

## FAQs

### **1. Why has the FAW decided to re-open the 2020/21 season Amateur Registration Period ?**

It has been acknowledged that the Amateur Registration Period originally closing a few days prior to the resumption of organised outdoor sporting activity for children was unfortunate and unintentional timing. The closure may have unfortunately left a small number of younger players unable to register or participate due to missing the deadline.

With the overriding objective of ensuring younger players can register and participate safely and in compliance with applicable Rules and Regulations, it has been agreed for it to reopen temporarily and with caveats. The caveats ensure the protection of sporting integrity.

### **2. When is the 2020/21 season Amateur Registration Period re-opening and when will it close ?**

The Amateur Registration Period will open at 00.01hrs on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April and will close at 17.00hrs on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Any registrations submitted after this time will not be processed.

### **3. Which players can be registered during the re-opening of the 2020/21 season amateur player registration window ?**

Only mini, junior and youth players born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2002 can register during the temporary 2020-21 Amateur Registration Period. Registrations submitted in respect of players born on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2002 will be rejected.

### **4. Are any leagues excluded from being able to register players during the re-opening of the 2020/21 season Amateur Registration Period ?**

Players that are old enough to participate in the Cymru Premier/Cymru North and South and Cymru Development Leagues will not be allowed to register for clubs that participate in these leagues during the re-opening of the 2020/21 season amateur player registration window, as these leagues are all subject to the Professional Player registration window that is currently closed. These Clubs will however be permitted to resume registering players in Academic Years 1 to 11 for their respective academies and/or junior teams only.

Clubs in the WPWL are also excluded from registering any players to protect the integrity of that competition.

### **5. What fee will need to be paid to register a player during the re-opening of the 2020/21 season Amateur Registration Period ?**

In order to be consistent with the fees that have applied to date, all player registrations processed during the temporary registration window will attract the relevant charge (16 years and above: £10; Under 16 years old: £5) which needs to be paid within 7 days.

### **6. When will the 2021/22 season Professional Registration Periods and Amateur Registration Period open?**

The 2021-22 Professional Registration Periods will be as follows:

- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to 23:59:59 on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021
- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 23:59:59 on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

The 2021/22 season Amateur Registration Period is due to open at 00:01 hrs on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and will close at 17:00hrs on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

## 7. What players registration fees will apply for 2021/22 season ?

All amateur player registrations on COMET are now continuous, which means that a player's registration will continue with the same club until such time as the player either transfers to another club or the player's registration is terminated.

Please note that all players that remain registered on COMET when the 2021/22 season amateur player registration window opens, **will not be charged a player registration fee for the 2021/22 season**, provided they stay with the same club. e.g. Player is currently registered to Club A on COMET. The player will not need to pay a registration fee for the 2021/22 season whilst he/she remains registered to Club A

However a player registration fee for the 2021/22 season will be triggered in one of the following circumstances:

- If an existing registered player registers for a different club once the 2021/22 season amateur player registration window opens, then he/she will need to pay a new registration fee for the 2021/22 season.

e.g. Player is currently registered to Club A on COMET. When the 2021/22 season registration window opens, he/she then transfers to Club B. Club B will then be charged the relevant player registration fee (Adult and Youth -£10; Junior & Minis - £5) for the 2021/22 season which will need to be paid within 7 days.

- When an un-registered player is registered on COMET, then the player's club will be charged the relevant fee.

e.g. Player is not currently registered on COMET and registers for Club A when the 2021/22 season registration window opens. Club A will be charged the relevant fee (Adult & Youth -£10; Junior & Minis - £5) and will need to pay this within 7 days.

## 8. Can a player train with a club if he/she is not registered on COMET ?

Yes an un-registered player can train with a club, but the player will not be covered by the FAW's Personal Accident Insurance Scheme as this only covers registered players.

Please note that a player should only train with the club he or she is currently registered with as training with a different club could constitute a breach of FAW Rules and/or Regulations in respect of notice of approach.

## 9. Can an unregistered player play in a friendly match ?

No, only registered players can play in friendly matches.

## 10. If a player is registered on COMET, is he/she covered by the FAW's Personal Accident Insurance Scheme ?

A player will remain covered by the FAW's Personal Accident Insurance Scheme throughout the time he/she is registered on COMET.

If the player's registration is terminated, the insurance cover also terminates. If the player then re-registers, his/her insurance cover then restarts.

**11. What happens to a player, if his/her player registration fee for the 2020/21 season has not yet been paid ?**

As soon as a player's registration is confirmed, the player's club has 7 days to pay the fee. If the fee is not paid within 7 days, the player is ineligible to play in any competitive or non-competitive match until such time as the player's registration fee has been paid.

In respect of the 2020/21 season:

- 90% of the player registration fees have been paid; and
- 10% of the player registration fees remain unpaid.

Even though a player will not be charged a fee if he/she remains registered with the same club for the 2021/22 season, a player with an unpaid player registration fee relating to the 2020/21 season will not be able to play in any future match until their 2020/21 season fee has been paid by their club.

**12. Can a club play a fixture against a team outside of Wales?**

Yes, a fixture can be played against a team based outside of Wales providing it is sanctioned by the relevant league or Area Association. This fixture can take place at the home team's venue in Wales or at the opposition team's venue.

**13. Can my club organise tournaments or festivals?**

Due to the Welsh Government COVID-19 restrictions in place on mass gatherings and events, club organised tournaments or festivals will not be permitted to take place prior to the start of the 2021/22 season. As a result, only festivals or tournaments sanctioned by the league or Area Association, as part of a league fixture programme, are permitted to take place.

**14. Can my club participate in tournaments or festivals outside of Wales?**

Clubs will not be permitted to participate in tournaments or festivals outside of Wales to remain consistent with guidelines on tournaments or festivals held in Wales.

**15. When will 2021/22 season competitions start?**

The FAW and the Area Associations remain committed to starting the 2021/22 season as early as is practicably possible and planning is already well advanced in relation to this matter.

Whilst it will be the competition organiser's decision as to when they will start their 2021/22 season competitions, please note the following:

- All adult competitions **will be permitted** to start anytime from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021; and
- All junior and youth competitions **will be permitted** to start anytime from 7<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

Please note that the above is subject to the Welsh Government's COVID-19 guidelines prevailing at the relevant time.

**16. Do clubs need to pay an affiliation fee for the 2021/22 season ?**

All clubs that affiliated with either the FAW or with an Area Association for the 2020/21 season **will not need to pay** a fee to affiliate for the 2021/22 season.

New clubs **will need to pay** a fee to affiliate for the 2021/22 season.

**17. What has happened to the competition entry fees clubs paid in relation to 2020/21 season competitions that were cancelled ?**

All competition entry fees paid in respect of the 2020/21 season have been received by the relevant competition organisers.

In respect of 2020/21 season competitions that were cancelled:

- if you have not requested a refund of your 2020/21 season competition entry fee, then your competition organiser will apply your entry fee to the 2021/22 season equivalent competition and you **will not need to pay** a fee to enter the same competition in 2021/22 season.
- If you received a refund of your 2020/21 season competition entry fee, then you **will need to pay** to enter the 2021/22 season equivalent competition.

**18. My club did not enter a competition in 2020/21 season but now wants to enter the equivalent competition in 2021/22 season. How do I enter ?**

Those that did not enter a competition in the 2020/21 season will be able to pay to enter the 2021/22 season equivalent competition once the entry process has opened on COMET. As soon as the competitions have been set up on COMET, clubs will be notified.

Please note that each competition will have a deadline for clubs to enter and we kindly request that all deadlines must be respected.

**19. What training and support will the FAW provide to help clubs, referees, and competition organisers so that they can confidently use COMET on match days ?**

The FAW will provide all training materials and will also arrange webinars (which will also be recorded) to provide step-by-step training for all clubs, referees, and competition organisers.

The FAW will also provide a match-day help desk to assist with any queries.