

QuidditchUK

Team Match-Fixing Policy

The following policy covers competitive matches between teams at official QuidditchUK tournaments and events. This policy affects **all** QuidditchUK tournaments and matches unless specifically stated otherwise.

It is against QuidditchUK policy to intentionally fix the outcome of any competitive fixture, **including intentionally throwing a game**. Starting a game with the intent of forfeiting once it has started is considered match fixing.

In order to initiate an investigation post-tournament a written statement must be written to a member of the Executive Management Team. Please see below for a suggested list of EMT to contact in order of relevance, under **6: Conflicts of Interest**.

1. Right to Fair Play

- a. All teams have the right to expect fair and competitive games throughout a tournament.
- b. All teams are expected to provide a fair and competitive match for their opposition.
 - i. *A competitive match is not based on the perceived ability of a team or player, but the effort that the team or player is putting into play.*

2. Match Fixing

- a. Match fixing is defined as a team determining the outcome of a match prior to that match taking place, and taking actions during the match to ensure that result.
- b. A team **consistently** doing any of the following during an active game may be taken as evidence of match-fixing:
 - i. *Players actively avoiding or not making any reasonable attempt to defend.*
 - ii. *Players actively avoiding or not making any reasonable attempt to attack.*
 - iii. *Players standing still on pitch during an active attack or defense who would be reasonably expected to participate.*
 - iv. *Players **intentionally** taking actions to result in a turnover of a game ball, including but not limited to:*
 1. *resetting the quaffle illegally.*
 2. *carrying or propelling game balls out of bounds.*
 3. *returning or passing game balls back to opposition players without referee instruction.*
 4. *throwing the quaffle without intent to complete a pass or shot.*
 5. *throwing a bludger without intent to incur a knockout or retain team possession of the bludger.*
 6. *intentionally committing fouls to result in dismissals and/or game ball turnovers.*
 7. *making little to zero effort to pursue loose game balls they could reasonably contend.*
 - v. *Players intentionally dismounting themselves despite not being beat or otherwise taken off broom by physical contact.*
 - vi. *Players scoring own-goals where this would not release a player from the penalty box.*

- vii. *Intentionally and knowingly playing an illegal player to receive a single match forfeit under the [QuidditchUK Event Suspension and Discipline Policy](#).*

- c. The following actions are **not** evidence of match-fixing:
 - i. *Intentionally catching a snitch when more than 30 points down. i.e “Cold-Catching”.*
 - ii. *Avoiding physical contact to prevent injury.*
 - iii. *Tactically playing a slow-paced game, provided it is inline with IQA Rulebook 7.4 2018-2020 (Delay of Game).*

3. Match Fixing Motivations

- a. The Head Referee is empowered to use discretion on whether they believe a team is fixing a match, regardless of perceived motivations.
- b. The following is not an exhaustive list, however should a team stand to gain something by match fixing this list should be a guide.
 - i. *Should the accused team lose, they would gain another chance to compete for a British Quidditch Cup qualifying spot in that tournament.*
 - ii. *Should the accused team lose, they would gain another chance to compete for a European Quidditch Tournament qualifying spot in that tournament.*
 - iii. *Should the accused team lose, they would gain another chance to compete for a European Quidditch Cup qualifying spot in that tournament.*
 - iv. *Should the accused team lose, they would gain another chance to compete for medals at the same tournament.*
 - v. *Should the accused team lose, they would gain another chance to compete for a Lower Bracket title at the same tournament.*
 - vi. *If the two competing teams belong to the same club, it shall be considered match fixing if the **non-accused team winning the fixed match** would result in one of the following.*
 - 1. *Qualifying for the British Quidditch Cup*
 - 2. *Qualifying for the European Qualifier Tournament*
 - 3. *Qualifying for the European Quidditch Cup*

4. Penalty Procedure

- a. Should a Head Referee believe that a game is match-fixed before it begins it is their responsibility to investigate and action the following:
 - i. *They must not start the game until after the investigation.*
 - ii. *They must confer with their Referee Team, Pitch Manager, AND Tournament Director.*
- b. Should the Head Referee, Pitch Manager, AND Tournament Director unanimously agree that the match is indeed fixed:
 - i. *The Head Referee must address the Captain and inform them that they believe the match is fixed.*
 - ii. *The accused team will receive a forfeit for the current and any subsequent games in that tournament.*

- iii. *QuidditchUK will be informed to launch a full investigation into the Match Fixing.*
- iv. *The accused team may also lose their qualifying spots for British Quidditch Cup, European Qualifying Tournament, and European Quidditch Cup.*
- c. Should the Head Referee believe at anytime that a live game is being fixed, it is their responsibility to investigate and action the following:
 - i. *They must call a brooms down.*
 - ii. *They must confer with their referee team AND the Pitch Manager*
 - iii. *They must discuss all aspects of the game against this policy, including motivations and benefits the team would have for Match Fixing.*
- d. Should the Head Referee AND Pitch Manager unanimously agree that the match is indeed fixed:
 - i. *The Tournament Director must be informed.*
 - ii. *The Head Referee must address the team and inform them that they believe the match is fixed.*
 - iii. *The Speaking Captain will receive a Red Card.*
 - iv. *The Speaking Captain will also receive a **minimum** one match ban.*
 - v. *QuidditchUK will be informed to launch a full investigation into the Match Fixing.*
 - vi. *The game may continue.*
- e. Should Match Fixing behaviour continue **after** the Speaking Captain has been penalised:
 - i. *The Head Referee must call brooms down.*
 - ii. *They must confer with their referee team, Pitch Manager, AND Tournament Director.*
- f. Should the Head Referee, Pitch Manager, AND Tournament Director unanimously agree that the match is fixed:
 - i. *The team accused of Match Fixing will forfeit the current and any subsequent games in that tournament.*
 - ii. *The team accused of Match Fixing may also lose their qualifying spots for the British Quidditch Cup, European Qualifying Tournament, and European Quidditch Cup.*

5. Double Match Fixing

- a. This applies regardless of whether the teams are from the same club or not.
- b. Should the Head Referee suspect at anytime **that both competing teams are suspected** of fixing the match.
 - i. *The Head Referee must call brooms down.*
 - ii. *The Tournament Director must be informed.*
 - iii. *They must confer with their Referee Team, Pitch Manager, AND Tournament Director.*
- c. Should the Head Referee, Pitch Manager, AND Tournament Director unanimously agree that the match is indeed fixed:
 - i. *The Head Referee must address both Captains and inform them that they believe the match is fixed.*
 - ii. *Both teams will receive a forfeit for the current and any subsequent games in that tournament.*
 - iii. *QuidditchUK will be informed to launch a full investigation into the Match Fixing.*

- iv. *Both teams may also lose their qualifying spots for British Quidditch Cup, European Qualifying Tournament, and European Quidditch Cup.*

6. Conflicts of Interest

- a. In the case of conflicts of interest or unavailability by any decision making party, the following may step in to make a decision, in the following order:
 - i. *The Tournament Gameplay Director*
 - ii. *The QuidditchUK Gameplay Director*
 - iii. *The QuidditchUK Teams Director*
 - iv. *The QuidditchUK Events Director*
 - v. *The QuidditchUK Vice-President*
 - vi. *The QuidditchUK President*

If you have any questions on this policy, please contact us here - www.quidditchuk.org/contact