



The UhlSport Cup **(& ISSA CUP)**

2026

All Schools Football Competition

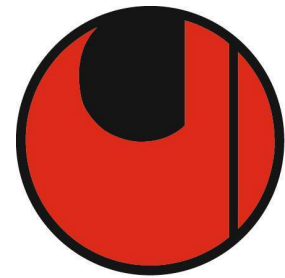
COMPETITION RULES

**(WITH CONTACTS & DRAWS TO BE PUBLISHED ON
WEBSITE: www.uhlsportcup.sportingpulse.net)**



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The Uhlsport and ISSA Cups – 2026

Welcome to the 2026 *uhlsport Cup* for School Boys and Girls in what will be the twenty-seventh year of the uhlsport Cup. The competition is run by the Independent Schools Soccer Association (ISSA), supported by Football Queensland, and proudly sponsored by uhlsport. This booklet includes details pertaining to the rules of the competition throughout the round robin and elimination phases. Draws, results and contact details for each school will be available on the website in the final weeks of term 1. The uhlsport Cup competition is for players 19 years and under [no older than 19 years of age as @ 31/12/26] and will be played in accordance with FIFA rules unless otherwise stated. It is the responsibility of the competing school coach to verify ages of all squad members prior to any games. Running concurrently will be the *under 14 ISSA Cup* [players no older than 14 years of age as @ 31/12/26] whose rules will reflect that of the uhlsport Cup.

All competitions are conducted over two stages:

- A round robin group stage involving groups of up to five teams, with teams then progressing to the elimination stage. See the finals progression PDF in the 'Document Links' section of the website for which team's progress through to the elimination stage.
 - This will become active once nominations have closed and group allocations have occurred.
- An elimination stage (knock-out) leading to final between the two remaining teams.

The draw is always a difficult process, particularly with respect to geographical location of some schools, and every effort has been made to ensure a degree of parity with respect to travel. Good luck in the competition for 2026.

Cost

- Uhlsport Cup - \$200 per team (includes 2 match balls)
- ISSA Cup - \$75 per team

Conditions

By submitting an entry nomination, schools agree to playing fixtures outside of school hours with reasonable time allowed for travel.

Competition Rules

Group Stage

1. Each game will be 30 minutes each way, 5 minutes for half time.
2. Squads will consist of a maximum of 16 players with **unlimited interchange** applicable at all times.
3. **Size 5 uhlsport balls must be used for the uhlsport Cup (failure by the home team to use uhlsport match balls may result in the loss of competition points).** Size 5 uhlsport balls are recommended for the ISSA Cup also, although not enforced.
4. There is no extra time/penalty shootout in the group stage of the competition.
5. Points will be allocated as follows:
 - Win 3 points
 - Draw 1 points
 - Loss 0 point
6. The draw for the Group Stage will indicate home and away teams as well as the 'play by dates'.
 - The 'play by dates' must be strictly adhered to.
 - i. **Any amendment to by play by date must be submitted to the competition convener must be submitted prior to the final day of the window otherwise a 0-0 draw will be awarded.**
 - ii. Play by dates may differ depending on the size of the group.
7. At the conclusion of the Group Stage, teams will be placed in order according to:
 - Points
 - Head-to-Head results
 - Goal difference
 - Number of goals scored
 - If all of the above are equal then a play-off may be required

Elimination Stage (Knock-out)

1. Rules 1-3 from the Group Stage apply.
2. The draw for the Elimination Stage will be made available as soon as all results are finalised.
 - All knockout fixtures, up to and including the Quarter finals, will still be played on a home and away basis (participants will be notified if this changes).
 - Games after these rounds will be held at a central venue.
3. If, at fulltime the teams are still drawn, then the following will apply:
 - Immediate drop to 7-a-side (regardless of red cards received during the preceding 60 minutes) for the duration of extra time
 - Any of the sixteen players (excluding those given a red card) may take the field during this period of time and will be eligible to take a penalty shot also
 - 5 minutes each way, straight turn around
 - Golden goal rule applies, that is, first team to score during the extra time period is the winner
 - Unlimited interchange
 - No offside
 - If one or more players from either side is sent off during extra time the match shall continue regardless of the fact that there are less than 7 players on the field for either of the teams
 - In the event of no goal being scored then sudden death penalties will take place

General Rules/Further Points

1. Duties of the home team include:
 - Contacting the opposition school to advise where the venue is and negotiate the time and date for the game.
 - Arranging the venue and for a qualified referee (and assistant referees, if possible) to officiate the game.
 - If a qualified referee is unavailable a person agreed upon by both schools must fill the position.
 - Meeting the cost of the referee.
 - Informing the referee of competition rules.
 - Provision of adequate first aid facilities and access to ice. **(This is extremely important)**
2. Individual players may play in both the uhlsport and ISSA Cups for their school, however, they may only play for one team when games are being played simultaneously in both competitions.
3. Any team receiving a forfeit will receive 3 points and the same score that the team directly above them (on the final league table) made against the forfeiting team.
4. Any team(s) failing to play their game on time and without extenuating circumstances will incur a forfeit.
5. If any two teams are unable to come to an arrangement a compromise may be reached through consultation with the competition manager.
6. Results must be emailed to the competition manager within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game by the winning coach or both coaches in the event of a drawn match.

Competition Manager
Ben Sharma
Ph: 0422 056 904
Email: bksha0@eq.edu.au

7. Protests must be forwarded, in writing by email, within 3 days of the conclusion of the match to the competition manager.
8. Schools are responsible for ensuring that supporters are supervised adequately at all games. Failure to do so may lead to suspension of teams from the competition.
9. The competition website will be constantly updated with scores and draws. Please check this site regularly for any and all updates. The website address is www.uhlsportcup.sportingpulse.net

Discipline

- If a player is awarded a red card during a fixture, that player shall receive an automatic one match suspension.
 - It is the responsibility of the both schools to send through details of the red card to the competition organizer.
 - Additional matches may be added if a report from both coaches and the match official are forwarded to the competition organizer within 48 hours and the offence is deemed extreme.
 - All decisions from the competition organizer are final and no appeal will be entered into after this 48-hour period.
 - An email from the competition organizer will be sent to the school organizer and the school principal regarding the length of the offending players suspension.
- There are no limits on the number of yellow cards a player may receive across the tournament.

Prizes & Sponsorship

1. UhlSport sponsors the under 19 tournaments and have provided a sponsorship package for the competition. This is significant sponsorship for school soccer and it is important that we ensure our sponsor receives value for money. Please try and obtain local publicity wherever possible.
 - **Winning school - \$1500 uhlSport credit**
 - **Runner-up school - \$500 uhlSport credit**
2. All invoices for the 2026 season will be sent towards the end of term 2 or start of term 3.
3. Match balls will be distributed at the beginning of Term 2.