

# 100 Lions - 100 Years

A CELEBRATION - 100 YEARS OF THE SAFA



Scottish Amateur  
Football Association  
CENTENARY EDITION





# Angus Mackay

President of the  
Scottish Amateur Football Association

“*He’s mair interested in fitba than his schuil work Mr Bell*”



These perceptive words were uttered by my, now sadly deceased, mother to my head teacher just as a young Angus Mackay was about to leave primary school for Biggar High School in 1965.

A mother who, despite what could be construed as disapproval, spent the next 35 years washing a football strip most weekends because her son, the blue eyed boy, was the secretary, winger, occasional goalkeeper and frequent substitute for the “local team”.

The “local team” was initially Tinto Boys Club, founded in 1967 with a 14 year old Gus Mackay as secretary and, ultimately, Symington Tinto AFC spawned in 1973 when the local boys team amalgamated with “the amateurs”.

It was, however, in season 1968/69 that the foundations were laid for my “future career in the amateur game.”

Symington won the South of Scotland Cup, my uncle scored the winning goal and young Mackay was “hooked”.

Fortunately for this mediocre “duffer” there is more to amateur football than playing and in 1975, when the then team manager was sacked for rustling sheep and left the village, Symington is a rural area after all, the Club offered me the position of coach. I have held this position in tandem with the Club Secretary’s post for all but 3 of the last 33 years when a brief skirmish with junior football saw me coach at Lanark and Shotts.

Deprived, by a lack of talent of the necessary experience gained by playing the game I turned to the SFA’s renowned coaching courses and, I suppose, became part of the “Largs mafia”, even managing on one occasion to coach the famous Eusebio.

Other highlights for me in the last 30 years

have been Symington’s two South Cup wins, our playing twice in the last 16 of the Scottish Amateur Cup, promotion to the Caledonian League Premier Division, coach to the SAFA international team and most importantly over 1200 games fielding teams with Symington Tinto.

Keen to learn and experience the wider aspects of the amateur game, I was privileged to serve the Lanarkshire Amateur Football Association in the 70’s and 80’s, first as an Emergency Committee Member, then as President and Life Member where early experience and influence came from the legendary Archie Bennie and I had my first dealings with a young Hugh Knapp.

At District level, serving on the South West Committee under the stewardship of Johnston Cox and Duncan Grant gave me an early insight into the workings of the National Association.

Elected to Council in 1996, I was immediately impressed, not only by the sense of tradition that prevails, but also the knowledge, enthusiasm and calibre of the elected delegates who gather from across the country. We truly are a National Association.

After serving on various of the standing committees, I was proud and privileged in 2005 to join an illustrious band and be elected President of the Association, our highest honour.

As we celebrate our Centenary my hope is that, ably assisted by my fellow office bearers, council members and of course our secretary Hugh Knapp the “wee boy from Symington” has made in some small way a positive contribution to “amateur fitba”. 🦁

**President**  
*Angus Mackay*



# George Dingwall

President Elect / Treasurer



**G**eorge started his career in amateur football during 1962 when he became the first Secretary and a Founder member of Gartcosh United AFC. The club joined the Airdrie & Coatbridge and District Amateur Football League and in 1964, he was elected to the Emergency Committee. In June 1967 he was elected as League Secretary, a position he still holds after 42 years in office.

There has been much change over the years and during Season 1970/71 the league, "Airdrie & Coatbridge & District League" changed its name to "The Central Scottish Amateur Football League". The league had expanded over these years and the new name would reflect the geographical area in which the league was operating. In the years that lay ahead they would consolidate the league's position within the Scottish Amateur Football Association.

It was in 1977 and due to pressure of work that he retired from Gartcosh United AFC to devote his time to the Central Scottish AFL. On retiring, he reflected over those years at club level with the memories of the successes and disappointments that he had experienced in the line of winning and losing. You can never lose the passionate way you feel for your club, and even to this day follows the results and progress of his beloved Gartcosh United AFC.

During the late 70s and early to mid 80s with the game still changing, he led the Central Scottish through further change. A new league set up would be introduced, attracting new entrants and in 1987, the league would change dramatically. A sponsorship deal was negotiated with Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Ltd that continues to this day, and has had immense financial benefits to the league and its member clubs.

George has served the Scottish Amateur Football Association over many years, serving as a member of Council, and being nominated and elected to a number of the Association's Committee's such as the Executive & Finance Committee, Appeals Committee, National Disciplinary Committee (South), International Committee, Constitutional Review Committee,

He was honoured in 1985 when he received Life Membership of the Association.

It was in 1998 that he was appointed Honorary Treasurer of the Association and has enjoyed being involved with the financial operations of the Association during the term in this office. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

**President Elect / Treasurer**  
*George Dingwall*



## Office Bearers

# George Watson

## Match Secretary




**A**s I had to give up playing in the early sixties due to an eye injury I started to referee in 1967 in Stirling & District Amateur Football Association and having been appointed to referee the Mathieson Challenge Trophy on two occasions and as assistant referee twice I was then fortunate to be asked to referee a quarter final tie of the Scottish Amateur cup at Dunipace Juniors ground between Links United AFC and Strathkelvin AFC.

Having enjoyed my refereeing career at amateur level until 1980 I then turned my attention to assisting Stirling & District AFA as match secretary. It was also my pleasure to have served Stirling & District AFA as their President from 1992 to 1995 and from 1997 to 2000 these being experiences which I thoroughly enjoyed.

I also served on the Western District Executive Committee under the chairmanship of the late Eric White gaining valuable experience as secretary of that committee. In 1988 I was asked to act as match secretary of the Scottish Amateur Cup on the retiral of Andrew Laird who had been match secretary being awarded for thirty years.

In my twenty one years as Scottish match secretary I have seen many changes most of which have been to the betterment of amateur football and made many friends in the amateur game over the length & breadth of Scotland and beyond having had the opportunity to travel to Luxemburg with a Scotland party who were competing in the UEFA Regions Cup.

I have been honoured by Stirling & District AFA who awarded me Life Membership and I was granted Life Membership of The Scottish Amateur Football Association in 1999 an honour which is very much treasured. 

**Match Secretary**  
*George Watson*



# Robert W McGechie

## Match Secretary – Scottish Amateur Sunday Trophy



I played football at amateur level from the age of 18 until 27 when injury curtailed my football career. I am proud to say that I was never ordered off during my playing days.

Teams I played for were Dryford AFC, Dukes Head AFC both members of the Lothian & Edinburgh AFA and House O' Hill AFC of Edinburgh Sunday AFA.

After a break from playing football I was tempted back into the administration side of the game mainly Secretary of Queens Retreat AFC, briefly with Ferryhill AFC / Leith United AFC who amalgamated.

I was Secretary of both clubs when they reached the final of the Famous Grouse Trophy but unfortunately I was on the losing side on both occasions.

I joined the Committee of the Edinburgh Sunday AFA in 1984 as Disciplinary Secretary while still acting as a club Secretary and then became League Secretary in 1990 to the present day.

In 1998 I became Match Secretary of The Famous Grouse Trophy which has now been superseded by The Scottish Amateur Sunday Trophy to the present day. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

**Match Secretary – Scottish Amateur Sunday Trophy**  
*RW McGechie*





## Office Bearers

# Hugh Knapp

## Secretary



I was stricken with the football bug at a very early age and graduated from watching senior football to playing with my school Kilmarnock Academy, which was at that time a predominately rugby playing school. Playing with the Academy we entered and won The Brodie Cup, a prestigious competition for local schools in Kilmarnock and District which was a great achievement for a school which concentrated much more on rugby.

Having left school I then played for Bellfield BC who were members of the Ayrshire Amateur FA Youth League before moving into the Ayrshire Junior Leagues with Hurlford United and Maybole Juniors.

I emigrated to Lanarkshire in 1969 and on hanging up my boots I joined Balmore Hydraulics AFC in the Lanarkshire AFA to assist with coaching and training before moving on to manage my local amateur team in Larkhall.

In 1986 I was approached to see if I would be interested in standing for the post of Match Secretary of the Lanarkshire AFA and my appointment to that post in 1986 set me off on a journey through amateur football which has been immensely enjoyable.

I was also appointed as the Lanarkshire AFA Delegate to the Council of the Scottish Amateur Football Association in 1986 and was elected to the South of Scotland Executive Committee, as it was then, before being elected to the Western District Executive Committee in 1988.

I followed Archie Bennie, who was a real stalwart of amateur football for over 50 years, into the post of Secretary/Treasurer of the Lanarkshire AFA on his retirement from that post in 1992. I was honoured to have been awarded Life Membership of the Lanarkshire AFA in 1993, an award I cherish. During my time as an Office Bearer of the Lanarkshire AFA I first crossed swords with Angus Mackay in his capacity as Secretary of Symington Tinto AFC.

In January of 1994 I was fortunate enough to be appointed Treasurer of the Scottish Amateur Football Association a post which was vastly different in its accounting practices than those of the present computerised age.

On Arthur Duncan's resignation from the position of National Secretary in July 1994 I was delighted to accept the offer to step into that post, a position which I have been privileged to hold until the present time.

I consider my position as National Secretary to be a labour of love and I have been extremely privileged to have held this post for 14 years, meeting and making many, many friends during that time.

I never cease to be amazed at the commitment, dedication and enthusiasm of the army of volunteers who contribute week in week out to the well being of amateur football, so hats off to all you lads and lassies who keep our Association alive and well. 🦁

**Secretary**  
*Hugh Knapp*



# Gordon Smith

## Chief Executive - The Scottish Football Association



On behalf of everyone at the Scottish FA, it gives me great pleasure to contribute to this special publication marking 100 years of the Scottish Amateur Football Association.

For any organisation to reach its centenary year is an incredible feat, but for one that represents a membership as large and diverse as the SAFA, it is even more remarkable. I was struck recently at the sheer scale of the amateur game in Scotland when I was asked to do the draw for the The Foster's Scottish Amateur Cup and The Foster's Scottish Amateur Trophy 3rd round draws cup competition. Not only was it the largest draw - in terms of teams - that I had ever seen, it was also remarkable to see teams taking part from right across the country.

I shouldn't have been surprised, of course. Football is, after all, Scotland's national sport. In fact, it is more than that - it is our national obsession. With all the press and media interest in the top levels of the professional game, it would be easy to think that Scottish football is all about the elite levels. To think that, however, would be doing a massive dis-service to the thousands of amateur players who play the game each year. Their participation level dwarfs that of the professional leagues. In that respect, it could be argued that it is the amateur game that ensures that football continues to flourish across our country.


Grassroots and amateur football sits right at the heart of so many of our communities. The teams that play in our amateur leagues and cup competitions are an important expression of local identity and the social role that the teams play cannot be underestimated. The role of football in society and the way in which it can influence people is something that I

am greatly interested in. I firmly believe that the power of football as a force for change is something that we must continue to harness across Scotland.

I have no doubt that the amateur game has a vitally important role to play in developing people as well as developing the game. Football is an incredible sport. Quite apart from the unique experience of camaraderie that you get from being part of a team, football is helping to keep generations of Scots fit and healthy. It is teaching young men and women discipline and respect - and it is helping to give people the confidence to succeed in other parts of their lives.

As the majority of Scots who play football do so at the amateur and grassroots level, we must continue to work with the SAFA and all the amateur leagues in order to increase participation and to develop our players. I never played at an amateur level during my career, I was fortunate enough to progress straight from the youth to professional leagues, however, as I travel the country in my role at the Scottish FA I can see for myself just how important the amateur competitions are and the deep sense of pride that players and supporters have for their local teams.

Harnessing this pride and developing the game is something that I know we can all work together to achieve.

Once again, on behalf of everyone at the Scottish FA, my congratulations to all the players and staff of the Scottish Amateur FA. Here's to the next 100 years. 

**Chief Executive, The Scottish FA**  
*Gordon Smith*





# Hugh Dallas MBE

## The Scottish Football Association



Who would have imagined back in 1982 when I blew my whistle for the very first time at Motherwell Bridgework v Victoria, which included 6 yellow cards and 3 red cards, that nearly 20 years to the day later I would have been standing on the podium in Yokohama Tokyo picking up a medal after officiating at the World Cup Final between Brazil and Germany. People reading this article will find it difficult to believe me when I say that that surreal evening in Japan the memories of my first ever match in Motherwell 20 years previous came flooding back.

I have very special memories of refereeing in the Scottish / Lanarkshire Amateur Leagues and always looked forward to receiving the phone call from Ian Danskin, the then Lanarkshire match secretary, on a Sunday night informing me what task lay ahead 6 days later for the paltry fee of £6, no more now than a gallon of petrol, or if you were doing really well a postcard would drop through the door with a Scottish Amateur Cup tie from George Watson. Cherished memories indeed!

Now working full-time at the Scottish FA in the Referee Development Department, I can appreciate and remember the difficulties, loneliness and vulnerability of officiating on the public parks where officials have little or no protection.

All top referees have come through the amateur grades be it in Lanarkshire, Aberdeenshire, Edinburgh or Tayside and it makes a perfect grounding for what challenges lie ahead for young aspiring referees. Playing amateur football and turning up with all your friends and colleagues can be comforting particularly when you enter an intimidating environment, but as a referee you are always on your own and feel as if you have no support to call on. But what a challenge!


Players and club officials must realise that retaining referees in the early stages of their career is extremely difficult but very important and every effort should be afforded to them in offering support and showing more understanding in what they are attempting to achieve because without referees we have no game.

In refereeing we lose 70/80% of new referees we recruit in their first two years for various reasons but a lot of the reason is because of abuse experienced in the minor grades. A very disturbing statistic.

A referee is a very important part of the game and it is too easy to cast him as the villain when in fact he has a role to protect the players from serious injury, from acts of violence but he also works very hard to keep the players on the field of play and this is where his/her man-management skills are of the utmost importance. There is no difference whether you are refereeing Motherwell Miners v Symington Tinto or Rangers v Celtic, the beauty of our game is the Laws are the same at all levels but certainly the publicity and attention are different. In my days in the Lanarkshire amateurs players could be heard shouting at me "hey Dallas nae wonder you are reffin in the 5th division" which I found amusing because it was the same division they were playing in! But I wouldn't have changed it for the world.

A regret that a lot of referees have is they didn't start their refereeing careers earlier but in those days it wasn't possible because you couldn't play and officiate at the same time, so understandably players chose to play as long as they could, but now changes have been made in the system to allow players to play for example on a Saturday and officiate on a Sunday. This means when they do stop playing they have a few years experience in the refereeing field that allows them to take it more seriously at a higher grade with better chances of accelerated promotion.

When I stopped playing amateur football in Shotts at the age of 23 at no time did I ever imagine that I would go on to officiate at over twenty old firm matches, and have the pound coins to prove it, and referee over one hundred and thirty matches overseas.

Taking up refereeing was one of my better decisions but I am sure thousands of people will disagree...! 

*Hugh Dallas MBE*



# The Origins of the SAFA.



The Scottish Football Association (SFA) had been established in 1873 when eight clubs, of whom only Queens Park survives, formed the Association principally to organise and sponsor a cup competition. At this time there were many other Scottish clubs some of whom were members of the Football Association (FA) established in England in 1863.

The establishment of the FA separated what we now call the rugby clubs from the football clubs as prior to this the rules allowed a mixture of handling and kicking the ball.

There were local leagues and cups, friendly matches and a vast amount of “city” matches whereby select teams from Glasgow or Edinburgh for example would play Sheffield or Blackburn. Basically, clubs established their own prestigious fixture list, and there was no formal league set up until the English League was formed in 1888.

The SFA decided to adopt the FA rules but only after a lengthy debate about the offside rule. Some things never change!

The English League was “professional” though the practice was not adopted into the rules until 1885. The player exodus from Scotland lured by the big wages being offered was soon to become a flood and expedited the formation of the Scottish Football League (SFL) in 1890 and the introduction of professionalism into Scottish football.

Membership of the SFL was by invitation and of the eleven clubs who were founder members, six founded within the first ten years. Notably, Queens Park and Clyde declined offers to join the new League. Eventually, Queens Park, though of course strictly an amateur club accepted the offer

to join the Scottish League in 1900 more through fear of being frozen out of fixtures than for any dilution of their amateur beliefs.

The Welsh Football Association was formed in 1876 followed by the Irish Football Association in 1880.

In 1882 the Football Associations’ of the four countries formed the International Football Association Board to control the laws of the game. The Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) was formed in 1903 when representatives of Belgium, Denmark, France, Holland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland met in Paris, The Football Association declined to attend and the other three home countries were not invited as FIFA could see no reason for separate representation. The FA joined a year later with the other home countries following in 1911. A far cry from the two hundred plus members FIFA boasts in the 21st century.

Football in many guises and degrees of formality was played long before the SAFA was founded. It has often been recorded, that historically whilst Scotland educated its population it failed to feed them. However one of the side benefits of places of education was that they gave rise to sporting opportunity, and there is no doubt the first forms of organised football developed from the churches, schools and universities.

Around 1900 there were leagues in existence formed by local community groups, schools, churches and juvenile associations.

The earliest known records of a football club were of one based in Edinburgh in

## The Origins of the SAFA

1824 when a trainee lawyer, John Hope, organised a season of games on Saturday afternoons for The Foot-Ball Club. The club consisted of members of the legal fraternity and landed gentry and played initially on Dalry Estate, then part of an Edinburgh suburb, and later at Greenhill Park in Bruntsfield. There was an annual subscription of one and sixpence (7.5p). By 1826 the club had eighty five members but no records can be found after 1841.

Of the amateur football clubs that we recognise today, Glasgow University Football Club was established in 1877 closely followed by Edinburgh University in 1878, St Andrews University 1887 and Aberdeen University 1889.

On the basis that the club is the oldest playing a form of football recognisable to day, let us have a closer look at the Glasgow University Football Club. Glasgow University (Caledonian League) joined the SFA in 1878, a membership they have flirted with to the present day, but in their first season when they were drawn against Queens Park in the Scottish

Cup they withdrew leaving Queens a bye. The University side competed in Scottish Amateur Football League in its inaugural season 1901/02.

In 1967 a group of graduates formed the Westerlands club who joined the Scottish AFL (SAFL).

In season 1983/84, the club took their leave of the SAFL and joined the newly formed Caledonian League but left the second team to compete in the SAFL. In season 1989/90, the club also entered teams in the new Greater Glasgow Premier AFL leaving their 3rd & 4th teams in the SAFL, though in 1993 their long standing membership of the SAFL ended.

Honours gained by the club were Scottish Amateur Cup winners in 1927, West of Scotland Cup winners in 1932, Scottish Amateur League Division 2 winners in 1949, 1962 and 1973. In addition they have had eleven amateur internationalists and one player, WW Beveridge, who gained 3 full international caps for Scotland in 1879 & 80.

Club secretary, John Paterson, became President of the SAFL and was elected Vice President of the SAFA in season 1924-25 whilst he was secretary of the club and the first team goalkeeper. Jim Craig, former dentist and Celtic "Lisbon Lion", is one of many senior players who have played for the club.

Besides playing in the various amateur leagues, the club entered the Scottish Cup on occasion, and in January 1960 had the distinction of being defeated 15-0 by the cup holders St Mirren for whom centre forward Gerry Baker scored ten goals. In 2008 they run four teams in amateur leagues, with three teams performing on Wednesdays in the Scottish University League and still hold membership of the SFA. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



A picture of Glasgow University FC taken in 1877 at the start of the SFA



# Scottish Amateur Football Association



Sir Matt Busby

To put matters into perspective and to appreciate the passage of one hundred years since the Scottish Amateur Football Association (SAFA) was formed in 1909, it is imperative to savour a snapshot of the world at that time.

Joseph Rowantree, who gave his name to the progressive think tank The Joseph Rowantree Foundation stated 100 years ago that the social evils facing Britain in the first decade of the 20th century were poverty, war, slavery, intemperance, the opium trade and gambling and described them as “great scourges of humanity”. Britain had a few years earlier lost Queen Victoria who had reigned for sixty three years, the three year long Boer War had ended, the Labour Party had just been formed, and London held the Olympic Games at short notice after a volcanic eruption on Mount Etna had forced the organisers to abandon the proposed venue of Rome.

At first glance it appears little has changed in the world for in 1909 Turkey accepted cash for the loss of Serbia and Herzegovina, an earthquake in France killed sixty people and floods in Mexico caused 1400 deaths.

In Britain, however, the Liberal reformer and Chancellor of the Exchequer, David Lloyd George, introduced the first pensions of five shillings (25p) for those over seventy years, imposed severe taxes on licences for alcohol whilst America was in the midst of “going dry” with an increasing number of States declaring Prohibition.


Hollywood had yet to produce a film. The Apache chief Geronimo died in an Indian reservation, whilst nearer home Louis Bleriot became the first person to fly across the English Channel. The telephone was in its infancy, cars were few and far to

be seen, and women did not have a vote. Commander Robert Peary of the US Navy became the first man to reach the North Pole after six attempts.

Electricity was in its infancy, the Royal Air Service, forerunner to the Royal Air Force, had been formed less than a year previously and a race course at Scone was opened six months earlier. The first SOS was used at sea when a ship went down in the Azores.

In Scotland, a baby by the name of Alexander Matthew Busby was born in Orbiston, Bellshill, Scotland.

The over riding air at this time reeked with the tensions throughout Europe which were about to erupt into world war, the war to end all wars, resulting in the death of ten million people.

Rowantree, could well have made his statement at the start of the 21st century! 



# 1909 - 1917

## Humble Beginnings



The Scottish Amateur Football Association (SAFA) was formed in 1909 when after an initial meeting held in February attended by eighty clubs from throughout Scotland, Queens Park FC, Glasgow & District FP Football League and the Glasgow & District Secondary Schools League met and agreed on its formation. James Allison, President of Queens Park FC, took the chair. It wasn't until January 1910 that the first office bearers were appointed, those being as follows;

President R A Lambie, Glasgow & District FP League, Secretary J W Millen, Hamilton Crescent FP and Treasurer W M Crow of the Glasgow & District Secondary Schools League.

On 28th May 1909, the Scottish Football Association (SFA) discussed a request for membership to the body from the SAFA. This was referred to the Special Committee who reported back in November of that year that a decision would be deferred until a full list of SAFA member clubs was submitted for approval. At this time five SAFA clubs had applied for direct membership of the SFA.

It was not at all unusual to have joint membership as it permitted clubs to participate in competitions organised by the SFA. It is less common today though amateur clubs such as Burntisland Shipyard and Glasgow University retain dual membership. At a meeting on 14th December 1909, the SFA approved the membership of the SAFA and appointed Messrs Liddell and Robertson as their representatives on the SAFA. They were obviously very wary of their new associates as Liddell was Immediate Past President and Robertson was Vice President of the SFA.

Wasting no time the SAFA, in February 1910, asked the SFA to donate a Challenge Cup and badges for annual competition, but in early March of that year the SFA advised the SAFA they understood that some of their member clubs had registered professional players and they must be investigated. Three clubs were expelled from the SAFA, and on 30th March 1910, the SFA agreed to present a cup to the value of £20.00 and the secretary was asked to obtain quotations for the design and cost. The cup finally presented to the SAFA on 27th May 1910, to be known as the Scottish Amateur Cup.

Regardless of the outcome of the request to the SFA, the SAFA proceeded with a national cup competition. Twenty three teams entered the first ever Scottish Amateur Cup competition in 1910 and these are listed below;

Airdrie Lodge  
Allan Glens FP  
Babcock & Wilcox Athletic  
Bellahouston FP  
Creetown Volunteers  
Edinburgh Civil Service  
Hamilton Crescent FP  
Helensburgh  
Hutchison School FP  
John Neilson Institute FP  
Kilmacolm  
Leith Amateurs  
Lennox Amateurs  
Newton Stewart  
Paisley Academicals  
Paisley Grammar School  
Parkside Amateurs  
Peterhead Hibernian  
Pollockshields Amateurs  
Queens Park  
Vale of Atholl  
West Calder Swifts  
Whitehill FP



Twenty three teams entered the first ever Scottish Amateur Cup competition in 1910;

Airdrie Lodge

Allan Glens FP

Babcock & Wilcox Athletic

Bellahouston FP

Creetown Volunteers

Edinburgh Civil Service

Hamilton Crescent FP

Helensburgh

Hutchison School FP

John Neilson Institute FP

Kilmacolm

Leith Amateurs

Lennox Amateurs

Newton Stewart

Paisley Academicals

Paisley Grammar School

Parkside Amateurs

Peterhead Hibernian

Pollockshields Amateurs

Queens Park

Vale of Atholl

West Calder Swifts

Whitehill FP

Newtyle Athletic AFC 1908 - 1909



The competition got off to an inauspicious start when Kilmacolm protested about the ground conditions at their first round tie against Paisley Grammar School. The tie was replayed the following week with Paisley Grammar School winning. The first winners were John Neilson Institution FP AFC who defeated Paisley Academicals by 2-0 at Love Street Paisley in April 1910. Obviously no cup or medals were presented after the final.

The cup was eventually presented to the winning side in December 1911 and the SAFA had specially commissioned solid gold badges presented to the winners. Remarkably, two of the teams, Whitehill FP (Scottish Amateur Football League) then members of the Glasgow & District FP League and Vale of Atholl, current members of the Perthshire Amateur Football Association, are still in existence.

Prior to this Creetown Volunteers had appealed to the SFA against the decision of the SAFA to expel them from membership as they had one registered professional player but this was dismissed. Also in May 1910, the SFA dismissed an appeal from Helensburgh against a decision of the SAFA saying that they never interfered with decisions of member Associations.

In November 1910, the SAFA asked the permission of the SFA to play an international match against England only to be told their request was premature, and when the SAFA endeavoured to arrange a

meeting with the SFA to discuss the matter, this was refused.

By the way, it was only on 1st December 1910 that it was made compulsory for the goalkeeper to have a different coloured jersey from his teammates.

The Annual General Meeting of the SAFA in May 1911 saw three Associations and seventeen clubs in membership, and it was noted with regret that two founder members Paisley Academicals and Kilmacolm had gone defunct.

In December 1911, the SFA advised the Olympic Games Committee that they could not send an amateur football team to Stockholm for the 1912 Games. In the 1908 Games, Great Britain had defeated Denmark by 2-0 in the final.

The 1910/11 Scottish Cup attracted twenty three entries the same as the inaugural competition and the holders John Neilson Institution FP were knocked out in the 2nd round albeit after a protest.

In November 1912, the SAFA again requested permission to play an international match against England and were turned down and told that in future if there were to be such a game, it would be under the jurisdiction of the SFA. The SFA did indeed try to arrange the game for December 1913, but this date was changed several times and then abandoned due to the outbreak of war in 1914.

In March 1913, the SAFA requested the permission of the SFA to play teams on



## 1909 - 1917 Humble Beginnings

the continent. This was agreed to provided they played teams in membership of the International Federation and all details were submitted to the SFA for approval.

December 1913 saw the SAFA requesting affiliation to the SFA, but discussions petered out as did football in general when, on 28th June 1914, The Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife were assassinated in Sarajevo leading to the outbreak of the Great War.


The SAFA AGM in May 1914 reported three Associations and thirty two clubs in membership, and the Treasurer advised the Association was £21.00 in credit. The 1st round of the Scottish Cup was set for 16th January 1915, but no football occurred for another five years. Similarly the initial international match against England to be organised by the SFA was another casualty.



Edinburgh Civil Service Strollers FC 1913/1914

Amateur football literally stopped for the duration of the war, and in October 1917 the SAFA advised the SFA that it was dormant having only one club in membership. Just prior to this the SFA said they would not be appointing delegates to the SAFA.

From the SAFA formation in 1909 until its cessation due to the hostilities in 1914, the three office bearers, President Lambie, Secretary Millen and Treasurer Crow remained unchanged.

The main purpose of the SAFA at this time appeared to be the administration of the Scottish Amateur Cup competition. 



Wellbank AFC 1913/1914



# 1918 - 1939

## Between the Wars



Iceland became independent from Denmark, Lenin, followed by Stalin lead the Russian Revolution, Alcock & Brown flew the Atlantic non stop. It was the era of the flappers, The Charleston, and Depression on both sides of the Atlantic. Troubles were brewing in Ireland with the rise of Sinn Fein, and fascism grew under Mussolini in Italy and Hitler in Germany. Eric Liddell won the 400metres gold medal in the 8th Olympics held in Paris in 1924.

At the May 1919, AGM, there were three Associations and forty three clubs in membership, and whilst the President and Treasurer were re-elected, J Taylor of Albert Road FP was appointed Secretary, a position he was unable to occupy due to his mobilisation into HM Forces. The President stood in for the Secretary in the short term. On his demob Taylor immediately got involved with SAFA and was appointed Vice-President in 1928, Treasurer in 1929 and then served 3 years as President from 1930.

In May 1919, the Football Association (FA) asked the SFA to play the elusive first international match the following season, but they had to decline as Queens Park refused to release their first team players as they would have a fixture on the proposed date. In May of that year the SFA instructed the SAFA to remove the need for two SFA representatives on the SAFA Committee. I do not think this was because the SFA felt that the SAFA were competent to run themselves, more likely they felt it was simply not necessary as the SFA had the final word on any request from the member Leagues or Associations and used that facility ruthlessly.

By October 1919, twenty three new clubs had entered the Association though five others had dropped out. The 1921/22

Scottish Amateur Cup was won by Greenock HSFPA after a replay against Coldstream, the first game at Cappielow Park, Greenock attracting 3000 spectators.

In March 1922, the SFA turned down the offer of an amateur international fixture against the French FA and a further approach from the FA was met with a similar response.

In April 1924, the SAFA again asked to play an international match against England only to be told that a team without Queens Park players was not in the national interest.

However the SAFA agreed in August 1926 that an amateur international match would take place against England on 18th December 1926 in Leicester. The Scottish team consisted of seven Queens Park players, one from the Army and the other three from English senior teams. Three days before the game the SAFA President and Secretary were invited to attend the game. Scotland won 4-1 and the expenses came to £291.19.2 (£291,97)

In December of that year, the SFA announced that they would be altering the Articles of Association to incorporate the necessary changes which meant that, from season 1927/28, the SJunFA and the SAFA were to be National Associations affiliated to the SFA. Each Association would be given a vote at SFA Council Meetings and the SFA was to set up an Appeals Committee to deal with appeals from each body. There would be no appeal against decisions which might delay cup competitions and defaulters would be liable for expenses in addition to the £5.00 Appeal Fee.

This was a major step forward in the development of the SAFA.





## 1918 - 1939 Between the Wars

In 1927 P Buchanan, President of the SAFA was appointed delegate to the SFA, a complete reversal of the procedure set up in 1910.

In 1928 the SAFA hired a room from the SFA for meetings at a charge of £5.00 a year, and the SFA announced that any players in unauthorised football might apply to the SFA for reinstatement before 30th June to enable them to play the following season.

The second international match v England took place in May 1928 with Scotland winning 3-2 and showing a profit of £446.7.0 (£446.35). On this occasion there were eight Queens Park players, two anglos and I McDonald from Murrayfield Amateurs in the team.

In early 1929, the SAFA asked the SFA if they could play internationals against

Ireland and Wales, and these went ahead in October 1929, when Scotland beat Ireland 3-0 and in February 1930, when Wales were defeated 1-0.

The international team to play England in April 1931 included Queens Park goalkeeper R G C Peden. On qualifying as a teacher, Peden took up an appointment in Dundee and turned out for Midlands AFA side Hillcrest as a centre forward. In November 1932, he scored five goals in a 7-2 victory over Arbroath HSFP.

Returning from the international match v England in March 1931, the train carrying the players and officials was in a crash at Leighton Buzzard where six people were killed, many injured, but fortunately the Scottish party were unscathed.

In 1932 the SAFA were invited to have two representatives on the SFA Selection

Committee and dates for the internationals against the three other home countries were established. The SFA decided that the players who represented their country would receive a gold medal. R Gillespie of Queens Park, who had captained Scotland in the historic first amateur international against England, was once again selected for the forthcoming international and was also capped and captained Scotland in the full international against France later that year.

In February 1934, the SAFA met with the SFA to discuss what we would now find politically incorrect, "midget football", but this was rejected by the SFA as being adequately provided for. This was of course youth or under age boys football as we know it today.

At dawn on the 1st September 1939 when the jackboot crossed the Polish border, Britain, after issuing two ultimatums to Germany declared war and thus began the Second World War.

At the behest of the Government, in September 1939 the SFA declared all football in Scotland be suspended but minor associations could continue. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



Coldstream FC 1923/1924



# 1940 - 1945

## The War Years




The horrors of the Second World War were ended by the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The United Nations were formed and General de Gaulle was elected President of France. Winston Churchill, admired as a world statesman and leader of the allied forces throughout the war, was defeated in the 1945 General Election and Clement Atlee became Prime Minister of Britain.

During the war years an Emergency Committee was formed to run the SAFA affairs and some interesting matters were unearthed. In 1942 four players from Law Boys Guild were suspended "sine die" for betting on the outcome of a game against Larkhall Rangers. Whilst in 1943, a James Ashwood of Coatbridge Thistle was suspended "sine die" for playing whilst a professional and having forged a reinstatement certificate.

By 1943, however, twelve Associations/Leagues had rejoined the SAFA including Lothian AFA, the Scottish Amateur Football League, the West of Scotland AFA, and ninety eight teams entered a "West Cup".

At the SAFA AGM of 1944, a National Registration Scheme was discussed and rejected and the SAFA, who ran Under 18 and 16 leagues, approached the SFA to have all Youth Football under their control. The SFA AGM turned this proposal down. The SAFA membership fee was five shillings (25p) per club or two and sixpence (12.5p) if the club had youth section.

The 1945 AGM attracted only fourteen Associations/Leagues and was not quorate though by July that year it was agreed to restart Scottish and District Cups together with the Under 18 and Under 16 national competitions.

There were sixty nine entries for the Scottish Cup and eighty eight for the West of Scotland Cup. 



# 1946 - 1949

## The Post War Years



Winston Churchill declared an Iron Curtain had descended across Europe, India gained independence from Britain and the state of Israel was created in Palestine. The Czechoslovakian athlete Emil Zatopek won four gold medals at the 14th Olympic Games held in London and Italian manufacturer Adidas launched a revolutionary shoe called a “trainer”.

After the war, most Leagues and Associations struggled to resurrect and made stuttering progress caused by loss of personnel, lack of equipment and kit, problems due to travel, effects of rationing. A glimpse into the Minutes of the Border Amateur Football Association (BAFA) typifies the problems faced throughout the country at this time.

On 17th October 1945, a meeting of eight clubs in Newton St Boswells agreed to reconstitute the Border Amateur Football Association though due to lack of equipment it was unlikely that a full fixture list could be operated and help was to be sought from the SFA to obtain clothing and equipment certificates (coupons). It was agreed that all member clubs should make a one off payment of £1.00 in addition to the Association membership fee to assist the purchase of equipment. A later meeting tells of the SFA saying they could only assist with coupons unless all member clubs were affiliated to the SAFA. The Association later agreed that no league fixtures be arranged but two cup competitions be organised. By January 1946, six further clubs had joined though Eyemouth United were refused admittance on the grounds that this would provide all other teams with great difficulty in obtaining Saturday transport.

A public dance was to be held to raise funds, and a recently appointed Patron, Lord William Scott, donated two guineas

(£2.10) to the Association funds. The sole football played in this first post war season was for the Dudley Cup which was won by Kelso United who went defunct in 1974. The rival Border Football Association (BFA) then requested return of the Dudley Cup and there followed a dispute as to its rightful ownership. All ended happily when the BFA agreed to permit the BAFA to use the trophy provided they formally applied for permission each year. League football got underway on 5th October 1946, a later date than first envisaged due to the lateness of the harvest, with nine clubs participating. The SFA had by now offered to pay 75% of the coupon value for clubs wishing to purchase jerseys etc. Referees were in short supply, and it was with great reluctance that the Association applied to the SAFA to permit the increase in the tariff from three and six (17p) to five shillings (25p) plus expenses to attract more officials. There was concern that some local school masters would not permit boys to play football unless it was with the oval shaped ball. The severe weather caused postponement of all fixtures in February and March 1947 and there were doubts if the league fixtures could be completed due to the overtime on the farms and the government ban on evening games. Such was the concern that the Association agreed to abandon all cup competitions for the season, and if any future league game was postponed it would be called a draw. Clubs were now withdrawing from the Association due to the conscription of players into the armed forces.

Yes, a very different scenario to what faces Associations and Leagues in 2008.

In 1946 SAFA President WW Terris resigned and on leaving presented a cup for Under 16 competition.

The SAFA AGM of 1946 saw thirty seven delegates attend and there were one



## 1946 - 1949 The Post War Years



Clydesdale AFC 1948/1949 (Lanarkshire AFA)

hundred and twenty six entries for the Scottish Cup. In 1947 the SFA rejected an Appeal against an SAFA Sub Committee decision and advised the SAFA to set up a Right of Appeal to Council. 1947 also saw Orkney FA and Shetland FA apply for affiliation to the SFA and permission was granted by the SFA for the SAFA to play Northern League, Northern Ireland in Belfast in June of that year.

Amateurism had to be seen to work, and in July 1947 a John Campbell of Minishant was reported for accepting a Savings Certificate as a prize. He was spared his amateur status only after he returned the gift.

The SAFA again applied to the SFA to resume internationals against England, Ireland and Wales but were refused on the grounds of “not full strength teams” and “a team without Queens Park players would be deluding the public”.

Orkney and Shetland FAs were granted affiliation to the SFA but did not require to pay fees as they were denied representation for playing outwith the SFAs accepted season. The SAFA were again granted permission to play Northern League, Northern Ireland in Dumfries in May 1948, and in an about turn by the SFA they were told they could arrange future internationals against the other home countries. They were reminded that they would be fully responsible for all expenses incurred.

At the behest of some member clubs the SAFA requested SFA permission to set up a National Registration Scheme but this was eventually rejected by the SAFA Council as “being diametrically opposed to the amateur principles”. 1948 also saw Inverness area clubs refusing to join or affiliate to the SAFA and they were then reported to the SFA

for playing unauthorised football. They continued to rebel but the SFA hit back by declaring (1) all clubs were ineligible, (2) players would have to apply to the SFA for reinstatement from unauthorised football, (3) SFA member clubs must have no dealings, offer pitches etc and (4) referee’s were advised they could not officiate in matches. The President and Secretary of the SAFA made a pilgrimage to Inverness in December in an effort to resolve the problems and repeated the journey to Sutherlandshire in the same month to put out the embers of rebellion in that area.

There is no clear picture of how long it took to bring the clubs to heel, but the amount of players who applied to the SFA for reinstatement from unauthorised football during the course of the next year suggests it lasted no more than a season.

By the 1948 AGM, there were forty three Associations /Leagues, six hundred and four teams and one hundred and seventy three Youth members within the SAFA, and the Association accepted an offer from the SFA to hold their meetings at the SFA offices in Glasgow. At the 1949 AGM, it

was agreed all Past Presidents of the SAFA should be given automatic Life Membership. A Murray McNab was appointed Secretary and he accepted provided his company received payment of £150.00 for use of office staff to carry out the duties. Once again a proposal for a National Registration Scheme was rejected.

The SAFA arranged its first amateur international against Ireland in Aberdeen and invited two delegates from the SFA to attend. There were seven Queens Park players in the team whilst the reserve team had another five. There was no happy ending to the first international match as Scotland were defeated.

In 1949 the SAFA received an invitation to play their French counterparts in Paris the following year but had to decline the offer as they could not afford to finance the trip nor could the players take the necessary five days off work to participate. The rules, of course, strictly forbid players being reimbursed for loss of wages. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



Greenock HSPF AFC 1947 (Scottish Amateur FL)



# The Origins of the SAFA

## 1950 - 1959

### Out of the Darkness

Despite the Second World War being over, there was the threat of the new atomic weapon, and peace still eluded the world with war in Korea and the French war in Vietnam. It was the decade of Suez, the Hungarian Uprising, Burgess & MacLean, trouble with the Mau Mau in Kenya, EOKA in Cyprus and Civil Rights in the United States. Dick McTaggart won a boxing gold medal at the 16th Olympics in Melbourne.

The 1950 AGM saw membership rise to fifty eight Associations/ Leagues with eight hundred and twenty two clubs and two hundred and forty two Youth teams and the following season a total of twenty Appeals were lodged. In 1951 the Edinburgh Evening News presented a trophy for annual competition between teams in the South of Scotland, and the SAFA changed the name of the Midland Cup to the North of Tay Cup to avoid confusion as many teams thought this was a cup for Midlands AFA teams only. 1952 saw the City & District AL permitted to change its name to the Central AL, and

early the next year the SFA turned down a request from the SAFA to permit the televising of the amateur international v England. Later in 1953, NCR Afc (Midlands AFA) were given permission to play the company factory team in Augsburg, Germany provided the SFA agreed.

In 1953 the Committee structure within the SAFA was composed of eleven committees; Executive, Finance, Appeals, Selection, Youth, West, East, North of Tay, Fife, North of Scotland and South of Scotland. In 1957 the Executive and Finance Committees combined. This structure remained unaltered until 1984 when a West District Sub Committee was set up to handle the increased business due to Sunday football. A General Purposes Committee was set up in 1997 and in the 2003 the West District Executive Sub Committee changed its name to the West District Executive Sunday Committee.


The first international match v Eire was arranged for Dublin in May with a return

at Celtic Park Glasgow the following year.

In 1954 the SFA again resumed responsibility for amateur internationals. Later that year the SAFA donated a cup to the Glasgow & District Secondary Schools League to celebrate their 50th anniversary. They were of course very much part of the formation of the SAFA back in 1909. With the cooperation of Glasgow Education Committee, the SAFA set up Coaching Commission with a full complement of 16 students taking part. The SFA were astonished at this foresight and asked if they could send delegates as observers.

The society we lived in was much reflected by the membership of the SAFA, and in 1955 for example, Dunfermline & District Wednesday AFA, Edinburgh & District Mid Week AFA, Edinburgh Tuesday AFA, Glasgow Shopkeeper Tuesday AFA and Scottish Industrial Estates AFA were all members.

The 1955 AGM was held in Perth and the poor attendance was put down to a rail strike. Cars were of course very much a luxury and rail travel was easy and effective with expense awards all calculated on the third class rail fares.

1957 saw the SFA give permission for games to be played under floodlights. A Jubilee Committee was set up by the SAFA in early 1959 to make arrangements to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Association and after an extensive search it was reported that the early Minute Books of the Association could not be traced. A Dinner with entertainment was to be organised and held within Burlington House, Glasgow in 1960. With an official guest list of one hundred and thirty, only sixty tickets were available for club members. To commemorate the Jubilee the SFA presented the SAFA with a President's Chain of Office. 



Millburn AFC 1952/1953 (Aberdeenshire FA)



# 1960 - 1969

## Years of Enlightenment and Hope

The era of Flower Power and man walking on the moon, Dr Beeching closing 200 rail links and 2000 stations, The Forth Road Bridge opening and Celtic becoming the first British club to win the European Cup saw the SAFA purchase a copy of the 1960 European Cup Final between Real Madrid and Eintracht Frankfurt which could be hired for £1.00 a time. Training in First Aid was mooted for club officials, but the SAFA advised teams to contact their local St Andrews Ambulance Service direct. The popular Coaching Commission courses continued and in 1960 there were forty six participants.

The Dumfries & C District AFL were advised they could not fine players for misconduct offences but where appropriate they could fine clubs. The National Registration Scheme was again debated but turned down by Council before it was taken to the AGM. Similar proposals for such a scheme were rejected at the 1963 and 1964 AGMs.

However, in 1962 the SFA agreed at their AGM to the SAFA proposal that an amateur player on a "B Form" could have his registration cancelled on request and altered their Articles of Association accordingly. A record two hundred and fifty nine entries for the Scottish Cup in 1962 was exceeded in 1965 when two hundred and eighty four entered.

In 1965 the SAFA promoted an Inter League Youth Competition to start the following season and Foulden Fc playing in the North Northumberland League were permitted by the SFA to affiliate to the SAFA. The SFA also suggested that one substitute might be used at anytime in a game but this met with a muted response at the SAFA.

In April 1966 an SAFA Select played Edinburgh University to commemorate the Centenary of the Edinburgh University Athletic Club.

By the 1966 AGM, the SAFA secretary Murray McNab had moved to Alexander Sloan & Co who carried out the secretarial work on behalf of the Association. A proposal for a National Registration Scheme was again debated and rejected.

A major step was taken in August 1966 when the SAFA agreed that one substitute might be allowed but only to replace an injured player. He had to be on the team lines and, if used in a cup competition, would be considered cup tied. A few weeks later the SAFA showed their teeth and told Lawside FP (Midlands AFA) to return the North of Tay Cup and all individual plaques when it was found they had played a professional player in the final. Stirling & District AFA were warned that they must give dated suspensions and not game suspensions. In the course of the previous season, twenty five Appeals were dealt with. In August 1967 the referee's tariff for the Scottish Cup was set at £1.00 plus travelling expenses and the SAFA funds stood at £1271.00. The SAFA were prepared to permit one substitute for cup games but each Association/League could decide for themselves whether to adopt this rule.

In October 1967 the sons of Alex F Baxter, who for years had been the amateur football columnist with the Glasgow Evening Times, approached the SAFA and offered a trophy in their father's memory. The initial suggestion was to split the West of Scotland Cup into two sections, but this was rejected in favour of a knock out competition between the Associations/Leagues in the West of Scotland.

In April 1968 the AF Baxter Trophy was handed over to the SAFA by the late columnist's two sons.

Also in 1968 it was suggested the post of President be restricted to one of three years but this was not accepted. In April 1969 Alexander Sloan & Co became the SAFA Treasurers and the SAFA registered office would be the companies address at 142 St Vincent Street, Glasgow. An auditor was appointed and the position of Secretary/Treasurer was combined and taken on by Murray McNab. An assistant secretary was to be appointed at the following AGM. At the 1969 AGM, these two appointments were confirmed with the assistant secretary dealing with all Youth matters. Once again a proposal for a National Registration Scheme was debated and rejected.

Tragedy struck the newly appointed Secretary/Treasurer when he was badly injured in a fall at home and he died in September 1969 from his injuries. The assistant secretary, Leslie Michie, who had never taken up that position, was appointed Secretary/Treasurer until the following AGM. 🦁



# 1970 - 1979

## A Decade of Dramatic Development



The years of Vietnam, Watergate, the Baader-Meinhof gang, the atrocities at the Munich Olympics, violence in Northern Ireland, strikes, Britain joining the European Union, Jackie Stewart winning the World Formula One Championship, David Wilkie the 200 metres breast stroke gold medal in the Montreal, 21st Olympics and the Ibrox disaster when sixty six people lost their lives at a Rangers v Celtic New Year match.

However, the 1970's was to see huge changes in the development of the SAFA. Whilst the world was falling apart, the SAFA started 1970 by purchasing a set of strips from T Alexander of Paisley for £30.00 and advised clubs that frivolous appeals would result in costs being levied against clubs. This was sparked off by an appeal by Pencaitland Amateurs (Lothian AFA) requiring a Special Meeting with all the cost of postage, lets etc and eventually the appeal being deemed frivolous. On the brighter side, the SFA offered accommodation for SAFA meetings free of charge with telephone facilities. It was decided there would be a programme for the Scottish Amateur Cup final for the first time. Airdrie, Coatbridge & District AFL changed their name to Central Scotland AFL.

At the 1970 AGM, there were now sixty one Associations/Leagues and eleven hundred clubs in membership. The SAFA Youth Select had won the SFA Youth Cup for the second season running. There were four hundred and thirteen entries for the Scottish Amateur Cup and the Association funds stood at £3694.75. The SAFA commissioned a Ballot Box in commemoration of Murray McNab and donated it to the SFA for use of all member bodies for their cup draws.

In February 1972, W P Allan, the SFA

secretary, addressed a Council meeting stating that Sunday football could not take place until (1) the SAFA changed their Constitution and (2) the SFA changed their Articles of Association. In a rare demonstration of unity, the SAFA supported the SJunFA and SJuvFA and put forward a motion to the SFA AGM "That Sunday Football be permitted where both clubs agree to play". This was successful, but the SFA reminded the SAFA that an amateur could not play a trial for a Junior club if it was on a Sunday. The SFA agreed an amateur could play summer and winter football provided his registration with the appropriate Association/League was in order, but a change of rules was required before this could take place. The SFA also confirmed that professional players over the age of twenty one could be reinstated to amateur provided they were medically examined by their own doctor and the SFA doctor who had to agree they could not earn a living from playing football.

The 1972 AGM saw two substitutes being allowed and penalty kicks being used to settle Scottish Cup ties. Later the SFA agreed they would alter their Articles of Association to permit SAFA member clubs to play on Sunday. This was a momentous decision which reflected the mood of the country at the time as the long held presbyterian outlook to the sabbath was left behind. There were four hundred and ninety six entries for the Scottish Cup and the SAFA funds stood at £3516.75. The SAFA requested the SFA change Article 126 to include the SAFA on the list of those able to participate in Sunday football and this was accomplished at the SFA AGM. This was a milestone in the development and expansion of the SAFA.

For season 1972/73, there were four hundred and sixty entries for the Scottish Amateur Cup and in an unusual departure



## 1970 - 1979 A Decade of Dramatic Development

from normal business a dispute was settled by Fife Police. Abbotshill (Kirkcaldy & District AFL) played Tayport (Midlands AFA) in the Scottish Cup and the rule at the time meant the home team had to pay travel expenses to the opposition provided the distance travelled exceeded thirty miles. The clubs could not agree, and the SAFA called upon Fife's finest who decided the distance between the grounds was thirty one miles. Thus Tayport were liable for expenses!

In 1976 Annan Athletic (Carlisle & District AL) successfully applied to play in the Scottish and the West of Scotland District Cups, and Iain McTweed succeeded Ian Barbour as SAFA secretary. In early 1976, Netherlee Church (Scottish AFL) took the unusual step of reporting three of their players for playing unauthorised football and suspended them. The players had to apply to the SFA for reinstatement to amateur status before continuing to play. Season 1975/76 was the only time the Scottish Cup final was not played as one of the finalists Cambusnethan Talbot were deemed to have played an ineligible player in an earlier round. The investigation prevented the final being played, and Colville Park (Central Scotland AFL) but then of the Lanarkshire AFA, were presented with the Scottish Cup and winners medals in October 1976, without having had the thrill of running out on to Hampden Park.

Sponsorship was being encouraged but clubs, Associations and Leagues were reminded that all sponsorship deals had to be submitted to the SFA for approval. This resulted in large numbers of applications to the SFA each month. The 1977 AGM saw a reported surplus of £765.00 for the year, the SAFA hearing thirty nine Appeals and the Scottish Cup attracting five hundred and eighty entries. Sunday football was up and running and it was agreed to have a Scottish Sunday Trophy, with the status of a District Cup from season 1978/79. Ties would be played only on a Sunday with 30 minutes extra time and penalties if necessary to decide the outcome. The secretary of the Dingwall & District AFA, Harry Windsor, had secured a trophy for the Highland Amateur Cup and was confident he would find a sponsor for the first competition. The SAFA received an invitation to play in the Faroe Islands with all expenses paid from time of leaving from and returning to Scrabster near Thurso on the north coast of Scotland. The SAFA sought assistance for the travel and accommodation to and from Scrabster from the SFA and the Sports Council, but their appeals fell on stony ground and they were unable to accept the offer.

The SFA now permitted sponsors' names on jerseys but they were limited to twelve square inches in total. Later in 1978, Tennent Caledonian Brewers agreed to sponsor the Scottish Cup for three years,

and the SAFA accepted an offer to play the North Amateur League from Northern Ireland at Stranraer in April 1979. This had been considered in previous years but due to the troubles in Ireland had never materialised. The whisky company, Matthew Gloag & Sons, agreed a three year deal to sponsor the Scottish Sunday Trophy and also supplied the cup. Halkirk were beaten by South Ronaldsay from Orkney in the Highland Amateur Cup Final which attracted the largest ever crowd of 1200 to a match in Thurso. In October 1979, seven nominations were received for the position of Vice President of the SAFA and Tom Wilkie (Angus AFA) was successful in the ballot. Out of the blue, the SFA offered a one off grant to the SAFA to play the North League of Northern Ireland at Carrickfergus. December 1979 saw the SAFA agree to place all records on permanent loan to the Scottish Records Office. 🦁



Elphinstone Hillburn AFC 1981. Willie Darroch, captain of Elphinstone Hillburn receiving the Sunday Amateur Scottish Cup from Willie Miller, Sales Manager with sponsors Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky.





# 1980 - 1989

## Momentous Change



This era saw the words “glasnost” and “perestroika” emerge from the Soviet Union with the reforms led by Gorbachev. Britain had its first women Prime Minister in Margaret Thatcher who oversaw the Falklands War, and the Chernobyl disaster brought home the message to mankind that care of the environment was paramount. Ronald Reagan was elected President of the United States, Lech Walesa became Chairman of Solidarity in Poland. The Berlin Wall came down. The Prince of Wales married Lady Diana Spencer. Alan Wells won a gold medal at the 22nd Olympics in Moscow, the Bradford City Football fire and the Hillsborough disaster in Sheffield. The Lockerbie air disaster claimed two hundred and seventy lives.

After three years deliberation the SFA announced that nylon studs were permitted to be worn on all surfaces. Founder members of the SAFA , Glasgow & District FP FL, celebrated their 75th anniversary in February 1980. Bellahouston Academy FP were the only original member club still in the League though Clydebank HSFP formed in 1919 and Govan HSFP founded in 1909 were still members of the League. By the 1980 AGM, the SAFA had one hundred and twelve Associations/Leagues with nineteen hundred and forty six clubs and eight hundred and sixty seven youth teams which translated to around fifty five thousand people involved in amateur football each week. They had heard fifty six Appeals in the past season but a further fifty five were improperly lodged. In October 1980, the talk was all of illegal substances, not those taken by individuals but lime, paraquat and creosote used for line markings. The SFA were requested to rule on this matter.

In November of that year the SAFA

announced their largest ever sponsorship deal to date when the producers of Vladimir Vodka put their name to a package of sponsorship including a National 5-a-side Tournament, a new innovation. The initial deal was for one year, but hopes were high that the National Tournament would be highly successful and raise the profile of the SAFA for years to come.

It was decided the entrants for the 5-a-side Tournament would be by invitation only, and after protracted discussions, that it would be a one day event in the Kelvin Hall Glasgow in April 1981. David Francey, the voice of BBC Scotland’s football commentaries, agreed to act as Master of Ceremonies. The winners of the Scottish Cup and the District Cups were thus assembled with an army of SAFA volunteer stewards etc, to witness Dingwall Thistle Afc winning the competition.

At the 1981 AGM, a possible financial light was shining on the horizon when it was suggested that the SAFA should run a Lottery being promoted by the SFA. This was to lead to another quantum leap forward in the development of the SAFA by providing the means and momentum to appoint a full-time official, the first in the SAFA’s history.

The SAFA continued to grow, this being reflected in the six hundred and fifty four entrants for the Scottish Cup and an incredible two hundred and forty for the Scottish Sunday Trophy. Fife AFA celebrated their Golden Jubilee. The 80s continued to reap a harvest of sponsors. In addition to the aforementioned Vladimir Vodka, deals were struck with Tennent Caledonian Brewers for a further three year extension to their sponsorship of the Scottish Cup, The North of Scotland Cup had an anonymous backer for three years, the Under 18, 16, and 15 national cup competitions were



## 1980 - 1989 - Momentous Change

sponsored by Transalpino, a travel agency dealing mainly with students. Scottish Brewers sponsored the Fife Cup, Matthew Gloag the Scottish Sunday Trophy for three years, The Press & Journal The Highland Cup, Broughton Brewery the South of Scotland Cup, The Tartan Arms Bannockburn the West of Scotland Cup.

In 1982 the Ballot Box presented to the SFA in memory of former SAFA secretary Murray McNab was returned to the Association by the SFA. A Scottish AFL team drew a team from Islay AFL in The AF Baxter Trophy and it cost over £700.00 to fulfill the fixture.

After considerable discussion, by April 1982 it was decided that a full time Secretary/Treasurer should be appointed though Alexander Sloan & Co, the Association treasurers would continue to deal with the financial matters. The post was to be advertised and duties to include attending all SAFA meetings and to be secretary of the Selection and Appeals committees. It was anticipated the post would be funded from investment income and proceeds from the SFA Lottery. There were two hundred and twenty applicants and a subcommittee was set up to prepare a short list. Five applicants, three of which were currently involved with the SAFA, were interviewed from which Iain McTweed, the SAFA Honorary Secretary since 1976, was selected and offered the post. The SAFA's first full time employee took up his employment on 1st September 1983. The Secretary worked from his house and was to have a six month probationary period before final confirmation of his employment. There would be a salary review annually in May. This was yet another major step in the development of the SAFA.

The SFA Lottery administered by the SAFA was now beginning to plough funds into both the SAFA and its member clubs by way of commission on sales. By the 1984 AGM, six hundred clubs were participating.

In 1983 the Caledonian League was formed when sixteen invited teams played in the inaugural season. The rationale was that clubs of proven ability, with good playing surfaces and social facilities, competing against each other would raise the status of amateur football.

In 1984 the Kingdom Caledonian AFA started in Fife, with invited clubs forming one division in an effort to raise the standard of football in the area by attracting clubs from throughout Fife.



Lothian AFA 75th Anniversary Dinner



Lanarkshire AFA 50th Anniversary Dinner. Officials and Guests.

**A** most bizarre case undertaken by the Executive & Finance Committee began in June 1988 when a member of the North of Tay Executive Committee was cited to explain why he wrote a personal letter to the secretary of a team regarding a decision taken by the Committee in a case involving the club.

The individual failed to attend numerous meetings but wrote in his defence stating he had tape recorded all

North of Tay Executive Committee meetings he attended and claimed the committee Chairman had used offensive language against him.

He also claimed to have a written apology from the Chairman for his remarks, but no evidence of any kind was ever produced and he was eventually Severely Censured and barred from holding office of any kind for five years.



## 1980 - 1989 - Momentous Change

In August 1984, the Strathpeffer Pipe Band offered to play at the final of the Highland Cup for payment of £50.00. The canny secretary of the competition refused but compromised by allowing them play and to take a collection at half time. The pipe major had great satisfaction in announcing they had collected £100.00! Incidentally, the cup was won by Ness from Stornoway who defeated Bishopmill Villa by 4-1.

Lothian AFA celebrated their 75th anniversary, and a West Executive Sub Committee was set up on a temporary basis to assist with the large workload caused by the West of Scotland Cup and the Scottish Sunday Trophy. In 1985 Ayrshire AFA celebrated their Golden Jubilee, and a year later the SAFA permitted their flagship competition, the Scottish Cup to be renamed the Tennents Scottish Amateur Cup. Tom Wilkie, the SAFA President, was awarded Life Membership of the SFA for his contribution to amateur football.


At the 1986 AGM, it was announced that two substitutes would be allowed from next season. One hundred and thirty Appeals had been heard during the season of which forty six were incorrectly lodged.

A donation of £1500.00 was made to the Jock Stein Memorial Fund.

In August 1987, a Match Secretary for the Scottish Sunday Trophy, George Steel, was appointed for the first time. By the end of the year structural changes were made within the Lottery with the SAFA Secretary/Treasurer assuming responsibility for its supervision and a separate Lottery account opened. In January 1988, Hugh Knapp was welcomed as the Council delegate for Lanarkshire AFA. An unusual Appeal was considered when the Strathtay v Stow Scottish Sunday Trophy tie was abandoned after eighty four minutes as the strong wind brought down the crossbar. Adjacent parks were available but the losing club refused to move. The Appeal for the tie was dismissed and the game recast as both clubs would have had to agree to move parks.

In August 1988, George Watson became Assistant Match Secretary and in October Andrew S Laird who had served thirty years as Match Secretary, was made a Life Member of the SFA. In March the SFA confirmed taping of nets to the posts and bar was acceptable, and the SAFA announced that from next season nets

must be used in all Scottish Sunday Trophy ties. As a result of a high number of Appeals to the SFA, which they termed frivolous, the SFA warned that in future clubs submitting Appeals considered thus might be levied expenses which could amount to £200.00. In 1989 The Greater Glasgow Premier League commenced with twenty invited clubs mainly from the Eastwood area of Glasgow. The intention was to provide competitive football, on good grass pitches and with limited travel. The decade closed with the presentation of a SFA Long Service Award to A B Bennie (Lanarkshire AFA) for over fifty years

Throughout the 80s the SAFA grew at a great pace, and at the end of the decade it had one hundred and fifty Associations/Leagues with two thousand nine hundred fifty clubs and three thousand seven hundred teams. Between 1975 and 1983 the Association had doubled in size. This growth was due in the main to the popularity of Sunday football and the rapid growth of youth football. The Scottish Cup entries had reached eight hundred and two with six hundred and fifty for the Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky Amateur Football Trophy. 



Harris FP AFC team competing in Vladivar National 5-a-side tournament. Featuring current Executive and Finance Committee member Ronnie Hughes



Vladivar sponsorship 1981. Representatives of Vladivar present sponsorship cheque to John Robertson (President SAFA)



# 1990 - 1999

## Development, Disillusionment & Disappointment

The release of Nelson Mandela from prison in South Africa, Poll Tax riots in Britain, the Gulf War starting, the opening of the Channel Tunnel, Eric Cantona's "kung fu" attack on a spectator, the Dunblane massacre, Scotland kicking off the World Cup tournament in Paris and Liz McColgan winning the ladies 10,000 metres at the World Athletics Championships set the backdrop for this era.

1990 started with the SAFA discussing whether to continue with the Scottish Sunday Trophy as so many teams were withdrawing from ties. A Questionnaire on Cautions was sent to all Associations/Leagues and the introduction of VAT on fees would see increases across the board at the start of season 1990/91. R Hay, Past President of the SAFA, was awarded a Long Service Medal by the SFA. In November 1990, it became apparent that the SFA were discussing the future of Scottish Football which might have a far reaching effect on the SAFA. In addition the SFA Development Officer, Andy Roxburgh, had issued a document on Youth Football and joint meetings were held between the various bodies concerned who were asked to report back. Numerous changes were to be made to current practice including no 11-a-side until Under 12, smaller pitches and goals, more substitutes permitted, a smaller ball to be used and 7-a-side for up to Under 11s to be introduced.

Towards the end of the year the SAFA lent its support to Queens Park when it was mooted a new national stadium be built elsewhere in Scotland. Dundee Sunday Welfare AFA celebrated its 25th Anniversary before the year was out, and early in 1992 another Sunday Association, Maybury AFA, celebrated their 20th Anniversary.

By the time of the 1992 AGM there was mixed news for the SAFA when, firstly the SFA offered rent free office accommodation and facilities for the Secretary for at least two years but secondly, at the Scottish Sunday Trophy Final, Matthew Gloag & Co stunned the company when they announced their sponsorship would cease forthwith. Further bad news followed when Tennent Caledonian Brewers said they would not be continuing their sponsorship of the Scottish Cup. Frantic discussion with Matthew Gloag & Co saw them agreeing to sponsor the Scottish Sunday Trophy for a further season before a review, and with a twist in the tail the company expressed an interest in sponsoring the Scottish Cup.

In January 1993 it was agreed to advertise not only for a Secretary but also a clerkess and 160 applicants were received for the post of Secretary. After a short leet Arthur Duncan, a retired police inspector, accepted the post and started on 5th January 1994.

James Brown, a director of Stranraer FC who had offered the SAFA a cup in 1984,

left £250.00 to the SAFA in his Will and some time later it was agreed it be used to replace a Youth Competition trophy. In February 1992 the sad news that the Glasgow & District FP AFL was folding came with a simple telephone call from their President. Indeed a disappointing end for a founding Association of the SAFA in 1909. The League's various cups and trophies were taken in for safe keeping by the SAFA in the hope that the League might be restarted.

In August 1993, due to the scarcity of dates available for possible replays it was agreed that for one year only the Scottish Cup ties would be one game played to a finish. At different dates during that year West Lothian AFA celebrated their 25th Anniversary and Giffnock North Afc their 50th,

In January 1994, Secretary Arthur Duncan attended his first Council meeting and Hugh Knapp was appointed Treasurer. From the following season the SFA announced that a named goalkeeper and three substitutes would be permitted.

At an SGM the SAFA decreed that should an official or player be found guilty of any



Aberdeenshire AFA Office Bearers and Executive Committee celebrate their 50th Anniversary.



## 1990 - 1999 - Development, Disillusionment & Disappointment

offence his club be fined £5.00.

Seven months after taking up the position, Arthur Duncan resigned as Secretary and Hugh Knapp, a previous applicant, was offered the job. This was later approved by Council. The new Secretary started in July 1994 and Jack Keating took on Hugh Knapp's previous post as treasurer. With the aid of a SFA grant of £7500.00 a new computer was purchased.

In September the SAFA decided a National Registration Scheme was not required as the game was recreational, but the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) decreed that the SFA must have a record of all football players in the country and this included

introduced next season. October 1995 saw the 60th Anniversary of Ayrshire AFA, the SAFA making a trip to Shetland Islands for two games and Angus MacKay appointed to the Selection Committee. A Website was set up in December 1996. In March 1996, the SFA instructed a International Review Commission to report on all aspects of football in Scotland. Early "leaks" suggested the word "amateur" would disappear and all bodies would have an equal say in any new structure despite the SAFA's numerical strength in that it organised some 95% of recreational football in Scotland.

The SAFA set up a General Purposes Committee and in August 1997, Robert McGeachie of Edinburgh Sunday AFA

been put into the custody of the Scottish Football Museum within Hampden Park, Glasgow. The International Review Commission reported to the SFA in April 1998 but the recommendations were defeated at an SFA meeting. However, no doubt after considerable lobbying, the report was approved at a SFA SGM in May 1998. The main thrust as far as the SAFA was concerned was that a new body, The Scottish Youth Football Association would be set up to control all football up to Under 21 level. Youth Under 21 Leagues would not be permitted to accept new teams therefore it was hoped that all Under 21 football would be under the jurisdiction of the SAFA within three years. This caused much soul searching within the SAFA, but at the 1999 AGM a ballot saw the Youth Section go off to the SYFA. This was another milestone in the life and times of the SAFA. A side issue saw the establishment of a Players' License at a cost of £5.00 per club fixed for five years.

The West of Scotland AFL celebrated their Centenary late in the 1998. In the early part of the decade the numbers within the SAFA remained static at around one hundred and fifty Associations/Leagues, two thousand nine hundred and fifty clubs with three thousand seven hundred teams, but from 1995 the numbers decreased until in 1999 there were one hundred and seven Associations/Leagues with two thousand one hundred and fifteen clubs. With the way going of the Youth clubs the following season, this was a worrying statistic.



Officials of the Scottish Amateur and the Northern AFL celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Northern AFL

amateur players. All Scottish Cup and District Cup ties would be played to a finish after the first replay.

The SAFA permitted individual Associations/Leagues to decide if they wished to insist jerseys have numbers. By December Hugh Knapp had served his probationary period and formally accepted the position as Secretary of the Association.

Lottery ticket sales had decreased steadily, and when only 16 clubs were selling tickets the Lottery was closed in February 1995. However, it should be noted that during the years of its existence over one million pounds had been raised for amateur football. Guidelines for all Serious Offences were issued to all Associations/Leagues for discussion, in an attempt to bring parity to decisions throughout the country. At the 1995 AGM, it was agreed that five substitutes, of whom three could play, was to be

attended his first Council meeting. Public Liability Insurance would be compulsory with immediate effect though to ease the pain the SAFA agreed to pay the premium for the first season. By September a Millennium Committee was formed, and the next month Aberdeenshire AFA celebrated their 50th Anniversary.

At the 1998 AGM, a full review of disciplinary procedures was set in motion, and the President's Award was introduced. The SFA announced they had altered their Articles of Association to permit players of "professional status" to play within the SAFA and formal reinstatement could be obtained by simply applying to the SFA. In September the SAFA announced that a Millennium Dinner would be held in the Forte Post House Hotel, Glasgow, in January 2000 combining with a celebration of the SAFA's 90th Anniversary.

By this time all records of the SAFA had

On a brighter note sponsorship flourished, with B & Q sponsoring the East of Scotland, North of Scotland and Scottish Under 16 national cups. Apart from the aforementioned problems with Matthew Glog & Co and Tennent Caledonian Brewers, other sponsors such as Sport on Time, Andrew Sommerville, The Press & Journal, Trophy Centre, Transport & General Workers Union, Belt Up Trophies and Soccerworld all came on board for the first time. Before the decade was out Matthew Glog & Co had sponsored the The Scottish Cup continuously from 1994 to 2000 and the Scottish Sunday Trophy throughout the 90s.

In 1999 the 1st UEFA Regions Cup saw West of Scotland take part in the competition in Dublin which was eventually won by Venetia Regional Association of Italy. This was a wonderful experience for all concerned despite the fact they did not qualify for the latter stages of the competition. ❄️



# 2000 - 2008

## A New Beginning

**I**nto a new Millennium with the hype, elaborate celebrations and hope for peace throughout the world which was shattered by the 2001 “9/11” attack on the Twin Towers and World Trade Centre in New York. Two thousand nine hundred and seventy four people from ninety countries lost their lives in the attack by al-Qaeda which triggered off the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The name Osama bin Laden was on everyone’s lips. The devastating Indian Ocean tsunami killed two hundred and fifty thousand people. A terrorist attack was carried out on Glasgow airport in 2007. The 29th Olympics of 2008 in Beijing saw Edinburgh cyclist Chris Hoy win three gold medals.

With the Youth section departing membership dropped to seventy three Associations/Leagues with one thousand five hundred and sixty clubs. The 2000 AGM saw Robert McGeachie take over as Match Secretary of the Famous Grouse

Scotch Whisky Amateur Football Trophy. District Cup ties were to be played to a finish at first attempt and Matthew Gloag & Co signed a four year sponsorship deal for both Scottish Cups.

Early in 2001, the SAFA moved into new offices in the reconstructed National Stadium at Hampden Park Glasgow and a new Website was launched. The delicate condition of the two Scottish Cups led to the decision to have them repaired, mothballed and new trophies purchased. In May 2001, the Fixed Penalty Guidelines for Standard Offences was introduced throughout the country for an initial two year period leading to a review.

At the 2004 AGM, Matthew Gloag & Co announced that their sponsorship of the Scottish Sunday Trophy, better known by this time as the Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky Amateur Football Trophy, was over after a twenty five year relationship. This

was indeed a sad blow to the SAFA. However the Scottish Cup has been sponsored in turn by Soccer World and Sportsguard since then. Replicas of the two major trophies were purchased and the originals given on permanent loan to the Scottish Football Museum at Hampden Park.

In 2001 the Scottish Amateur FL celebrated their Centenary, and Greenock HSFP did likewise in 2007. May 2003 saw the 25th anniversary of the fixture against the Northern Amateur Football League of Northern Ireland for the Jack Britton Rosebowl.

Paisley & District AFA held their Golden Jubilee in 2004. In 2007 St Monans Swallows celebrated one hundred years of football in the Fife village.

In February 2003, the SAFA had over five hundred applications to take their “C Licence” coaching course to be run by the



David Henderson scoring for the Scottish team against Italy in the 2008 UEFA Regions Cup



## 2000 - 2008 A New Beginning

SFA in conjunction with the Community Coaches. The Western District Executive Sub Committee was renamed the Western District Executive Sunday Committee which more accurately reflected its duties. By 2004 Futsal had forty nine teams in four leagues and discussions were advanced with a sponsor but this later fell through. Around this time a shortage of referees was felt, particularly in the West of Scotland, and meetings were held with the SFA in an attempt to improve the situation.

The Protection of Children Act (Scotland) 2003 would affect clubs with Under 18 players and information was made

fund the initiative to the sum of £140,000.00 making it virtually free to every club in membership of the SAFA. Legislation was passed and all clubs will have to comply having at least one member with a Sports Injury Certificate from season 2009/10. The courses are to run all round the country by SFA Sports & Medicine Centre.

East of Scotland were to represent the SAFA in the 6th UEFA Regions Cup to be held in Alessandria, Italy, aspiring to qualify for the second stages, something no other Scottish team has done since the tournaments inception in 1999.

The 100th year started with an entry of

So thanks to prudent and watchful stewarding and despite the large drop in membership brought about by the Youth section departing, the SAFA is in good shape to tackle the next 100 years.

So there we have in a few pages what seems to have been a hundred years of growing pains, development, disappointment, conflict, disillusionment and elation though the majority of the administration carried out by the SAFA is of a routine nature. From a humble twenty three entrants in the first Scottish Amateur Cup to the five hundred and ninety eight in 2008. Journeys by rail and bus to transport by car and coach today. From worries whether the ball would last a game to the ability to telephone results by mobile phone. Whilst material things have changed, a clear message from 1909 until 2008 has been the determination of the volunteer members to improve, look forward at all times, adapt to the changing world and fight for the autonomy of the Scottish Amateur Football Association, something above all else we must strive to secure in the years to come. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁦󠁿

Inverclyde provost Michael McCormick presents Greenock High School FPs Chairman Ronnie MacKay and Vice Chairman Tommy Quigley with a memento of the clubs centenary celebrations.



available to the relevant clubs. A pilot scheme for the National Registration Scheme started in season 2005/06 under the auspices of the SFA, but due to manpower problems and computer glitches this will be unable to be fully implemented until the end of the decade. Derogatory comments on a club Website necessitated, in 2005, the SAFA introducing a rule holding clubs responsible for what appeared on their Website.

The 2005 Scottish Amateur Sunday Trophy ended with ugly scenes involving both teams and spectators and both clubs were Severely Censured for their actions, fined £250.00 and had a Bond for good behaviour placed on them in the sum of £250.00. Further, both clubs were barred from entering the competition for five years. Both clubs failed to pay the fines and were Debt Suspended.

For years the SAFA had sought financial assistance to run first aid courses with the principle that each club would have at least one qualified member with a Sports Injury Certificate. In February 2007, the Scottish Football Partnership agreed to

five hundred and ninety eight teams for the Scottish Amateur Cup, despite falling numbers still the largest football competition in the country and continued on a bright financial note when a sponsorship agreement was signed with Scottish Brewers, using the brand name Fosters, for the Scottish Amateur Cup and the Scottish Amateur Sunday Trophy for a two year period with an option for a further year.

Scottish Amateur League FL 2000 - Scottish Amateur Football League Committee in their Centenary Year






# The Future



Sir Alexander Matthew Busby  
1909 - 1994

Throughout this review of the Scottish Amateur Football Association no individuals have been singled out for their efforts and commitment to the amateur game but the truth is this Association has been all about individuals who have given selflessly of their time to their clubs, local Leagues and /or the Association at district or national level, over the past one hundred years. Obviously if football minded people did not give of their time then there would be no need for leagues or national committees to oversee matters. The next time you watch your local team play just ask yourself who gets the team on the park, runs the local league for nothing but criticism, and who travels hundreds of miles to attend meetings to carry out the Scottish Amateur Football Association's affairs. These people are the Scottish Amateur Football Association and there is no doubt like minded individuals will come forward to guide and steward this Association proudly for the next one hundred years.

At the start of this review the birth of Matt Busby was mentioned and perhaps it is appropriate to finish with a quotation attributed to the Scotsman who became a true football icon throughout the world.

“To win at all costs is not the true test of achievement, there is nothing wrong with trying to win as long as you don't put the prize above the performance. There is no disgrace in defeat so long as you play to your best ability and give total commitment. What matters above all else is that the game should be played in the right spirit, with the utmost courage, with fair play and no favour, with every man playing as a member of his team without bitterness or conceit.” 

Sir Alexander Matthew Busby 1909-1994





# Youth Section

## 1945 - 1949

The origins of the Youth Section are lost with the early Minutes, but it is known that when Leagues restarted after the Second World War in 1945 there were sixty nine Under 18 teams and forty Under 16 teams in membership. In April 1945, SAFA President W W Terris, resigned his position and on leaving gifted a cup for an Under 16 national cup competition. The cup was not available for the final and President Terris and two office bearers travelled to Dunkeld in August of that year to formally present the cup to the inaugural winners, Dunkeld Amateurs. In August 1946, the Scottish Daily Express donated a trophy for competition for Under 18s.

In 1947 the SFA sponsored a National Youth Tournament for Under 18 Associations/Leagues for which there were eight entrants with Scottish Schools League (SFA) being the inaugural winners. In 1948 three SAFA Youth players were in the Scotland team which played at Aberdeen.

By 1949 the Under 18 membership had risen to one hundred and forty seven teams and the Under 16s forty six teams.

## 1950 - 1959

The SAFA Youth team reached the final of the SFA National Youth Tournament but were defeated. In December 1950, in the Under 18 Scottish Cup 2nd round tie between Cardowan and Killermount the game was abandoned with three minutes left to play when the ball burst. Although Killermount were leading 6-2 at the time, the game was replayed as the SAFA ruled both teams should have had a match ball available. The North of Tay area Youth Cup was declining in popularity and in 1955 there were only ten entrants.

When the SFA refused to meet expenses

for playing in the National Youth Tournament, the SAFA withdrew the team in 1956 but re-entered in 1957.

## 1960 - 1969

In 1960 there were one hundred and three Under 18 teams and fifty five Under 16s. At the SAFA AGM of 1969, the Assistant Secretary was appointed to deal with all Youth matters and the SAFA Youth team won the SFA National Youth Tournament for the first time.

## 1970 - 1979

In 1970 ninety three and fifty five clubs entered the Scottish Under 18 and 16 cups respectively.

An unusual case arose in 1973 when the Chairman of the Under 13 section of the West Lothian & District Youth League challenged a one year suspension imposed on him for his involvement in a cup final. Three teams appeared to play in the cup final and the police had to be called to remove the Chairman's team from the field of play before the final could proceed! By late 1974 it was agreed to set up an Under 16 Inter League Cup and seven leagues took part, the first winners being the Scottish Amateur Football League FA. The trophy was instigated by a donation of £25.00 from Celtic FC though the other donors remain anonymous. Prior to this, there were only the national Under 18 and Under 16 Cups and the Black Trophy for Under 18 Inter League competition.

With the introduction of Sunday football many clubs and teams were formed to play at different age groups, and the SAFA introduced Under 15 and Under 14 Cup competitions. They were fortunate that Tom Logan, a SAFA Youth Committee member, presented a trophy for the Under



## Youth Section



Scottish Amateur Football Association U18 Squad who defeated North Wales Coast FA 5-2 at Kilbowie Park, Clydebank in 1992 in the annual fixture for the Rhuddlan Shield



Inverclyde May 1982, James Haswell Captain Scottish Amateur Football Association Youth Team with SFA Youth Cup.

15s and George Leiper, a Secretary of the Scottish Amateur Youth League, offered a trophy for the Under 14 cup. In season 1975/76, the first winners of these trophies were Glasgow Celtic BC and Kilmarnock Colts Afc. The following season a trophy for Under 13s was introduced and the next season one for the Under 12s. Both these trophies were donated anonymously though the Under 13 trophy was dedicated to William McPhee who had been a Match Secretary of the SAFA Youth Committee. Such was the pace of growth at this time that provision of competition for Associations/Leagues was needed and an Under 15 Inter League Trophy was introduced in season 1977/78, the first winners being Scottish Amateur Youth FL. A J Millar, Match Secretary from 1976-79, procured a trophy from Hyster Ltd for the competition. Millar's election as Match Secretary to succeed William McPhee ran into a snag when it was discovered he did not have a telephone at home. After deliberation and subject to Executive & Finance Committee approval, it was agreed to arrange for the installation of a telephone to permit Millar to properly execute the duties as Match Secretary.

In June 1978 the sudden death of James Brown, former Chairman and Secretary of the SAFA Youth Committee and an office bearer within amateur football for nearly twenty years, was announced. At the end of the year the family asked if they could finance a memorial to their father, and it was agreed the Jimmy Brown Memorial Trophy would replace the Under 18 Scottish Daily Express Trophy from season 1979/80.

This fast moving decade saw a tremendous rise in the participation within the Youth section and officials must have been hard put to control matters.

### 1980 - 1989

The explosion in the membership was reflected at the 1980 AGM when it was advised that there were eight hundred and sixty seven teams competing in the Youth section. A trophy for the Under 14 Inter League competition was donated by Peter Clason, a long serving member of the Youth Committee, and the inaugural winners were Central Ayrshire Youth AFL in season 1982/83.

In February 1982, the travel agents Transalpino struck the first ever sponsorship deal with the Youth Section when they agreed to sponsor the Under 18, 16 & 15 national cups for the current season and with the option to continue. They dropped the sponsorship of the Under 15 competition in 1984 but continued with the Under 18 and 16.

In 1984 the SAFA agreed that the Under 18 Youth Select would play North Wales Coast FA for the Rhuddlan District Council Shield at Rhyl. They won the initial contest 2-0 and had won each year thereafter until North Wales recorded their first win in 1996/97. The following two years saw shared ownership with the only two draws over the fourteen year history of the tournament. The inaugural match in 1985 was significant as the Youth team were the first Scotland side to wear a controversial new Scotland strip which some observers suggested was better suited for the seaside rather than the soccer field!

The bi-annual trip to Wales was disrupted during the 1989 fixture in Wales when an emergency meeting was called on the Saturday morning of the game as two players had broken the curfew the night before. They were not permitted to take part in the game.

In 1986 the Under 12 Cup was badly in

need of repair but a sponsor, W Davidson of the Scottish Amateur Youth League, replaced the cup.

Rambler Sports Bag Ltd who had sponsored the Under 15 cup since 1987 went into receivership in March 1989 leaving the SAFA with a shortfall of £550.00 to find.

### 1990 - 1999

In August 1990, due to articles in the Press emanating from the SFA, there was concern over a document on the future of Youth Football in Scotland and the SAFA's position if the matter was to be discussed without their input. The SAFA issued a questionnaire to all member clubs asking their views on the future development of Youth football, and a further meeting was held exclusively for that matter in February 1991.

It transpired that the SFA through Andy Roxburgh, the Development Officer, had produced a discussion document not only on the future of youth football but with several recommendations which were to be put in place as a matter of urgency. Therefore at the start of season 1991/92, under 12 year olds would play 7-a-side on smaller pitches with reduced size goals, the Under 12 Cup and all Under 12 competitions would be permitted five substitutes all of whom might be used, a size four ball to be used for all Under 12 games. In all Under 13, 14 and 15 games five substitutes were to be allowed of whom any three could play. Reduced time was to be introduced and no competitive football to be allowed below Under 10. In addition the SFA would introduce a Basic Skills Coaching Course.

The SFA then called a meeting of all interested bodies to discuss the Future of Youth Football in Scotland, and thus



## Youth Section

Team captains and referee before the Rhuddlan Shield fixture at Kilbowie Park, Clydebank in 1996 which resulted in a 3-1 victory for The Scottish Amateur Youth Team



Scottish Amateur Football Association U18 squad who won the SFA Youth Tournament in 1982



started the protracted march towards a new youth set up.

In October 1991, B & Q agreed to sponsor the Under 16 Cup and early in 1992, Sporting on Time Racing agreed to sponsor the Under 12, 13, 14 and 15 cups for two years. February 1992 saw the SFA agree that boys and girls could play together up to and including Under 12. May also saw the Bank of Scotland offer sponsorship towards the costs of the fixture against North Coast, Wales due in Scotland later in the year.

A friendly match which took place on August 1991 in Edinburgh caused a headache for officials when two players ordered off denied they played in the game. There were no team lines and it transpired one of the teams played only unauthorised football. It was not resolved until May 1992, resulting in a player who told lies to protect the others being suspended for four weeks, both players who had been sent off suspended for two years, one official suspended for ten years. A further official had a five year suspension increased to ten on Appeal to the SFA and one club was levied £200.00 towards the cost of the Appeal.

In 1992 James Brown a director of Stranraer FC, left a legacy of £250.00 in his Will and in 1995 it was used to purchase a replacement trophy for the Under 12 Cup.

In 1993 Central Ayrshire Youth AFL started a 7-a-side league within their Association, and in 1994 the SFA decreed that from the start of the following season no one under 12 would play 11-a-side football.

In 1994 the Youth Under 18 select played the North Coast Wales in Clydebank for

the Rhuddian District Council Shield and two weeks later travelled to Llandudno, Wales to play their opponents to celebrate the Centenary of the North Wales FA. Also in 1994 the Trophy Centre agreed to sponsor the Under 12, 13, 14 and 15 cups. Throughout 1994 meetings were held with the SFA on the Development of Youth Football whereby on occasion, Chief Executive Jim Farry, Ross Mathie and Jim Sinclair from the Technical Department addressed the SAFA and explained the rationale behind the proposed changes.

Committee meetings of the Youth Section are no different from other similar football administrative meetings, a diet of field offences, protests, appeals and complaints about referees. However in January 1995, two clubs submitted letters praising the performance of the referee in their recent games. This was all the more remarkable as the referee in question was the tender age of fifteen years old. William Collum was the referee, and now he is a Category 1 referee and on the FIFA list since 2006!

Following the Future of Youth Football in Scotland discussion paper, the SFA then set up an International Review Commission covering all aspects of football in Scotland and early leaks suggested the SAFA could disappear after reconstruction.


In 1998 history was made when Megan Sneddon became the first girl to gain a national cup winners medal when her club East Kilbride Burgh United defeated Caledonian Boys Club 3-0 on penalties after a 2-2 draw in the Class 1, 12 years, Scottish Amateur Youth Cup final.

In August 1997, the SFA announced the initial part of the International Review Commission was finalised with a new association under the auspices of the SFA

controlling Youth Football up to age Under 18. It was understood all Under 21 football would revert to the SAFA.

At a SFA SGM in May 1998, it was announced that a new body, The Scottish Youth Football Association, would be set up to control all football up to Under 21 level and would be under the direct control of the SFA. This caused much soul searching within the SAFA, but at the 1999 AGM a ballot saw the Youth Section go off to the SFA. In many respects this was a sad day for those involved in the Youth section of the SAFA over many years.

The final meeting of the SAFA Youth Committee was held on Tuesday 8th June 1999 when cases involving a headbutt, and disparaging remarks to a SAFA office bearer were dealt with and a total of 468 cautions were recorded for the season past. Four members of the committee agreed to serve on the new SYFA Executive & Finance Committee, Messrs D Little, A McConnell, J Mitchell and T Young. David Little was offered and accepted the position of National Secretary of the new Association and R Lamberton, a Past President of the SAFA, took his place on the SYFA Executive & Finance Committee. As would have been expected these members carried on the good works within the new Association, McConnell serving three years as President and Young, the first Match Secretary, served for seven years.

All that remains of the SAFA Youth Section are the memories and the various trophies now deemed redundant. Hopefully one day they will be given their place in the Scottish Football Museum to be viewed as the tangible results of fifty five years' development of youth football in Scotland. 



Vale of Atholl Afc (Perthshire AFA) was founded in 1879 and have been members of both the SAFA and SFA, entering the Scottish Cup on several occasions. The club lost their original ground, The Old Recreation Park, in 1950 when the Pitlochry Dam was built. It now lies at the bottom of Loch Faskally. They relocated to Recreation Park in Pitlochry and have played there ever since. Other than the war years the club has played continuously since its inception and has won all local league championships and cups over the years. Due to their location and the large playing surface, the facilities are sought by numerous senior clubs for pre season friendlies.

Breadalbane (Perthshire AFA) was founded in 1880 with the amalgamation of Aberfeldy Rangers and Aberfeldy Breadalbane, teams from the opposite ends of the town and they played under the grand name of Breadalbane Campbells of Taymouth Castle. They played in the local Aberfeldy League. Because of the long working day the players trained at 6.00am and the team captain went through the town blowing a bugle at 5.30am to summon the players. The team used to change in the stoke hole of the Station Hotel.

Uniquely, training continued through the winter when the flares of showmen's lamps were used to create a floodlight effect. They later affiliated to the SFA, qualified for the Scottish Cup on two occasions. In 1923 they lost to Falkirk by 10-0 and they met the same opponents a few years later and amazingly lost by the same 10-0 score line.

Nowadays besides competing in the Perthshire AFA they have a thriving Youth section with four teams competing in the Perthshire Juvenile Leagues.

Six Caithness AFA (CAFA) founder members, Lybster Afc founded in 1887, Wick Thistle 1889, Wick Groats in 1893, Thurso Swifts 1897, Thurso Acks 1898 and Castletown 1900 are still going strong.

Bearsden Afc (Caledonian AFL) was founded in 1890 by employees of the staging post at Bearsden Cross and played on a park in Drymen Road. After the first World War the club reformed and played out of Thorn Park, now known as Bearsden Public Park, their current home. The club had spells in the West of Scotland AFL, Dunbartonshire Welfare League, Greater Glasgow Premier League before joining the Caledonian AFL. The



# Early

Lybster, or to give them their correct title Lybster Portland, played their first game at home, on the Black Park, against local rivals Dunbeath on 30th April 1887 and lost by 2-0. The club name was taken from the Duke of Portland who owned the massive Lybster Estate, and perhaps chosen with a view to some benevolent patronage from the Duke.

The club entered the Scottish Cup in 1889 and it was recorded in the local

paper "The Groat", that they were out of their depth. They had home advantage but Lybster eventually scratched and to this day many feel they were given an incentive by their opponents to do so. In 1925 Back Park was developed to provide a golf course and the club moved to Cows Park which had a steep slope and not particularly suitable for football. The pitch gave further problems when the Caithness AFA was formed in 1927, and the founder clubs would not accept Lybster due to the condition of the park.



Greenock High School FPs Season  
1912 - 1913



pinnacle of success was the winning of the Scottish Cup in 1962 when they defeated Pencaitland 1-0 in the final.

Chirnside Fc (Border AFA) started in 1890 but like many teams of this era there is little on record of the playing performances, and it is not until 1895 that documentary evidence showed that they drew 1-1 with local rivals Ayton. In 1920 they won their first silverware, The Dudley Cup and then their first championship, the Berwickshire Junior League title in 1925. They joined the Border Amateur League in 1930 and stepped up to the East of Scotland League in 1931 where they were able to enter the Scottish Cup. Since 1931 they have flirted between this League and the Border AFA where they have been continuous members since 1979. Their most successful season was 1994/95 when they won the league title and all the Border AFA cups, losing only two games throughout the entire season.

Kirkwall Torfinn Fc (Orkney AFA) was established in 1891 before which only rugby was played on the island. The highlight of the club's history to date was the winning of the Highland Amateur Cup in 1988, one of only three Orkney clubs to do so. To day the club runs five teams and are heavily involved in the community encouraging primary school children to get involved in football.

Rhu Afc (Caledonian League) was founded in the 1890s and the earliest records available show that they competed for the Charles Dennistoun Trophy against local rivals Garelochhead in 1896. The trophy still has pride of place in the pavilion today. Rhu have the further distinction of playing on the same park at Ardenconnel throughout their history and indeed use the same changing facilities, though much improved since 1919, when soldiers returning from the Great War gifted the pavilion.

Stornoway Athletic Afc (Lewis & Harris AFA) was founded in 1891 when members who met in a coffee shop paid five shillings to join the club, which was simply called Stornoway at that time. Early fixtures were against teams from across the Minch as well as local fish trade workers, Royal Navy Reserve personnel and crews from visiting warships. They were part of the Stornoway Athletic Club and the use of Athletic only came into their name in 1908 when the Stornoway League started. The club have worn black and white hoops since 1908 and were undefeated in

# Birds

Worse was to follow when the local Rural League decided not to admit Lybster as they would sweep all before them and the club was reduced to playing friendly matches. This state of affairs lasted until 1949. The club moved to Portland Arms Park in 1947 but the surface never recovered from being ploughed up to assist the war effort. A Community project saw a new pitch laid out though the changing facilities were in the British Legion hall some distance away. However they played their first home Caithness

AFA match in 1949 but by 1978 the pitch was giving problems and they moved to Watten where they played for seven years until the park was improved. Changing facilities were built and the club entered the Scottish Amateur Cup for the first time in 1995 but lost out in the second round. By 1996 floodlights were installed and were inaugurated by a match against an "All Stars Select" watched by a large crowd. 🦋



Gala Rovers side of 1909/1910 after winning the Conan Doyle Cup.

all competitions until Caberfeidh beat them in 1911. The club nearly folded in 1979 but past officials rallied round and the club was saved. Over the years they have accumulated sixty seven league titles and cups and in Magnus Johnson they have the club's top goal scorer with an astonishing 384 goals gathered in a seventeen year career from 1980.

Coldstream Fc (Border AFA) was founded in 1895 and is the only Borders side to have lifted the Scottish Amateur Cup which they accomplished in 1925. In 1947 they joined the East of Scotland League and competed in the Scottish Qualifying Cup which they have won on two occasions. In 1991 the new pavilion was opened by Ossie Ardilles's Newcastle United. Coldstream Fc are still members of the East of Scotland League with their second eleven competing in the Border AFA.

Whitehill FP Afc (Scottish AFL) was founded in 1905 and by 1925 was part of a thriving school athletic group along with hockey and rugby sections playing at Craigend, Glasgow. They were founder members of the Glasgow & District FP League and entered the first ever Scottish Amateur Cup competition in 1909. By 1950 the club had five teams competing in the amateur leagues. The club still wear the blue and white hooped jersey style they adopted in 1905. In 1975 a Compulsory Purchase Order saw the club lose their facilities for the construction of the M8 motorway and this, together with fewer and fewer FPs coming forward, had a devastating affect on the club. In 1982 the club secured a ground at Tollcross and continued with two teams until the late 1990s saw this reduced to one team.

Amazingly, the club continues to train at Whitehill Secondary School in Dennistoun, a tradition started in 1905. Port Glasgow Old Boys Union Afc (Scottish AFL) was founded in 1906 and has a strong Boys Brigade connection. It currently plays in Premier League 2 of the SAFL.

Greenock HSFP Afc (Scottish AFL) was founded in 1907 and won the Scottish Amateur Cup in 1922 and 1949. They played Greenock Morton FC as part of their Centenary celebrations to cement a long and cordial association between the two clubs. An application to join the SFA was turned down but in 1930 they were admitted as associate members. They started in the Glasgow & District FP League and joined the Scottish AFL in 1924 where they play to this day. Fittingly they won the Scottish AFL Premier League title in their Centenary season.

St Monans Swallows Afc (Fife AFA) started life as St Monans Swifts in 1907 when they joined the East Neuk Junior League and continued as such until 1924 when they lost their pitch. They played Juvenile football until they joined East Fife AL when it was established in 1925. Internal problems led to a change of name to St Monans Swallows in 1959 where they continued in the East Fife AL, finally joining the Fife AFA on its formation in 1999. One present player has the distinction of being the fourth generation from his family to play with the Swallows/Swifts.

Civil Service Strollers Afc (Lothian & Edinburgh AFA) was formed in 1908 but not to be confused with Edinburgh Civil Service Afc who also had a team at this

time. Their first ground was at Pinkhill before moving to Stenhouse Mills, Gorgie which later became a racing stadium. The Stenhouse ground was surrounded on three sides by the Water of Leith and many a ball was lost after being booted into the water. At present they have two teams in the Lothian & Edinburgh AFA as well as a senior and Under 19 team in the East of Scotland League and numerous under age teams turning out each week end.

Gala Rovers Afc (Border AFA) founded in 1908 is the most successful club from the area with over forty cups/leagues to their credit. Predecessors Gala Fairydean Rovers existed from 1892 and when they joined the Borders Senior League in 1908, Gala Rovers took their place in the local amateur league where they still play to this day.

Newtyle Hearts Afc (Perthshire AFA) was founded prior to the opening of Newtyle Public Park in 1905, but the first record of a team was in 1908. A picture exists of the 1908 team and two of the players sadly lost their lives in the 1914-18 war. They have their names inscribed on the village War Memorial, a goal kick from the public park where the club still plays. Newtyle Hearts played in a local rural league before joining the now defunct Angus Amateurs League and later the Perthshire AFA.

Moorcroft Afc (Scottish Amateur FL) was established in Renfrew around 1912 from the former works team Babcock & Wilcox FC. They joined the Paisley & District League in 1992 and in 2000 they joined their present League, currently running three teams.

Wellbank Afc (Midlands AFA) was founded around 1914 and has a team photograph to prove it. They started in the Dundee Churches League and in 1931 joined the newly formed Angus Amateur FA, in turn joining the Midlands AFA in 1994 on the demise of the Angus AFA. At that time they were the sole surviving member of the founding clubs of the Angus AFA.

Campbeltown Pupils Afc (Scottish Amateur FL) was founded in 1919 to cater for former students. The club was a member of the Campbeltown & District Junior Football League up until the outbreak of war in 1939 and did not restart after the hostilities. The club reformed in 1960 joining the Kintyre AFL and joining the Scottish Amateur FL in 1977. They have had three players represent the Scotland at amateur level.



## Early Birds

Weir Recreation Afc (Caledonian L) was founded in 1919 playing in the Scottish AFL before entering teams in the Caledonian and Greater Glasgow Premier L when these leagues were founded in 1983 and 1989 respectively.

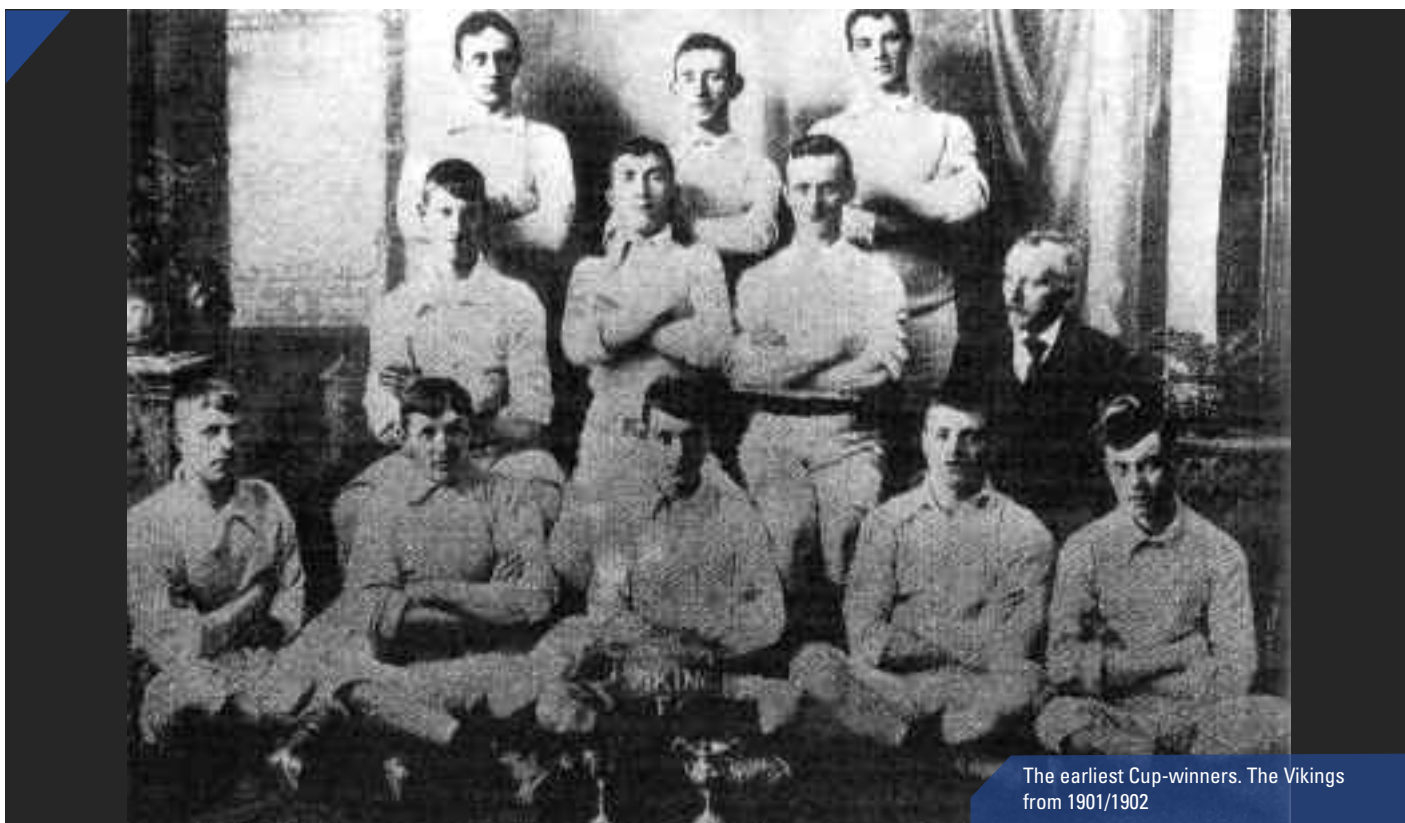
Burntisland Shipyard Afc (Kingdom Caledonian AFA) was formed in 1925 when they entered the Lothian AL and they won the inaugural Fife Cup in 1932. In 1959 they moved to the Kirkcaldy & District AL who later became the Fife AFA. In 1929 the club entered the Scottish Qualifying Cup and became the first ever Lothian AL team to play in the Scottish Cup. In 1938 they played Celtic at home but went down by 8-3 before a two thousand crowd. In later years they moved to the Kingdom Caledonian AFA where they play to this day

Dounby Athletic Club (Orkney AFA) started in 1932 sharing facilities with a hockey team and now run five teams.

Back Fc (Lewis & Harris FA) formed in 1933 and to celebrate their 50th Anniversary Alex Ferguson took an Aberdeen team to play Back. They are indebted to the local school teaching staff who encourage the youngsters who have become the backbone of the club over the years.

Muirend Afc (Caledonian L/ Greater GPAFL) was founded in 1945 and played in the City & Suburban AFL until they joined the Scottish AFL in 1948. By the early 1970s the club entered a second team in the West of Scotland AFL and in 1983 joined the Caledonian League. The club won the West of Scotland Cup in 1980 and 1986. In 1989 the club entered a team in the newly formed Greater Glasgow Premier League with a team also in the Caledonian League, where they remain to this day.

Drumchapel Amateurs Afc (Caledonian L) was founded in 1950 by former BB Captain Douglas Smith and his vision saw him take his youth teams to Europe in the 1950s. Smith instilled in his players a code for life, discipline, cleanliness, good time keeping and sportsmanship. With professional teams continually spiriting away his players he became disillusioned with youth football and entered a team in the Scottish Amateur Football League before being a frontrunner in the birth of the Caledonian League. Smith died in 2004 after a fifty four year association with the club, missing out on their greatest triumph when they won the Scottish Amateur Cup the following year. In addition the club now have three boys' and one girls' team competing in youth football once again. 🦁



The earliest Cup-winners. The Vikings from 1901/1902



# Associations & Leagues

**W**est of Scotland AFL was formed in 1898 and is certainly the oldest amateur football league still in existence. From the humble beginnings of eleven clubs in one league it developed into seven leagues, but now has thirty teams spread over two leagues.

It declined membership of the SAFA when it was founded in 1909. The first trophy donated to the league in 1914 was by an Allan Glens FP Afc member but it has since gone missing.

The Minutes prior to 1907 went up in smoke when the then secretary fell out with the committee and set fire to them when urged to return them.

Border AFA in its present form was established in 1945 but started life as the Scottish Borders Football Association in 1894. The local teams played friendly matches and for the Border, Dudley and Conan Doyle Cups Cup instituted in 1873, 1894 and 1905 respectively, before league fixtures were started.

The Scottish AFL was founded in 1900 though the first league was not formed until the following season. The league comprised six clubs, Ayr Parkhouse, Edinburgh University, Falkirk Amateurs, Glasgow Normal Athletic, Glasgow University and Paisley Academicals who won the inaugural league championship. It peaked in the 1980's when twelve leagues played out each week. At present it has fifty two teams spread over five leagues.

Glasgow & District FP FL, was founded in 1905 when eleven clubs, Allan Glen's, Bellahouston, Carlton, Fairfield, Shawlands, Hutchison Grammar, John Street, St Aloysius, QueensPark, Whitehill and Woodside decided to form their own league.

The League was a founder member of the SAFA when instituted in 1909. They supplied the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the SAFA for the first five years of its existence. Queens Park supplied a handsome League Championship Trophy which John Street FP won in the inaugural season. Whitehill FP is the only founder club still playing.

The League prospered and by 1973 it had thirty one teams playing in three leagues. In 1980 the SAFA made the first ever presentation of a President's Chain of Office to the League to commemorate their 75th Anniversary and their contribution to the development of Scottish amateur football. With FP Associations declining, membership dropped and despite easing the entrance restrictions, numbers continued to decrease until 1993 when the League folded.

Several of the member clubs, such as FPs of Govan High School, Hamilton, Kelvin and Wishaw High School, joined other

SAFA Leagues and continue to play.

The Shetland AFA was formed initially in an ad hoc form in 1906 though football was recorded as being played as early as 1887 at a time when rugby was the more popular sport. The first Shetland v Orkney match took place in 1901 under the guise of Lerwick v Kirkwall, but the inter county rivalry has not waned over the intervening hundred plus years. The early years saw only three teams competing in the league and fixtures were augmented with friendly games against visiting ships' companies or naval vessels' able seamen. The Shetland FA was officially formed in 1919 after the Great War. Gilberston Park in Lerwick has been used continually from 1897 and is the focal point for football in the island. At present there are two leagues with eighteen clubs competing from April to September. There is a strong Junior (Youth) section which augurs well for the future of football in Scotlands' most northerly island.

Lewis & Harris AFA was founded in 1908 with five clubs including Stornoway



Glasgow FP AFL 1980 Officials and Guests celebrating 75th Anniversary.





## Associations & Leagues

Athletic Afc which was instituted in 1891. These five clubs are still in membership but in the early years the league was restricted to teams within Stornoway. Many local leagues were formed in later years such as West Side League. Lothian & Edinburgh AFA was founded in 1909 but probably as Lothian FL and changed its name to East of Scotland AFA, and by 1943, to Lothian AFA. The amalgamation of the Lothian AFA and Edinburgh AFA in 1998 brought about the present Association which serves seventy five clubs spread over seven leagues.

The Midlands AFA was formed in 1926 with twelve clubs drawn mainly from

founded in 1900 or earlier remain members of the Caithness AFA.

The Central Scottish AFL started life as the Airdrie, Coatbridge & District AFL in 1927 and changed to its current title in 1970. At present it has thirty five clubs in three Leagues. Perthshire AFA affiliated to the SAFA in 1930 although it existed from 1926 and many leagues were running in the Perth town and county areas for a long time before that. Currently the Association has thirty five clubs in three leagues.

The Ayrshire AFA was founded in 1935 to encourage recreational football throughout Ayrshire in communities large and small.

The Aberdeenshire AFA has gone from strength to strength. Currently the Association has eighty member clubs playing in six leagues. The Orkney AFA was founded around 1947 and the teams play in the long summer evenings from late April to September. At present there are twenty four teams in three leagues and they also have an Under 18 League. Intriguingly they have a Parish Cup whereby eligibility of players is based on birth or residency within a given parish.

The Paisley & District Amateur Football League commenced in 1953 with fourteen clubs who all played matches within seven miles of Paisley. Currently thirty teams play in three Leagues. The Glasgow and District Saturday Morning League was founded in 1968 when eleven teams, several of whom played previously in the University Alchemist League started playing at Bellahouston Park. At one time there were three Leagues with forty eight clubs and at present two Leagues are operating with twenty eight clubs participating throughout Strathclyde Region.



Shetland FA Select 1985. Taking the field to play Faroe Islands in a friendly fixture which the Faroe Islands won 2-0

school FP teams, University and College based sides. Membership was by invitation and prospective clubs had to have their own ground, changing facilities and only grass pitches were acceptable. In 2008 MAFA had a membership of thirty nine clubs with fifty four teams and still have three founder clubs, Harris Academy FP, Morgan Academy FP and Newport in membership.

Caithness AFA was formed in 1927 with six clubs, five of whom are still in the league. However, competitive football started in Caithness in 1894 with the formation of a Thurso League and two years later the Wick & District League was formed. The leagues combined in 1927 to form the Caithness AFA. In 1960 the Association changed to summer football due to the harsh winters and this format is maintained to the present day with fourteen teams participating. A Caithness AFA select have played neighbours Sutherlandshire for the Portland Bowl, a trophy presented by the Duke of Portland in 1914, and against Orkney AFA for the Archer Shield, since 1935. Five clubs all


The Association plays an active role in the various SAFA committees and currently has fifty seven clubs playing over five leagues. The Fife AFA was founded as the Kirkcaldy & District AFA in 1931 and changed to its present name in 1978. Lanarkshire AFA was established in 1938 but started out as the Hamilton & Motherwell District AFA and as clubs joined from the surrounding area changed to its present title in 1947. The first President was Rev. W G Humphreys.

Skye & Lochalsh AFA was founded in 1939 as the Wester Ross FA. They amalgamated with Skye FA formed in 1974 to become the West Highland AFA in 1986, and finally changed their name to Skye & Lochalsh AFA in 2005.

The Aberdeenshire AFA was reconstituted in 1947 when thirteen clubs met and the Bon Accord League was absorbed into this new Association which ended its first season with twenty four clubs. Organised football had existed for many years previously in and around Aberdeen in various leagues, but since the reformation

The Caledonian League formed in 1983 was the brainchild of W Douglas Smith of Drumchapel Amateurs who strived to improve the standard of amateur football by encouraging better playing surfaces, changing facilities and the idea of a new league with a "pyramid" system to promote a higher level of competence. The sixteen inaugural clubs were split into two sections and the section winners, Drumchapel Amateurs and Queens Park Hampden X1 were declared joint champions. The league now has thirty member clubs within three leagues.

The Kingdom Caledonian AFA started in 1984 when invited clubs attempted to raise the standard in Fife by playing good quality opponents each week on good pitches. Since their formation they have produced seventeen winners of the Fife Cup and one winner of the Scottish Amateur Cup.

The Greater Glasgow Premier League was formed in 1989 with twenty invited clubs from the south side of Glasgow being formed into two leagues with the top five in each league forming the 1st Division for the following season. The League presently has thirty seven teams in three leagues. The rationale of the league was to play in a competitive environment, cut down travelling and play on good quality pitches. 



# Curiosities

**A**B Bennie (Larkhall Rangers Afc) an office bearer for forty years with Lanarkshire AFA was awarded, in October 1989, a Honorary Long Service Award from the SFA for his fifty years service to amateur football. He was also a Life member of the SAFA, his own Association and the Belfast Saturday Morning League.



Aberdeenshire AFA expelled three clubs in 1985 for failing to attend three consecutive bi-monthly meetings.

Alistair Alexander former BBC Scotland radio sports reporter played for Greenock HSFP Afc. (Scottish AFL)

In 1972 Andy Gray turned out for Back Fc (Lewis & Harris AFA) and by 1975 had been transferred from Dundee United to Aston Villa for £100,000.00.

Blackburn Afc (Aberdeenshire AFA) were sent a cheque, in error it must be said, from Aberdeen FC for the purchase of player Lee Richardson. The cheque of course should have gone to Richardson's previous club Blackburn Rovers of the English Premiership.

Cambusbarron Rovers Afc (Caledonian AFL) have the distinction of being the only club to have won the Scottish Cup and three different District Cups, West of Scotland, East of Scotland and Fife competitions.

Civil Service Strollers Afc (Lothian & Edinburgh AFA) who toured Russia and Finland in 1914 had a Danish national as goalkeeper, A Godtfredsen known to his team mates as "Andy Godforsaken".

Bob Crampsey the journalist and broadcaster who sadly died in 2008, played for Holyrood FP (Glasgow & District FPL)

Bobby Johnstone, who went on to play for Hibs as one of the "Famous Five", Manchester City and was capped 17 times for Scotland, started off playing for his home town club Selkirk (Border AFA)

The Border Cup was first played for in 1873/74 when it was won by Selkirk. Together with the Dudley Cup presented by the Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Dudley in 1894 they must be two of the oldest cup competitions in existence.

Brothers Norrie and Neil Collins played for Gala Rovers (Border AFA) but their other brother John played only the one friendly match before going on to an illustrious career with Hibs, Celtic, Monaco as well as turning out for Scotland. John presented the shirt he wore in the 1998 World Cup match against Brazil to his brothers' club.

David Taylor, UEFA General Secretary and formerly Chief Executive of the SFA, played for Westerlands Afc (Scottish AFL)

During the Castings v Coldstream Scottish Cup tie in December 1928, the referee was

accidentally struck in the face with the ball and was unconscious for ten minutes.

Dawsons joined the (West of Scotland AFL) in season 1964/65 and by season 1968/69 had still not won a point! They folded in 1982 after rising to the First Division.

The Eilean an Fhraoich Cup, presented to the Lewis & Harris AFA in 1933 by their Glasgow associates was to be played amongst teams in rural areas.

Erich Schaedler, former Hibs and Scotland player, played for Tweeddale Rovers (Lothian & Edinburgh AFA)

In 2007 a Fife player who broke another player's jaw in an off the ball incident unseen by the referee and for which no disciplinary report was received was ordered by the Sheriff Court to pay £1500 compensation to the opponent and carry out 280 hours community service. The player was later given a five year Suspension by the SAFA.

Football Mundial which is based in Aberdeen runs 5 and 6-a-side outdoor Leagues all over Scotland and currently has eight Leagues and over one hundred clubs participating all year round.

For the first time in 2008 Shetland FA entered a select side in the Highland County Cup for all Highland League clubs. They defeated Fort William but then lost to Cove Rangers in the quarter finals, a brave performance in the competition which paves a path to full Scottish Cup entry. Cove Rangers had of course attempted to enter the top echelon of Scottish football the same year, but Annan Athletic secured the vacant position.



Ed Edmond - Formartine United AFC



This photograph shows Ed Edmond in 1978

outside the Formartine tea hut.

That year birds had nested on the football pitch and before every match, Ed lifted the bird's eggs for safety and carefully replaced them when the match was over.

The final of the Edmond Trophy, donated to the Aberdeenshire Amateur Football Association and named after Ed Edmond is still played at Formartine's ground at Pitmedden every year.

In 1978 oyster catchers decided to nest on Formartine United AFC's (Aberdeenshire AFA) pitch, and committee man Ed Edmond lifted all eggs before matches and carefully replaced them after the game. Ed was Aberdeenshire AFA President in 1952/53, and when the club turned Junior in 1960, Ed was often seen paying match officials with a box of eggs or sack of potatoes. It was also rumoured that if he thought a player played well he was given a box of brown eggs as a bonus

Futsal had its origins in Uruguay in the 1930's when a 5-a-side football game was devised to be played on basketball courts

without side walls. It is played with a size four ball, has unlimited substitutions, a stopped clock for interruptions, no sliding tackles or shoulder charges and a player sent off can be replaced when the opposition score or after two minutes have elapsed. FIFA embraced the discipline in 1988 and the first FIFA Futsal World Cup winners were Brazil in 1989. UEFA staged the first European Futsal Championship in Spain in 1999 with Russia the winners.

Nine times capped Italian internationalist Gianni Moscardini turned out for Campbeltown Pupils AFC (Scottish Amateur FL), his only Scottish club, after

a glittering career in the Italian FA playing for Lucca, Pisa, Genoa and scoring nine goals for the national team.

"Johnnie", as he was known locally, joined the club when he arrived in Scotland to work in his uncle's café in Campbeltown in 1925. His illustrious football past did not come to light until after his death. BBC Reporting Scotland told his story to the nation in a radio broadcast in 1992.

Gordon Strachan, current manager of Celtic FC and the former Aberdeen and Manchester United player, is Honorary President of Kelso AFC (Midlands AFA). He has been of questionable value as Kelso won the SAFA Website Team of the Month prize in May 2008 by virtue of playing and losing all twenty two league games in the 2007/08 season.

Herbert Chapman, the legendary Arsenal manager, was Honorary President of Chirnside FC (Border AFA).

In 1929 the Hillcrest v Newport (Midlands AFA) league fixture was played as a friendly when the sawdust pitch markings were blown away prior to kick off.

When Iain Phillip (Broughty United AFC) signed for Dundee FC in 1968 the club received nothing in return; so when he moved on to Crystal Palace FC for in excess of £100,000.00 a few years later the Midlands AFA club reminded Dundee FC of the fact. A few weeks later manager John Prentice provided the club with a set of jerseys in the Broughty team's colours.

In season 2007/08, three current SPL team captains, Gary Caldwell, Celtic, James Fowler, Kilmarnock and Scott Severin of Aberdeen had one thing in common! Their respective fathers all played for Bannockburn AFC. (Caledonian L)

Kirkwall Torfynn FC (Orkney AFA) was established in 1891 and in the early days the only island rivals were Stromness. A game involved a two hour horse drawn bus journey across Orkney. Later games against Wick, Thurso and the Navy were played all on the mainland thus involving both land and sea travel.

Throughout the 1950s Lybster Portland AFC (Caithness AFA) had five Larnach brothers in the team. Two other brothers also played for the team and their father was a committee man and also refereed. Mike Larnach, son of one of the brothers played professionally with Clydebank,



The seven brothers of the Larnach family, who played for Lybster Portland FC along with their father Magnus, who was an official of the club. They are: Stanley, David, Sandy, Bill, Eric, Robert and Jim. The year is 1952.

Newcastle United, Motherwell and Ayr United in a career spanning from 1977 until 1984.

They also had a unique method of pitch marking just after the first world war. Local worthy "John the Lhaid" would yoke a pair of horses to the plough and with considerable skill take out a light "scratch" furrow to form the necessary markings.

D MacKenzie of Back Fc (Lewis & Harris AFA) was handicapped by having to play in his Sunday shoes in the fixture against Tolsta Afc in 1936 as he had hidden his boots in a rabbit hole the night before and was unable to find them next day!

Marta (Border Amateur League) competed in 1949-50 and was composed of Polish nationals who stayed on in the Borders after the war. The club was named after a river in their native country.

Minigaff 6-a-side operates one league in outdoor football from October to April in the Dumfries and Newton Stewart area.

Paul Sturrock formerly of Dundee United, Scotland and current manager of Plymouth Argyle played for Vale of Atholl Afc (Perthshire AFA) in the 1970s.

Peter Lorimer (Leeds United) and David Robb (Aberdeen & Chelsea) played in the same Broughty United Afc (Midlands AFA) team in 1962 and only met up again when they played in the full Scottish International team against Wales in 1971.

Rab Douglas (Dundee & Celtic)

goalkeeper played with Symington Tinto Afc(Caledonian AFL).

Robert Prytz (Rangers) played for West Kilbride Afc (Ayrshire AFA) after a long senior career.

Ronnie Renton of Gala Rovers (Border AFA) was a butcher to trade and when in 1961 the team mini bus struck a pheasant on the way to their game, Ronnie plucked and gutted the bird during the journey.

Ronnie Renton of Gala Rovers Afc (Border AFA) was a butcher to trade, and when in 1961 the team mini bus struck a pheasant on the way to their game, Ronnie

plucked and gutted the bird during the remainder of the journey.

In 1966 a Seaman's strike caused havoc in the Outer Isles as beer for the post match celebrations ran out.


Sherlock Holmes creator Arthur Conan Doyle presented the Conan Doyle Cup to the Scottish Borders FA in 1905

Shetland FA have a Parish Cup which is a competition for teams whose players must have come from the parish of their birth. Further, no Lerwick teams are permitted entry.

Shetland FA defeated Jersey FA in the final of the Inter Island Games of 2005. These Games are for competition between small islands throughout the world and are held every two years.

Tweeddale Rovers Afc (Lothian & Edinburgh AFA) was formed in 1949 by members of Peebles Rovers Supporters Association. They played in the Peebleshire AL and they later joined the Lothian AL. They have won the South of Scotland Cup on eight occasions, more than any other club.

In 1942 a services team, comprising mainly of guards from the Watten POW camp with guest player Matt Busby, played a Wick Select for Red Cross Funds

Woodside Afc (Aberdeenshire AFA) have as their Honorary President, the District's greatest ever export, Denis Law. 



Victor Roger celebrates his 600th appearance for Echt AFC - Aberdeenshire AFA. 25-08-2007



# Trophies



## Scottish Amateur Cup

*Presented to the SAFA in 1910 by the SFA.* Replaced by a new replica trophy purchased in 2005 by SAFA at a cost of £13,550.00 and the original placed in the Scottish Football Museum. Open for competition annually by all member clubs within the SAFA.



## West of Scotland Amateur Cup

*Presented to the SAFA by PS Benzie of Greenock and replaced in 1971 by J F McCartney, a director of Greenock Morton Fc.*

Established in 1923/24 and competed for annually by teams in the Associations/Leagues affiliated to the SAFA, who play Saturday football, generally in the Ayrshire, Glasgow & Lanarkshire areas. The original trophy when replaced was presented to Mr Bennie, rector of Greenock High School for permanent display within the school.



## North of Tay Amateur Cup

*Presented by RA Lambie, Glasgow, first President of the SAFA.*

Established in 1928/29 competed for annually by teams in the Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA, who play Saturday football, generally in the Angus, Dundee & Perthshire areas. Previously known as the Midland Cup but the name was changed in 1951 as clubs were under the impression it was for Midlands AFA teams only.

Greenock HSFP AFC Cup Winners 1922





## North of Scotland Amateur Cup

*Presented by G Anderson, Aberdeen who was manager of Dundee Fc.* Established in 1949/50, competed for annually by teams in the Leagues/Associations affiliated to the SAFA, who play Saturday football, generally in the North of Scotland.



## Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky Amateur Football Trophy

*Presented by Matthew Gloag & Son, Perth.* Established in 1978/79, competed for annually by teams in the Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA who play Sunday football but discontinued in 2003/04 when the sponsorship was concluded.

## East of Scotland Amateur Cup

*Presented by the Edinburgh Evening News and replaced in 1991 by B and Q Cup.* Established in 1946/47, competed for annually by teams in the Associations/ Leagues affiliated to the SAFA, who play Saturday football, generally in the Edinburgh, Falkirk and Lothian areas.

## Fife Amateur Cup

*Presented by Brigadier General H A Jones, Glasgow in 1932, the Commander at Maryhill Barracks Glasgow, and was called "The SAFA Challenge Cup". Replaced by a trophy donated by D Fowlis of Cowdenbeath Fc in May 1978.* Established in 1931/32, competed for annually by teams in the Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA, who play Saturday football, generally in the Fife area. Prior to 1931

Fife clubs competed in the Midland Cup, but by 1937 they were permitted to participate in one District Cup only.

## South of Scotland Amateur Cup

*Presented by the Edinburgh Evening News.* Established in 1951/52, competed for annually by teams in the Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA who play Saturday football, generally in the South of Scotland.

## Highland Amateur Cup

*Presented by the Highlands & Islands Development Board.* Established in 1978 and competed for annually by teams in the Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA who play summer football in the Highlands & Islands areas.

## Scottish Amateur Under 18 Cup

*Presented by Scottish Daily Express in 1946 and replaced by the Jimmy Brown Memorial Trophy in 1979.* The latter was presented by the family in memory of their father who was Treasurer of the SAFA in 1958-69, a Past President of the Scottish Amateur FL, Chairman of the Youth Committee of the SAFA from 1970-74 and Secretary of the SAFA Youth Committee from 1974-77. Established 1945/46 and competed for annually by teams in the Youth Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.



## Trophies

### Scottish Amateur Under 16 Cup

*Presented by WW Terris, Edinburgh, President of the SAFA from 1938-1946 who later crossed the divide to work for the SFA in May 1964.* Established 1945/46 and competed for annually by teams in the Youth Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Scottish Amateur Under 15 Cup

*Presented by T S Logan, Airdrie of Sea & Land Surveys Ltd. Tom Logan was a member of the SAFA Youth Committee from 1974-76 and again in 1981 for a season.* He was also Secretary of the Lanarkshire YMCA League. Established 1975/76 and competed for annually by teams in the Youth Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.



### Scottish Amateur Sunday Trophy

*Presented by the SAFA to replace the Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky Amateur Football Trophy in 2005 at a cost of £1,675.00.* Established in 2005 and competed for annually by teams in the Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA who play Sunday football.

### Scottish Amateur Under 14 Cup

*Presented by G A Leiper, Glasgow of Murray and Perrings Ltd who was Secretary of the Scottish Amateur Youth League.* Established 1975/76 and competed for annually by teams in the Youth Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Scottish Amateur Under 13 Cup

*Presented anonymously in memory of William McPhee, Bridge of Weir. William McPhee was Match Secretary of the SAFA Youth Committee from 1970-76.* Established 1977/78 and competed for annually by teams in the Youth Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Scottish Amateur Under 12 Cup

*Originally presented anonymously in 1979 but replaced by the W Davidson Cup donated in 1986.* Mr Davidson was the referees' representative on the Scottish Amateur Youth League. This cup in turn was superceded by a cup purchased in 1995 from a legacy from Stranraer Fc

director James Brown.

Established 1979/80 and competed for annually by teams in the Youth Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Alex F Baxter Memorial Trophy

*Presented by the family of Alex F Baxter, former columnist with the Glasgow Evening Times.* Mr Davidson was the referees' representative on the Scottish Amateur Youth League. This cup in turn was superceded by a cup purchased in 1995 from a legacy from Stranraer Fc director James Brown. Established 1979/80 and competed for annually by teams in the Youth Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Inter League Belt Up Trophy

*Presented by Belt Up Trophies* Established 1995/96, competed for annually by Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA but discontinued 2001/02.

### Black Trophy

*Presented by family of the James Black, Forfar in 1952 previously used for a North of Tay Youth competition. James Black was a member of Forfar Athletic Fc between 1885-1951 and of the SFA from 1904-1951.* Established 1955/56 and competed for annually by Youth Under 18 Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Under 16 Inter League Trophy

*Presented anonymously with part contribution made by Celtic Fc.* Established 1974/75 and competed for annually by Youth Under 16 Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.



Dalziel FP AFC West of Scotland Amateur Cup Winners 2000

### Under 15 Inter League Trophy

*Presented by Hyster Ltd, Irvine.*  
Established 1977/78 and competed for annually by Youth Under 15 Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Under 14 Inter League Trophy

*Presented by Peter Clason who joined the SAFA Youth Committee in 1976 serving as Match Secretary from 1982 until 1999.* Established 1982/83 and competed for annually by the Youth Under 14 Associations /Leagues affiliated to the SAFA until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association

### Rhuddian District Council Shield

*Presented by Rhuddian District Council, Wales.* Established 1984/85 and competed for annually by the Scottish AFA Youth Under 18 Select against North Wales Coast Football Association until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Rhuddian District Council Shield

*Presented by Rhuddian District Council, Wales.* Established 1984/85 and competed for annually by the Scottish AFA Youth Under 18 Select against North Wales Coast Football Association until 1998/99 when the Youth section of the SAFA was transferred to the newly established Scottish Youth Football Association.

### Alan R MacKay Trophy

*Presented by Insurance Brokers Alan R MacKay. Alan MacKay played professionally with Motherwell Fc and Dumbarton Fc.*  
Established 1999/00 and competed for annually by the SAFA Select against the Leinster Senior League, Ireland

### Inter Association Trophy

*Presented by the SAFA.*  
Established 1999/00 and competed for annually by the SAFA Select against North Wales Coast Football Association but discontinued in 2004/05.



### Jack Britton Rosebowl

*Presented by Northern Ireland official Jack Britton who was instrumental in setting up the competition.* Established 1978/79 and competed for annually by the SAFA Select against the Northern Amateur Football League, Ireland. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿





# Queen's Park FC

“Ludere causa Ludendi”



No discussion of amateur football would be complete without reference to Queens Park whose motto “Ludere causa Ludendi” “to play for the sake of the game” was adopted on its formation in 1867 when the club decided players would not be paid. Today they are unique in senior football with no Queens Park player ever having received a wage from the club.

Queens are the third oldest football club in the world being preceded only by Sheffield FC and Notts County who were formed some ten and five years earlier. They were not only undefeated for the first five years they did not concede a goal in this period.

Prior to the establishment of clubs in Public Schools with their own rules but Queens Park instituted what we all know and recognise as football today. They adopted a passing style and worked as a team. They introduced half-time, crossbars and free kicks into the rule books. They travelled to Ireland in 1879 to introduce the game which resulted in the formation of the Irish Football Association in 1880. From 1873 they have worn black and white thin hooped shirts, similar to those they wear at present, In 1910 to protect their amateur players from being poached by professional clubs they were instrumental in the introduction of the registration of players until 30th April each season, a rule still with us to day. They played on four different locations before settling in their present home of Hampden Park in 1903, also now known as the National Stadium and at the time hailed as the greatest stadium in the world.

They were founder members of the Scottish Football Association in 1873 and remain the sole survivors still in membership today. Though they declined the invitation to join the Scottish Football

League when it was founded in 1890, they did enrol in 1900. Queens saw the introduction of the Scottish Football League as the legitimising of professional football and did not want to be associated with it, as it railed against the ethics and amateur spirit they endeavoured to foster. By the start of the 20th century, Queens' halcyon days were behind them though they did go on to win Championships on four occasions between 1923 and 2000. In 1930 they played Rangers in a Scottish Cup first round tie at Hampden Park in front of 95,722 spectators which remains the largest crowd to watch an amateur team.

Queens were far ahead of their time off the field as Hampden Park was the first ground to have turnstiles, introduce crush barriers, a PA system, a stadium car park and hold the first ever all ticket match. In 1872 the first international match played between Scotland and England took place on the cricket ground at Hamilton Crescent, Glasgow and saw Scotland represented entirely by players from Queens, the match ending in a 0-0 draw. Scotland played in Queens then club jerseys of dark blue, the colour Scotland play in to the present day.

Queens won the inaugural Scottish Cup in 1874 and went on to win it on nine more occasions prior to 1900. They are one of only eight teams to have their name inscribed on the original cup, the others being on the base.

In 1872 they were invited to enter the Football Association Cup (FA Cup) at the semi final stage and drew with Wanderers, but as they did not have the money to stay overnight for the replay they had to scratch.

In 1884 they again reached the final of the FA Cup only to lose to Blackburn Rovers and they suffered a similar fate at the same



stage in the competition at the hands of the same opponents the following year. They boast the youngest ever player to play for his country in John A Lambie who made his debut in 1886 aged 17 years and 92 days. He was one of three brothers, William was also capped for Scotland and Robert also played but he did not get capped. Robert A Lambie went on to become the first President of the Scottish Amateur Football Association and rendered valuable service to Queens as an administrator.

Queens also won the Glasgow Cup on three occasions prior to 1900 and again in 1946, and their eight successes in the Charity Cup were again prior to 1900. In the modern era they won Scottish League Division 3 title in the Millennium season 1999/2000.

In 2008 they still maintain a side in the Scottish Football League and numerous youth teams, one of which represents the club in the Scottish Amateur Cup, a courtesy which is extended by virtue of their being a founder member of the Scottish Amateur Football Association. They have won the Scottish Amateur Cup on eleven occasions, needless to say the most wins by any club though the last occasion was in 1964.

Nowadays the general public would be hard put to name a Queens Park player despite the fact that the likes of Alan Morton, Sir Alex Ferguson, Ronnie Simpson and Andy Roxburgh played for the club. The name most clearly in the public eye is the former club captain and internationalist R S McColl, a swashbuckling centre forward in his day, who was capped for his country at 18 years of age. However McColl is probably better known for the business he founded and which is displayed in High Streets throughout Scotland rather than for his Queens Park connection. 🦁



*A FINE MINOR SIDE— Queens Park run four sides each week, and the Hampden XI seen above won all the honours open to them in 1946-47, the chief successes being the winning of the Scottish Amateur League, the Scottish Amateur Cup and the West of Scotland Amateur Cup.*



## The Origins of the SAFA

# Leagues Associations in Membership 2008



<b>Aberdeen Sunday AFA</b>	<b>AFL</b>
<b>Aberdeenshire AFA</b>	<b>Lothian &amp; Edinburgh AFA</b>
<b>Airdrie &amp; Coatbridge Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Midlands AFA</b>
<b>Ayrshire AFA</b>	<b>Minnigaff 6-a-side AFL</b>
<b>Border AFA</b>	<b>North Ayrshire Sunday AFA</b>
<b>Caithness AFA</b>	<b>North West Sutherland AFA</b>
<b>Caledonian AFL</b>	<b>Orkney AFA</b>
<b>Carluke &amp; District Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Paisley &amp; District AFA</b>
<b>Central Scottish AFL</b>	<b>Perth &amp; District Sunday AFL</b>
<b>Dumfries &amp; District AFL</b>	<b>Perthshire AFA</b>
<b>Dumfries Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Ross-Shire AFA</b>
<b>Dundee Sunday Morning AFA</b>	<b>Scottish Amateur FL</b>
<b>Dundee Sunday Welfare AFA</b>	<b>Scottish Deaf AFA</b>
<b>East Ayrshire Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Scottish Futsal League (Perth)</b>
<b>East of Scotland Churches AFA</b>	<b>Scottish Police AFA</b>
<b>Edinburgh Sunday AFA</b>	<b>Scottish Supporters AFL</b>
<b>Edinburgh &amp; District Sunday AFA</b>	<b>Scottish Universities AFA</b>
<b>Falkirk &amp; District Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Shetland AFA</b>
<b>Fife AFA</b>	<b>Shetland Works AFL</b>
<b>Fife Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Skye &amp; Lochalsh AFA</b>
<b>Football Mundial</b>	<b>Stewartry Sunday AFA</b>
<b>Forfar &amp; District Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Stirling &amp; District AFA</b>
<b>Glasgow Colleges AFA</b>	<b>Stranraer &amp; District AFL</b>
<b>Glasgow &amp; District Saturday Morning AFL</b>	<b>Strathclyde Evangelical Churches AFL</b>
<b>Glasgow Sunday AFL</b>	<b>Strathclyde Saturday Morning AFL</b>
<b>Greater Glasgow Premier AFL</b>	<b>Sutherland AFA</b>
<b>Kingdom Caledonian AFA</b>	<b>Uist &amp; Barra AFA</b>
<b>Lanarkshire AFA</b>	<b>West Ayrshire Sunday AFA</b>
<b>Lewis &amp; Harris AFA</b>	<b>West Lothian Sunday AFA</b>
<b>Livingston &amp; District Sunday Morning</b>	<b>West of Scotland AFL </b>



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T Allison, G Butler and A Martin.





# Autographs



# Autographs





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