

# Official Match Qualification Requirements

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## **Part A – Definition and Sanctioning of Official Match**

An 'official' match means any match between two registered QAI Tournament Member teams.

Any match between two QAI Tournament Member teams consisting entirely of eligible QAI Trial, Half-Yearly or Full-Yearly QAI Individual Member players will be automatically considered official unless both teams agree for the match to remain unofficial or the Gameplay Department finds reason at their discretion to not award the game official status.

All official matches count as one match towards fulfilling National Championships eligibility requirements, and will be fully covered by QAI Insurance.

## **Part B – List of Requirements**

The following is a precise but concise list of all requirements that any match must meet to qualify for official status:

- QAI Event Sanctioning and Insurance Coverage
- Completed QAI Membership registration and payment for both teams and all players.
- Strict adherence to the rules as laid out in the current QAI endorsed Rulebook and any potential QAI amendments
- A minimum of six Gameplay sanctioned assistant referees:
  - 2 goal refs
  - 2 assistant (bludger) refs
  - 1 snitch ref
  - 1 scorekeeper
- Precisely correct field markings:
  - Correct field dimensions
  - Goal lines and keeper lines
  - Hard Boundary size may be altered within reason if situations demand it.
- Regulation equipment:
  - Game Balls
  - Hoops
  - Brooms
  - Headbands
  - Jerseys
- Minimum match data:
  - Date
  - Time
  - Location
  - Referees

- Snitch Runner
- Captains
- Squads
- Starting line-ups
- Goal-scorers
- Cautions and Sending offs
- Final score including snitch catch
- Captains and Head Referee signatures

## **1. QAI Event Sanctioning and Insurance Coverage**

### *1.1. Insurance Coverage*

a) The QAI can provide insurance coverage to events provided that all participating players are QAI Trial, or Full Members. As any official match requires all players to be Trial Full Members, any individual match or event featuring all official matches will always be fully eligible for coverage.

### *1.2. Event Sanctioning Application Form*

a) To sign up for insurance coverage, a Tournament Director must fill out the QAI Event Sanctioning Application Form. This form provides your event QAI sanctioning, including confirmed insurance coverage for the event and QAI marketing and advertising for the event.

b) To qualify for official status, a match must be fully insured. Therefore, the Event Sanctioning Form MUST be completed for a match to be considered official.

## **2. Strict Adherence to QAI Rules and Policies:**

### **2.1. Membership**

a) For a match to qualify for official status, the teams involved must both be QAI registered Basic or Tournament Member Teams.

b) For a match to qualify for official status, the players involved must all be QAI registered Trial or Individual members. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure this criteria is met. A team who fields an ineligible player will be disqualified and the match will be recorded as a 150\*-0 forfeit result.

As all matches between two Member teams are automatically official, any time a team fields any ineligible player against a fellow member team will count as a disqualification.

c) For a match to qualify for official status, the playing conditions and equipment must abide by all relevant QAI Gameplay and Risk Management policies, including but not limited to the Equipment Policy and the Extreme Weather Policy.

## *2.2. IQA Rulebook 2016-18*

a) For any match to qualify for official status, it must be played in strict adherence to the full USQ Rulebook Version 8.0. This rulebook is the international standard for competitive quidditch and Australia follow it with no exceptions of amendments.

## **3. QAI/IRDP Fully or Provisionally Certified Head Referee (where possible):**

### *3.1. Certification*

a) Where available, an official IRDP fully or provisionally certified or State certified referee MUST be chosen. Only in cases where there are no such referees available, may other candidates be selected.

b) For a single match, any applicable certified Head Referee who puts their hand up as available must be used for a game to be ranked. Only if no single certified Head referee is available may other candidates be considered.

c) In tournament play, available certified Head Referees must be prioritised to official matches and given the maximum number of matches deemed possible or appropriate by the Tournament Director. Only if a shortage of certified Head Referees results in not all matches being covered may other candidates be considered for some matches.

### *3.2. Non-certification contingency procedure*

a) If no certified head referee is available, a Tournament Director should attempt to appoint a Head Referee with the most match experience possible and/or the most progress through the IRDP certification program as applicable. Tournament Directors always have full jurisdiction over their referee rosters, however Gameplay may advise that they do not clear a given head referee for ranked play and so will not consider the match official at its discretion, if they deem the prospective referee to be not sufficiently qualified or experienced.

### *3.3. Official Match Confirmation and Appeals*

a) Regardless of the certification status of the referee, all matches will only be considered official afterwards when signed off on by the two captains (on the scoresheet) and the Gameplay Department. The department may choose not to award a match official status if it deems the performance of the Head Referee unsatisfactory or unprofessional to a sufficient extent that the final result is deemed to have been severely adversely influenced.

b) The final call on the official status of the match comes from the Gameplay Department. If either captain does not sign the scoresheet, it does not prevent the match being considered official. In this instance, that team is considered to have not considered the officiating satisfactory and constitutes an appeal of the result. The Gameplay Department in this instance will investigate and make a judgement on the match and may call the captain/s to provide a justification of their appeal before making a decision about the status of the match.

#### **4. A minimum of six Gameplay sanctioned assistant referees:**

##### *4.1. 2 goal refs, 2 assistant (bludger) refs, 1 snitch ref 1 scorekeeper*

a) A mandatory minimum of 2 goal refs, 2 assistant (bludger) refs 1 snitch ref and 1 scorekeeper must be present to officiate on a match in order for it to qualify for official status. No game will be considered official if this requirement is not met.

##### *4.2. Selection*

a) It is recommended that Assistant referees are pre-selected well before the tournament day as Head Referees are. This is not required, however teams who are the primary providers of Assistant Referees for a slot may face sanctions relating to their participation in the tournament if they are not sufficiently organised to ensure games begin on time.

b) A match may not be considered for official status if the Gameplay Department, at their discretion, considers the Assistant Refereeing team for a match not up to sufficient standard. Tournament Directors are encouraged to roster Assistant Referees with the appropriate IRDP testing qualification.

c) For QAI run tournaments, the Gameplay Department will pre-select all assistant referees. For all other tournaments, the Tournament Director has jurisdiction but should submit their selections for approval from the Gameplay Department to ensure all games will qualify for official status.

##### *4.3. Additional Assistant Referees*

a) Additional referees, such as a third assistant (bludger) referee or more, are recommended, especially for major tournament matches, but not mandatory.

## **5. Correct field dimensions and markings**

### *5.1. Key lines and marking*

a) The field size must be precisely measured and correct. The full dimensions can be found in the QAI endorsed Rulebook. A game with any error to its playing field, or error considered egregious to its overall playing area, may not be cleared for ranked play.

b) The four corners of the player area should be marked by flags or highly visible cones.

c) Key lines such as the half-way line, keeper line, starting line and goal line must be clearly visible and easily distinguishable.

c) The rest of the outline of both the field and the player area should be marked with paint if possible, or cones distinguishable from those marking the key lines.

### *5.2. Optional marking zones*

a) The defined location of the penalty boxes and substitute areas must be generally followed, however full delineation of the areas with lines or cones is optional depending on availability, but preferable.

b) For ease of field setup, there should be markers delineating the position of the balls and hoops. This must be done with paint in order to provide no obstruction to the field of play. As paint can be a difficult resource, prioritise these markings when gaining access to any paint.

## **6. Regulation equipment**

### *6.1. Game balls, hoops, brooms, safe field markers*

a) All equipment must fully comply with the QAI Equipment Policy. A match can only be considered official if the Gameplay Department clears all equipment used as both regulation and safe. This includes:

- \* Regulation game balls.
- \* Regulation size hoops of a safe approved material and stable base.

\* Regulation brooms. (Individual broom infringements may be punished in-game as per the Rulebook, however the Gameplay Department may choose to not award a game official status if all brooms used are outside of regulation en masse.)

\* Visually clear field and line markers of a safe approved nature.

## *6.2. Player requirements*

a) All players on field at all times must be wearing the appropriate headband colour of their position. It is recommended that players wear traditional round headbands, not tied fabric or bandannas as trailing fabric can be dangerous

b) All players on each team must be wearing matching or near-matching team-colours with a distinct number on the back. It is recommended that all teams play in full formal matching jerseys complete with a clear numbering system and the logos of their team, the QAI and the IQA. However, as a minimum, which team any player is on must be abundantly clear, and there must be some sort of identifying number, letter or symbol on the player's jersey for easy referee and scorekeeper identification. All information on allowable numbers can be found in the USQ Player Number Policy.

## **7. Match data**

### *7.1. Required match data*

a) For a match to be considered official, certain detailed statistical data must be provided. The official match scoresheet must contain all the following data:

- \* Date
- \* Exact start and finishing time of the match
- \* Match Location
- \* Identity of the Head Referee and Assistant Referees
- \* Identity of the Snitch Runner
- \* Identity of both Team Captains
- \* The full playing squads of both teams for the match
- \* The starting line-up of seven players by position of each team, including starting captain if the designated captain does not start the match
- \* Goal scoring log including:
  - \* Identity of each goal scorer
  - \* Rough time of each goal scored (to the minute in real not game time is preferable, but if this cannot be managed, a sequential count of the progress score and goal scorer identity is sufficient as a minimum)
- \* Disciplinary log in the event of any cards awarded, including:
  - \* Identity of cautioned or sent off player

- \* Nature of the offense
- \* Time of the card being awarded (to the minute is preferable, but when the card occurred sequentially in relation to the goal-scoring log is sufficient as a minimum
- \* Final score of the match, including identity of the successful seeker
- \* Head Referee's signature and both captain's signatures.

### *7.2. Delegation of duty*

a) It is the responsibility of the Tournament Director or Match Organiser, in conjunction with the Head Referee and Scorekeeper, to ensure that these details are correct and submitted correctly.

b) It is the responsibility of the scorekeeper to record all in-game data, and to chase-up any preparatory or optional data (eg: Identities of the referees, Result of the Toin Coss) they note has not yet been recorded.

### *7.3. Post-match submission*

a) All match data must be submitted to the gameplay department after a match. If the extent and detail of the data is considered insufficient, the gameplay department may choose to rescind a match's official status.

### *7.4. Optional data for detailed statistics tracking*

a) The QAI Gameplay Department's statistical tracking program aims at providing accurate detailed statistics on each player and team. In order to contribute to the completeness and accuracy of this program, it is recommended that where possible, the following extra data be recorded from a match:

- \* Timing of goals and cards to the second.
- \* Full tracking of substitutions, including the exact time, to the second, of every substitution made, and the identity of both the existing and entering player.
- \* Exact length, to the second, of any stoppage in play.



# **Recommended Procedure to Qualify a Match for Official Status**

This list is not exhaustive and one may hold an official match that does not necessarily comply with this timeline directly. However it does provide a useful guide as how to best qualify a game. The Gameplay Department holds the right to reject a match's qualification if we feel it has not been run properly.

## **Procedural Timeline**

### **BEFORE**

#### **a) Tournaments**

- -1 month
  - Event Sanctioning Form must be completed.
- -2 weeks:
  - Final selection of field the tournament will be played on must be confirmed.
- -1 week:
  - Full roster of Head Referees for the tournament must be appointed.
  - Specific locations for the pitch or pitches must be designated.
  - Basic schedule must be confirmed, outlining exact hours of play.
- -3 days
  - Final match schedule must be locked in.
  - Season rosters for all participating teams must be updated to include any players selected and slated for the tournament. If a player is still absent from a team's season roster after this point, she cannot play in the tournament.
  - Head Referees for every match must be appointed.
  - Team-by-team Assistant Referee slots must be confirmed (where applicable.)
  - All hoops, game balls and (where applicable) uniform provided brooms to be used for the tournament must be finalised.

#### **b) One-Off Matches**

- -2 weeks:
  - Event Sanctioning Form must be completed.
- -1 week:
  - Final selection of field the match will be played on must be confirmed.
- -3 days
  - The Head Referee for the match must be scheduled.
- -1 day:

- Season rosters for both participating teams must be updated to include any players selected and slated for the match. If a player is still absent from a team's season roster after this point, they cannot play in the match.
- All hoops, game balls and (where applicable) uniform provided brooms to be used for the match must be finalised.

### DURING

- Care must be taken to adhere strictly to the rules.
- Five qualified assistant referees must be selected by the Tournament Director.
  - The Tournament Director or Match Organiser may select the Assistant referees at their discretion. The Gameplay Department's official roster of 'sanctioned assistant referees' will be provided for any Tournament Director or Match Organiser to select from where possible.
  - If no 'sanctioned assistant referees' are available, the Tournament Director or Match Organiser may select the best assistant referees they can find, at their discretion. The Gameplay Department may choose to clear or reject the official status of the match at their discretion based on the identity of these assistant referees.
- All required field markings must be made, with cones or flags at least, plus paint if possible.
- All equipment must remain regulation through the match or be replaced if it becomes deficient.
- The scorekeeper, with assistance from the goal referees and head referee where applicable, must ensure all required data is vigilantly kept.

### AFTER

#### **a) Tournaments**

- +1 day:
  - The identity of the tournament winner must be reported to the Gameplay Department.
- +3 days:
  - All final scores (including identification of the teams who caught each snitch) and standings tables must be submitted to the Gameplay Department.
- +1 week:
  - All required minimum match data must be submitted to the Gameplay Department.
- +2 weeks:
  - All final optional match data (eg: timed goal-scoring, sub-tracking) must be submitted to the Gameplay Department.

## **b) One-Off Matches**

- +1 day:
  - The final score (including identification of team who caught the snitch) must be reported to the gameplay department.
- +3 days
  - All required minimum match data must be submitted to the Gameplay Department.
- +1 week
  - All Final optional match data (eg: timed goal-scoring, sub-tracking) must be submitted to the Gameplay Department.

### **Notes on the Procedure**

For any tournament coming under QAI jurisdiction (eg: NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS), The Gameplay Department has full responsibility of both scheduling and of ensuring the full procedure outlined above to qualify a match for official status is fulfilled.

For any other tournament or match, the local organisers, under the authority of the Tournament Director, have full responsibility of both scheduling and of ensuring the full procedure outlined above to qualify a match for official status is fulfilled.

The tournament director must submit all relevant information before each appropriate time juncture in the procedure outlined above in order to ensure a match's official status.

Neither the Gameplay Department as a whole, nor its representatives, have any jurisdiction or power over any such tournament or match itself on location. Their jurisdiction is solely over whether any given match fulfils the required criteria and procedures to be considered an official match. In the event of a Gameplay Department representative providing feedback pre-game which suggests that the match is not likely to qualify for official status, the tournament director or match organiser may, at their discretion, either accept this disqualification and proceed with their plans, or act upon the advice of the Gameplay Department representative in order to rectify any problems and ensure official status.

The QAI Gameplay Department, in conjunction with the QAI Committee, may allow any match to be official which does not meet the procedural criteria outlined above at their discretion, in special circumstances.