

SCOTTISH FA



***CLUB ACADEMY SCOTLAND***

***REGISTRATIONS***

***A GUIDE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR  
PARENTS/CARERS TO PLAYING WITHIN THE CLUB ACADEMY  
SCOTLAND PROGRAMME***

This guide is for young people registering to play within the Club Academy Scotland (CAS) Programme.

If you are registering with a club to play in competitions organised by the Scottish Youth FA, Scottish Women's Football or one of the other Affiliated National Associations (ANAs) please contact the relevant ANA by [clicking here](#)

## ***WELCOME***

The opportunity to register with a professional football club can be a great experience that may enhance your football journey and develop you as a player and as a person. However, there are rules about registering to play with clubs in the CAS Programme. It is important that you and your parent(s)/carer(s) fully understand what registering with a CAS club means and how it affects you.

A club registration:

- is not a contract – it's a registration that allows you to play for a club
- does not guarantee you game time
- is not guaranteed every year

It is important you know about the rules regarding registration with a CAS club **BEFORE** signing the registration form. This guide will help you with that. If you need any more information about the rules, please ask your club before signing the registration form, or you can contact the Scottish FA Registrations Department by emailing [registrations@scottishfa.co.uk](mailto:registrations@scottishfa.co.uk)



## YOUR REGISTRATION WITH A CAS CLUB

To play football for a CAS club you must be registered with that CAS club through the Scottish FA. There are different registration rules depending on the level of CAS club you will be playing for and the age group you will be part of.

ELITE LEVEL
Age Groups 10 – 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You can register at 9 years of age, as long as you will be 10 years of age during the year in which you register.</li> <li>The registration will finish automatically at the end of the season.</li> <li>The club must, by the end of the season, confirm to you and your parent/carer in writing if they intend to offer you a registration for the following season. You can then choose whether to register with the same club again or register with another club instead.</li> <li>If the club makes another offer of registration to you, and you don't want to stay at the club for another season, the club may have a right to be paid money for the time you were registered with them, should you register as a professional player in the future. This is called Training Compensation.</li> </ul>

ELITE LEVEL
Age Groups 15 – 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you sign a registration form with an Elite Level CAS club for age group 15, your registration will automatically apply to age group 16. You and the club are therefore making a commitment to each other for the duration of two seasons. If you sign a registration form with an Elite Level CAS club for age group 16, it will apply for that season.</li> <li>If your club ceases to be an Elite Level CAS club whilst you are registered with it for these age groups, the rules applicable to clubs at the relevant CAS grading level will apply to your registration with effect from the date that the new grading applies. Your registration might therefore lapse sooner than would have been the case if your club had remained at Elite Level.</li> <li>Your registration will finish automatically at the end of the season at age group 16, unless you and the club agree to terminate it earlier. You will then no longer be eligible for a CAS registration.</li> <li>When you are 16 years old, the club may offer to sign you as a professional player before the end of your registration period.</li> <li>If the club offers to sign you as a professional player and you don't want to sign, when you leave, the club may have a right to Training Compensation. This will apply if you sign as a professional player with another club and it is to cover the cost of the training you have received. This is payable by your new club to your old club.</li> <li>If you are not offered a professional contract by the time your registration finishes, you will leave the club and the club has no right to Training Compensation if you register for another club.</li> </ul>

PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIVE, PERFORMANCE AND ADVANCE YOUTH
Age Groups 10 – 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You can register at 9 years of age, as long as you will be 10 years of age during the year in which you register.</li> <li>The registration will finish automatically at the end of the season.</li> <li>The club must, by the end of the season, confirm to you and your parent/carer in writing if they intend to offer you a registration for the following season. You can then choose whether to register with the same club again or register with another club instead.</li> <li>If the club makes another offer of registration to you and you don't want to stay at the club for another season, the club may have a right to be paid money by another CAS club for the time you were registered with them, should you register as a professional player in the future. This is called Training Compensation.</li> <li>When you are 16 years old, the club may offer to sign you as a professional player before the end of your registration period.</li> <li>If the club offers to sign you as a professional player and you don't want to sign, the club may have the right to Training Compensation when you leave. This will apply if you sign as a professional player with another club and it is to cover the cost of the training you have received. This is payable by your new club to your old club.</li> <li>Your registration will finish automatically at the end of the season at age group 16, unless it is cancelled beforehand. You will then no longer be eligible for a CAS registration.</li> <li>If you are not offered a professional contract by the time your registration finishes, you will leave the club and the club has no right to Training Compensation if you register for another club.</li> <li>If your club moves up to Elite Level and you sign a Registration Form for age groups 15 or 16 with the club after it becomes an Elite Level CAS club, the rules applicable to registrations for those age groups at Elite Level will apply to your registration.</li> </ul>



## TERMINATING YOUR REGISTRATION

Sometimes during your registration with a club either you or the club may want to end that registration so that you can play football at another club or do something else altogether. The rules about how a registration can be terminated are summarised below.

### ELITE LEVEL, PERFORMANCE PROGRESSIVE, PERFORMANCE AND ADVANCED YOUTH

Your Registration can be terminated:

- If you, your parent/carer and the club agree it should be terminated.
- By your parent/carer during the season, if you are aged 9 to 11 years. You will not be allowed to register for another CAS club for the rest of the season in these circumstances, but you can register with a Scottish Youth FA club to keep playing football.
- By making a request to your club to terminate your registration. In these circumstances, the club will ask you and your parent/carer to provide signed written confirmation that the registration is being terminated at your request. When a registration is terminated on this basis, the club will retain its rights to future Training Compensation.
- If you have played in less than 25% of the games that you were eligible to play in during the season, you or your parent/carer can ask the club to end your registration. If the request is refused, you or your parent/carer can ask the Young Players' Wellbeing Panel to consider your request within 14 days after the end of the season (1-14 July).
- By the club in "exceptional circumstances", e.g. if the club's Academy closes down. If you don't agree with this decision about your registration, you or your parent/carer can ask the Young Players' Wellbeing Panel to decide if your registration should continue.

## THE YOUNG PLAYERS' WELLBEING PANEL REGISTRATION DISPUTES

The YPWP makes decisions about registration disputes for young people playing within the CAS Programme. Decisions will be made in the best interests of the young person, whilst following the Scottish FA's Registration Procedures.

If you have any issues with your registration, you and/or your parent/carer should approach your club's Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer in the first instance. If you are not sure who the Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer is, you can find their details on your club's website or you can contact the Scottish FA Wellbeing and Protection department [childrenswellbeing@scottishfa.co.uk](mailto:childrenswellbeing@scottishfa.co.uk), who will be able to tell you.

If you are unable to resolve the registration issue with your club, you can ask the Scottish FA's YPWP to consider the dispute.

To do this, you or your parent/carer, should email the following information to the Head of Football Governance [registrations@scottishfa.co.uk](mailto:registrations@scottishfa.co.uk):

- Your name, address and date of birth
- Your parent/carer's name and contact details (email and preferred phone number)
- Your club's details
- The details of the registration issue that you are looking to have resolved

The Head of Football Governance will then arrange for the YPWP to meet to consider the issue as quickly as possible.

The YPWP normally involves three members who are independent and not linked with any club. A meeting will usually take place at Hampden Park, Glasgow and you, your parent/carer and the club will all be told the date and time, so that you can come along. You will also be sent any relevant information that will be considered by the YPWP in advance.

If you would like to attend the meeting, you can bring someone with you who can speak on your behalf. You can also bring your parent(s)/carer(s) and up to two other people to support you. If you have any concerns about attending the hearing or there is anything that can be done to make you feel more comfortable about attending, please let us know and we will try our best to put things in place for you.

The club also has the right to attend the YPWP meeting.

After the meeting, you and your parent/carer will be told the decision of the YPWP in writing by email. The decision of the YPWP is final and cannot be appealed further within the Scottish FA.

## WELLBEING AND PROTECTION IN SCOTTISH FOOTBALL

Regardless of how you are involved in Scottish football, we want you to be safe, have fun and enjoy it. We want everyone to respect and promote your rights, and to take your wellbeing and protection seriously so that you can achieve the best you can.

Should you have any questions or concerns about your registration and/or involvement with your CAS club, you can raise them confidentially and directly with the Scottish FA Wellbeing and Protection Department. To do so, please contact the team by emailing [childrenswellbeing@scottishfa.co.uk](mailto:childrenswellbeing@scottishfa.co.uk) and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

If you would like more information about your rights or further support and guidance, you will be able to find more information on the Scottish FA's 'Information for Young People' webpage [here](#).



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