

November 2018

Fitness of Ground or Conditions for Play

6.4 If, prior to the day of the Match, there is doubt as to the potential fitness of the ground the following arrangements must be made:

6.4.1 Advance warning, being at least 24 hours where reasonably practicable, must be provided to the visiting Team and the referee. The visiting Team and referee must be advised as to any potential contingency arrangements.

6.4.2 The visiting Team shall provide details of a point of contact in relation to the potential postponement and shall also advise as to their intended time of departure.

6.4.3 The home Team shall arrange for an independent assessment of the pitch. The assessment should, where reasonably practicable, be made by the Match referee, failing which by another independent person (such as a local referee, referee coach/assessor, Scottish Rugby official or an official from another club).

6.4.4 The assessment shall be undertaken not less than 30 minutes prior to the visiting Team's intended departure time. The result of the inspection shall be communicated to the visiting Team and the referee.

6.4.5 Should the home Team fail to arrange for an independent assessment the visiting Team may do so. Where said assessment indicates the ground to be playable and the home Team has postponed the fixture, the relevant Competitions Committee may investigate as to whether an offence has been committed.

6.5 Where prior to kick-off there is doubt as to the fitness of the ground or the conditions for play, the referee and the Team captains shall inspect the pitch. If any one of these three persons deems the pitch or conditions to be unplayable then the Match shall be postponed. This decision shall lie solely with the Team captains and the referee. The captains shall notify their own Team of the decision.

6.6 Within 48 hours of the decision not to play a Match the home Team shall advise the relevant Competition Secretary as to the reason why that Match was not fulfilled. The Competition Secretary may seek further information in order to decide whether a Complaint should be raised against either or both Teams.

6.7 Where a Team does not own or have rights over its ground, and the ground is declared unplayable by the holder of said rights, written evidence of such decision must be obtained and be made available to the Competition Secretary on request.