of the Plate

3) Points in the Group Stages

3 points for winning a game, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a loss.

If teams are equal on points after all games are played the following guidelines will be followed. The order below shows priority:

- Goals scored
- Goals conceded
- Head-to-Head result between the teams
- Toss of a coin between the coaches

If a team withdraws from the competition before completing every game a bye will be given for every game played and to be played. This equates to a 3-0 win for the team still in the competition.

4) Final rounds results

The winner of a final round game will progress to the next round, the losing team will be out of the competition.

If a game is tied at the end of regulation time, the game will be moving onto penalties. Penalties will run as best of 5 and then onto one on one elimination. The players that are on the field at the end of the game must be the ones to take the penalties (the keeper cannot change either).

If a team withdraws from the competition before playing a final round game a result of bye will be given for the game. The opposing team will progress to the next round.

5) Players

- A max of **10** players per team. **7** players playing at one time.
- Players are not permitted to play in a year group that does not include their school year.
- Federalised schools are not permitted to combine and produce a single team
- A player registration form must be filled out with player names and dates of birth before the competition. Click [HERE](#) to register the players.
- If a team cannot field 7 players to start a game the opposing team must field an equal number of players.
- Receiving two yellow cards in a game means the player will receive a red card. A red card will mean the offending player will not be permitted to play in any of the remaining games.

6) Substitutions

- There are no restrictions on number of substitutions, changes can be made during any break in play
- If a player is substituted because of a head injury they must be assessed by the on-site First aiders before being allowed to play again. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that players are assessed.

7) Payment

- Payment of £125 must be made at least a fortnight before the start of the competition.
- Schools are eligible to receive a refund of £12.50 for each player already registered with the Urdd prior to the competition up to a maximum of £125. To claim this refund please contact chwaraeon@urdd.org after the competition.

8) Refereeing

- Referees will be appointed by the Urdd.
- The referee's decision is final. Disrespectful behaviour towards staff or referees could lead to the team being disqualified from the competition. Read more about the Urdd's code of conduct here: <https://bit.ly/CodYmddygiad>

9) Scoring

- Referees will score games. Both coaches must sign off on the score card after each game.

10) Medical

- Players should be aware that taking part in sports competitions brings with it a risk of injuries. We ask that teams bring basic first aid supplies with them such as plasters or sports tape.
- The Urdd will ensure that professional first responders are present at the event to attend and assess any injuries or medical emergencies. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that these services are utilised, and any health concerns are addressed.

-Teams should contact the Urdd mentioning any relevant health conditions of people attending the event.

-The referee is permitted to prevent players from playing if they are worried for their safety.

11) Photography and filming

-The Urdd must be made aware of any pupil(s) who do not want to have their photo taken. More information is available on The Urdd's Photography Policy:

https://www.urdd.cymru/files/8716/5761/7930/Telerau_Ac_Amodau_2022-23.pdf

12) General

-It is the coach's responsibility to ensure their teams are by the pitch on time to play.

-The event will take place in a public area. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure the children under their care behave respectfully. We ask that all rubbish is put in the bins provided on the site.

-Players are permitted to use the Blaendolau fields changing rooms. There will be separate changing rooms for girls and boys. **A responsible adult must be always present with players in these changing rooms.**

-Size 4 balls: Yr.7-8 | Size 5 balls: Yr.9-10

-There is no offside rule

-Throw ins should be taken as usual

-Kick off from the centre of the field to start the game and after a goal is scored, defending team must be 3 yards away and goals aren't permitted immediately from the kick-off

13) Dress Code

- Players to wear appropriate boots, tied correctly in front of the tongue in the appropriate way. Studs will be checked by refs before games.

-No items of jewellery or sharp items in the hair are permitted to be worn apart from for medical reasons.

-All players **must** wear shin-pads.

14) Goalkeepers

-The Goalkeeper must throw the ball from their hands and not kick it

-Drop kicks are not permitted

-The Goalkeeper can hold the ball within the penalty area and there is no limitation on the number of steps they can take

-Goal kicks can be taken off the floor and can be taken anywhere on the edge of the penalty area

-The goalkeeper cannot catch/hold the ball if it's passed back by a teammate

15) Corners and Free Kicks

- All free kicks are indirect. The defending team must be at least 3 yards away from the ball.
- Corner kicks are as standard, but the defending team must be at least 3 yards from the ball.