



Small Sided Football is coming on to Comet for the 2022/23 Season

For the 2022/23 season, Small Sided Football will be recorded on the Comet system for the first time.

To date, football in Wales has been successfully integrated onto the Comet System in a phased manner, with the last step to bring Small Sided Football onto the system.

Why is this move taking place?

There are a good number of reasons why it will be a huge benefit to Welsh Football to bring Small Sided Football onto Comet which include:

- Ensuring all players and coaches are registered and insured
- Detailed participation data at all levels so you /we can monitor who is playing or not playing and proactively take actions to improve the football experience for our young players
- From a discipline/safeguarding/safety perspective, we can identify who/what/when/where
- You will know the coaches and volunteers that are actively involved and have the required coaching qualifications (including 1st aid) and DBS checks.
- You can use this information to showcase the impact your league are having to partners
- From a coaches perspective, the process is all online and can support with match-day management of player time. A weekly online log will be created to monitor participation across the season.
- It prepares teams and coaches to use Comet with a limited number of functions before fully using the system when reaching junior football.
- Provides crucial and insightful facility data detailing where games are played and importantly the rate of postponement which will help us (and our partners) shape future facility investment.
- Data can be used by our Grassroots Department to provide targeted recruitment programmes (e.g. school programme, informal offers, ...)
- By capturing the relevant data we can have targeted communications with age groups coaches and parents/guardians.
- There will be a consistent approach for all club, league and Area data and competition management

We hope these reasons help highlight the benefits of making this positive move onto the Comet system.



What does this mean for my club?

In order to prepare for the move onto Comet for Small sided football, your club will need to ensure the following takes place on Comet for all of your teams at the Small Sided Football Level:

1. **You will need to add each team participating at each age group to your MyClub section.** A guide on how to add teams to your club page can be found by [clicking here](#).
2. **You will need to enter each of these teams into the relevant competition via MyComet.** A guide on how to enter competitions can be found by [clicking here](#). A full list of Competition entry products can be found by [clicking here](#).
3. **You will need to ensure that all players and coaches/Team Helpers are registered on Comet.**
4. **You will need to ensure that there are people in place that can add a team lineup via the Comet Football app or Comet Web version.** Please note this can be anybody linked to the team (Coach/helper/trusted parent etc) and all that is required is to be able to note which players have turned up to add them to the lineup. **You do not need to add any match events or substitutions.** Please see the guides below on how to carry out this simple process:

[Selecting a team lineup via the Comet Football App](#)

[Selecting a team lineup via the Comet Web Version](#)

[Adding rolling subs via the Comet Football App](#)

[Adding rolling subs via the Comet Web Version](#)

5. **In order to ensure these people can fill in the lineups, they will need to be set up on Comet with a user account with the 'Team Lineup Manager role'.** A guide on how to do this can be found by [clicking here](#).

Small Sided Football Regulations

- As an organisation we completely understand and acknowledge the informal nature of Small Sided football in relation to other more formal levels of the game on Comet. The Small Sided Football Regulations are still applicable when coming onto Comet.
- The Football Leaders and First aid qualified award coach ratio is still 1:16 for all age groups and DBS'd team helpers are eligible to look after teams at this level and can be listed on team line-ups accordingly.
- E.g. if large age group squads are split into a number of teams on a match-day, team helpers can look after SSF teams provided there's a qualified coach at the same location and the ratio is maintained (1 coach : 16 players) – the coach is eligible to complete and be listed on line-ups for multiple teams (it doesn't have to be a separate coach or team helper). This ensures lineups can be listed, it maintains the flexibility required at these age groups and is in keeping with the required Small Sided Football regulations.



- For a copy of the current Small Sided Football regulations please [click here](#).

Selecting Team Line-Ups

Clubs select their team on the web version or COMET Football app. If your league will be uploading a single fixture at each venue week to week, then you will select a single lineup.

If your league will be recording every fixture of the round-robin/festival style format on Comet, the process to record the lineup for each match is still very simple.

As several matches will be played by each team, the club can use the **Previous** button to save time. The team can be picked and players marked as Played at any time from when players indicate they are attending. This can be changed up until the time the club confirms the line-up. It is up to the competition manager when the deadline for confirming line-ups is set.

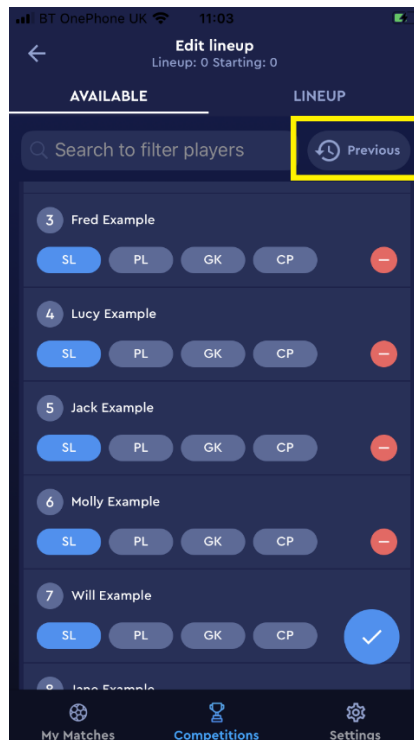
For the first match in a competition only, a club will need to select a team line-up by adding each player from the list of available players and choosing whether they are in the starting line-up or not, as shown below:



For the single fixture format, this is all you need to do.



For adding lineups to all fixtures if the league adds all, the club can save time by simply tapping the **Previous** button as shown below.



This will copy the selected players from the previous match. The team can make any changes to the line-up (by tapping the relevant button next to the player) and tap the tick to add the players to the line-up.

The line-up can be added at any time ahead of the match and changed up to the point that it is Confirmed (as specified by the competition organiser). **These are the only actions that are required of teams on Comet for the coming season.**

Summary

As has been the case with every other level of football so far throughout the Comet implementation, we are confident this process will soon become very familiar and a part of Small Sided football moving forwards, and in return this move will help to deliver on all of the positive outcomes listed above.

If you have any queries regarding this move on to the Comet System, please do not hesitate to raise a help ticket on Comet where a member of the team will be able to assist.

We look forward to a groundbreaking season with you, as the first of over 50 nations worldwide using this system to take this step. This is all down to the hard work and co-operation of volunteers such as yourself working with us to deliver a digital, modern infrastructure, that in turn can help the FAW continue to develop and improve the game in Wales.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you an enjoyable season ahead at Small Sided and all levels of the game in Wales. Thank you for reading.