

## Regulations for the use of Football Turf pitches in FAW / UEFA Competitions 2025-2026

Football Turf pitches may be used in FAW / UEFA competitions subject to the following conditions:

1. The pitch is certified to the appropriate category of performance, as detailed below, and is listed on the FAW's Register of Certified Football Turf Pitches.

Competition Categories	Category of certification		Minimum playing pitch size	Certification period
	Initial certification	Subsequent certifications		
<b>JD Cymru Premier &amp; JD Welsh Cup competitions from Round 1.</b>	FIFA Quality	FIFA Quality	100m x 64m	3 years
<b>FAW Tier 2 and Tier 3, Adran Premier, FAW Women's Cup from Quarter-Final.</b>	FIFA Quality	FAW Quality Standard In accordance with the FIFA Quality field test requirements other than:	100m x 64m	3 years
<b>All other domestic FAW and Area Association competitions.</b>	FIFA Quality	FIFA Quality Standard or FAW Standard (see below)	Minimum playing pitch size must comply with competition rules and meet the FAW Standard Register Test as a minimum.	3 years
		Ball rebound		
		Ball roll		
		Surface Regularity		
<b>UEFA competitions – all Rounds.</b>	FIFA Quality Pro	FIFA Quality Pro	105m x 68m	1 year

2. The 3G football turf pitch must be listed on FAW's Register of Certified Football Turf Pitches and be tested to the required performance standard every 3 years and the results sent to [leaguedevelopment@faw.cymru](mailto:leaguedevelopment@faw.cymru) who will then decide on the suitability for use.
3. The FAW reserves the right to spot check a pitch at any time to verify it is still complying with the relevant level of certification. If during a spot check a pitch is found to be non-compliant the FAW may, at its discretion, allow the pitch to be used for the remainder of the season, providing that at the end of the season all necessary remedial works (including resurfacing) are undertaken to enable the pitch to comply with the certification requirements prior to the start of the next season.
4. A field must be retested and certified whenever the Football Turf surface is replaced.
5. The replacement of significant sections of the Football Turf surface may only be undertaken following consultation with the FAW. All repairs must be undertaken using Football Turf of the same specification to that installed. The FAW retains the right to ask a Club to retest the field after such works.
6. The Football Turf pitch, including run-offs, shall be one continuous playing surface. It must be green in colour. All football pitch line markings shall be white and in accordance with the Laws of Association Football. Any other lines on pitches used for JD Cymru Premier or JD Welsh Cup matches shall be masked out prior to a game. For Men's Tier 2 and the Adran Premier, any other white or yellow lines must be masked out. All other coloured lines, such as yellow, red, dark green or blue, although not recommended, are permitted in all other domestic FAW competitions.
7. The runoff of any new 3G Pitch constructed must be at least 3m. (i.e., when measured from the goaline/touchline to the perimeter/barriers of the pitch).

8. The home Club shall allow their opposition the opportunity to use the pitch and train on the surface a **minimum of 45** minutes prior to kick-off and there must not be another game or event on the pitch following the training period.
9. If it is intended to water the pitch before the match, the pitch shall also be watered prior to the training period.
10. The Club using the Football Turf pitch shall advise their opponents at least 24 hours before the match of limitations or recommendations on the types of boots or stud that may be used on the surface.
11. For Tiers 1 – 3 the Club must provide all necessary assistance and data relating to player assessments, injury records, maintenance etc. as requested by the FAW, FIFA or UEFA.

Notes:

- . A pitch must be tested, certified and entered onto the FAW's Register of Certified Football Turf Pitches prior to any competitive games being played. Clubs are advised to ensure the installation programme for a new pitch makes adequate allowance for any bedding-in period recommended by the Football Turf manufacturer prior to the pitch being tested;
- . All tests must be undertaken by FIFA accredited test institutes. Details may be obtained at <https://football-technology.fifa.com/en/media-tiles/fifa-accredited-test-institutes/>
- . Certification to the *FIFA Quality Pro* category is valid for one year. At the end of the 12 months the pitch must be retested.

It is advised that any ground nominated for JD Cymru Premier & JD Welsh Cup competitions from Round 1. FAW Tier 2 and Tier 3, Adran Premier, FAW Women's Cup from Quarter-Final matches for the 2025 -2026 if the current valid Certification expires during the playing season be tested and recertified to the minimum of FIFA Quality level and have a FIFA Quality certificate valid for the duration of the entire competition season (certification to be provided by 1st June 2025).

Any ground nominated for UEFA competitions for 2025 – 2026 season must have the Football Turf tested and recertified to the *FIFA Quality Pro* level and must have a FIFA Quality Pro certificate valid for the duration of the entire competition season (certification to be provided by 1st June 2025).

- . The following terms and definitions apply to this Regulation:

<b>Football Turf</b>	The term used by FIFA to describe long pile (3G) synthetic turf surfaces designed for football.
<b>FQP</b>	FIFA Quality Programme for Football Turf
<b>FQP 2015 Manual</b>	FQP Handbook of Requirements, 2015 edition
<b>FIFA Quality</b>	Combining a stringent regime of durability, resistance, safety and performance tests, pitches that are awarded the FIFA QUALITY mark fulfil the specific requirements for recreational, community football.
<b>FIFA Quality Pro</b>	<p>Pitches with the FIFA QUALITY PRO mark are specifically tested to mimic the high performance and safety requirements for professional football.</p> <p>A FIFA Quality Pro field must be surfaced with a FIFA Quality Pro compliant Football Turf.</p> <p>Note: A Football Turf may be certified as meeting the laboratory test requirements of a FIFA Quality Pro and a FIFA Quality product.</p>
<b>FAW Standard</b>	FAW Standard pitches which meet lower FAW Standard testing criteria.

<b>FAW Register of Certified Football Turf Pitches</b>	<p>A list maintained by the FAW of pitches that have been tested and shown to comply with this regulation.</p> <p>Testing of a pitch and applying for it to appear on the register is the responsibility of the Club wishing to play on the field. In the event of more than one Club or team playing on the same pitch each Club or team is required to apply for the pitch to be registered for their use, although the pitch need only be tested once.</p> <p>All costs incurred for the testing of a pitch are the responsibility of the <del>Club</del> facility owner / operator. The FAW makes no charge for the registration of a pitch.</p>
<b>Initial certification</b>	The first time a field is tested and certified to a particular category
<b>Subsequent certifications</b>	All certifications following the initial certification period expiring

