

# Future Involvement of B Teams in the Scottish Lowland Football League

11th December 2023



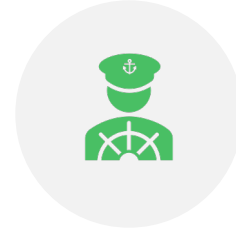
# Background



FOLLOWING A VOTE OF MEMBER CLUBS TO TAKE FORWARD DISCUSSIONS ABOUT A LONGER-TERM INVOLVEMENT OF B TEAMS. THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL HAS BEEN CREATED TO ASSIST CLUBS REACH A DECISION ABOUT THE FUTURE INVOLVEMENT OF B TEAMS IN THE SCOTTISH LOWLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE.



CELTIC AND HEARTS HAVE CONFIRMED THEY WISH TO REMAIN MEMBERS OF THE SLFL AND HAVE COMMITTED TO A TWO-YEAR PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF A FURTHER YEAR EXTENSION.



RANGERS ARE STILL IN THE PROCESS OF REVIEWING THEIR OPERATIONS AND A DECISION ON THE FUTURE OF THEIR B TEAM IS DUE BY THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR.

# Proposed Changes (to be voted on individually)



INCREASE THE AGE TO U21'S



BE ABLE TO PLAY ONE OVERAGED  
OUTFIELD PLAYER, WHO MUST BE  
OVER 32-YEAR-OLD, AND ONE  
OVERAGED GOALKEEPER.



A PLAYER CANNOT RETURN TO BE THE  
B TEAM AFTER MAKING FIVE  
APPEARANCES FOR FIRST TEAM.  
AN APPEARANCE MEANS THEY ENTER  
THE FIELD OF PLAY DURING THE GAME  
AND THIS WOULD ONLY COUNT IN  
DOMESTIC MATCHES.

# Ongoing Consideration

Fixturing of midweek games when B Teams have European matches. This is a complex issue to overcome, if we put rules in place to allow them to have a postponement it is then unfair on our full member clubs who play in other cup games in midweek who would not be afforded the same privilege.

We would ask the Fixture Secretary to try and avoid fixture clashes as much as practically possible.

# Financial - League Running Costs

circa £30,000



Insurance	£9,000
Match Balls	£7,000
Social Media Manager	£5,000
Fixture Manager	£3,000
Honoraria	£3,000
Room Hires	£1,500
Web & Email	£800

# Financial Distribution



B Teams have put forward a fee of £50,000 per team per season for the first two years.

If they stay for a third year this fee would be negotiated.



66% of fees would be distributed equally among the 16 SLFL member clubs.



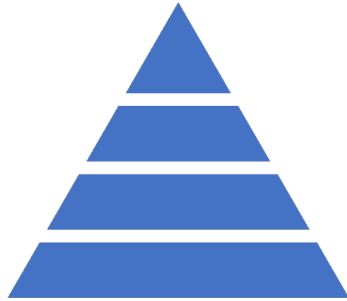
League running costs will be deducted from the 34% retained by the SLFL.

# Fee Table

Entry Fees (per season)	Allocation to full member clubs	Retained by league (per season)
£100,000	£6,125.00 (£4,125.00 directly)	£34,000
£150,000	£8,187.50 (6,187.50 directly)	£51,000

If members agreed to give Rangers a further extension the income from fees would be £150,000.

# B Team Exit Strategy



The SLFL will continue to engage with Scottish FA and other partners to find solutions that continue to enhance the pyramid.



The SLFL must consider the impact of losing the financial support that Guest Clubs provide as part of an exit strategy.



# The next steps



Once the vote has been conducted the SLFL members will be notified of the outcome.



If the SLFL members agree to retaining Guest Clubs the SLFL Board will draft and issue the Participation Agreements to be signed by B Teams by the end of January 2024.

# Questions

