

2026

QUEENSLAND CHRISTIAN STATE SOCCER CARNIVAL



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GENERAL INFORMATION

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1. Introduction

The hosting Association for the 2026 Queensland Christian Soccer State Carnival is Sunshine Churches Soccer Association (SCCSA) 2026 Venue: Maroochydore Multisports complex, 108 Fisherman's Road Buderim

The Queensland Christian Soccer State Carnival is an annual event to showcase the talent Christian Soccer and allow teams to compete at the highest level of Christian soccer/football in Queensland.

The Queensland Christian Soccer State Carnival are open to teams from Zones within the Queensland Christian Soccer Association (QCSA) (North Zone, West Zone and South-East Zone); and the Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association (SCCSA) (North Zone, Central Zone and South Zone); any other Queensland Christian Football Associations.

SCCSA reserves the right to invite/issue an invitation to other teams as deemed appropriate.

2. Age Groups for 2026

For the 2026 season the State Carnival **MAY** offer competitions in the following age groups, subject to suitable nominations:

- Under 10 mixed;
- Under 11 mixed;
- Under 11 Female
- Under 12 mixed;
- Under 13 mixed;
- Under 13 female;
- Under 14 mixed;
- Under 16 female;
- Under 16 male;
- Under 18 male;
- Senior Women;
- Senior Men;
- Over 35 Men
- Over 30 Women

3. Cost per team

U10 to U16 Teams (Mixed, Male and Female)	\$1250 per Team (incl GST)
U18 male, Over 30 Womens, Senior Women, Senior Men, Over 35 Men	\$1550 per Team (incl GST)

4. Refund Policy

Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association are not required to provide a refund Association/Zone/team has a change of mind and no longer wishes to play.

At their complete discretion, Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association may deem exceptional circumstances determine that a proportionate refund of registration fees is appropriate if:

- i. certain no fault circumstances are present or
- ii. it is deemed unsafe by health authorities / state and federal government and the event needs to be abandoned.

For Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association to consider any refund must follow the SCCSA Refund Procedure.

To apply for a refund, Zones/Associations need to email to Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association for a determination on the eligibility of a refund. This email should include:

1. Zone/Association requesting refund
2. Name of Official submitting Request and Position
3. Acknowledgement if the refund policy has been read and the Zone/Association is entitled to a refund.
4. Provide the reason the refund request

Once the SCCSA Refund Procedure has been reviewed and finalised, Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association will:

- i. authorise the refund
- ii. notify the Zones/Association of the fees, that are to be deducted from the refund; and
- iii. the timeframe that the refund must be processed in.

5. Team and player eligibility

Team Eligibility

1. Each zone may field three teams per age group
2. Under 10 to Under 14 mixed and Under 16 boys and Under 16 girl's teams are permitted to select a maximum of 16 players per team and are permitted to play a maximum of 16 players per match, with only 11 players (including the goalkeeper) being allowed on the field at any given time.
3. Under 18 boys, U16 Girls (if playing in ladies comp) Senior Ladies, Senior Men and Over 35 Men are permitted to select a maximum of 20 players per team but are only permitted to play a maximum of 16 players per match, with only 11 players (including the goalkeeper) being allowed on the field at any given time.

Player Eligibility

1. All players **MUST** be a registered player of the QCSA, SCCSA, a Christian football body or invited body. Each Zone/Association is required to verify that each player is a registered player and plays in the correct age group for the State Carnival.
2. All players are to be registered for the current soccer season with their respective club as an active member in a current team with their respective club.
3. All players must sign a insurance waiver form.
4. Players must play in their correct age group as at 31st December of the year prior to the State Carnival (regardless of what age group they play for in their respective Club fixtures competition).
5. Players are **NOT** permitted to play **DOWN** an age group, under any circumstances, except:
 - (a) If a zone girls team has no separate competition at the State Carnival because a lack of teams, SCCSA will place them into an age suitable competition.
6. Players can only play up an age group if:
 - (a) Your zone/association does not form a team in the correct age group.
 - (b) There are surplus players for one team, but insufficient to form a second team in that age.
 - (c) There is no restriction on the number of players that can play up an age group.
7. In the case of a zone or association not forming a team or having insufficient players to form two teams in an age group; or the player cannot move up an age group into a team, the player/s is/are permitted to try out for selection in another zone or association, **with the permission of both Zones/Association involved**
8. To encourage participation, female competitions, the age groups may consist of.
 - Under 16 Girls- Under 16, Under 15 and Under 14 girls
 - Under 13 Girls- Under 13, Under 12
 - Under 11Girls- Under 11, Under 10, Under 09

This will be reviewed as the number of teams in the competition grow for the following year of competition.
9. Players currently suspended in the Fixture competition, who as of the Friday prior to the State Carnival commencing, have two (2) or more weeks left of any suspension are not allowed to take part in the State Titles competition.

6. Uniforms

It is the responsibility of the Zones/Association to provide the alternate strip if a Zone/Association has 2 (two) teams in the same age group playing against each other, as the venue where the State Carnival matches are to be held will not be providing any alternate uniforms for teams to wear.

QCSA North Zone

Light Blue and White

QCSA Southeast Zone:

Red and Blue

QCSA West Zone

Bottle Green and Yellow

SCCSA South
SCCSA Central
SCCSA North

Black and Gold,
White and Gold
Gold and Black

7. Rules for State Carnival

Points

The following points are awarded for each match.

Win – 4 Points
Score Draw – 2 Points
Nil All Draw – 1 Point
Loss – 0 Points

The winner of each age group will be decided at the completion of all games for that age group. The method to be used for each age group is at the discretion of SCCSA and shall be advised prior to the commencement of competition when the draw is finalised.

In the event of a forfeit, the non-forfeiting team will receive 4 Points and 3 goals for. The forfeiting team will receive no points and may also be required to attend a discipline hearing along with their respective zone or affiliate.

Should a match be abandoned for any reason SCCSA shall chair a meeting, to decide the outcome of the match and any further actions deemed necessary. This decision will be final with no rights of appeal.

Games

The number games and game duration for each age group is at the discretion of SCCSA and shall be advised prior to the commencement of competition when the draw is finalised. Due to weather conditions, games maybe postponed and played under lights.

Fixtures

Fixtures will be played according to current IFAB Laws of The Game and FFA directives, except as detailed below;

Borrowing

1. A player who is being borrowed must come from a lower age group;
2. A player who is being borrowed must be age appropriate for the age group they are being borrowed into and no older than the maximum age allowed for the QCSA State Titles competition;
3. (i) In an age group where there are 6 (six) matches (or less), a player can only be borrowed for a maximum of **2 (two)** matches. The maximum number refers to the total number of games played up and not to each team they may play in. However if

they play in a 3rd game they are automatically transferred into that team, which means the player shall be considered to have lost their original registered age group and team status. They cannot then play for any other team for the remainder of the State Carnival competition.

(ii) In an age group where there are 7 (seven) matches (or more), a player can only be borrowed for a maximum of **3 (three)** matches. The maximum number refers to the total number of games played up and not to each team they may play in. However, if they play in a 4th game they are automatically transferred into that team by QCSA, which means the player shall be considered to have lost their original registered age group and team status. They cannot then play for any other team for the remainder of the State Carnival competition.

4. Association/Zone/Team can apply for special dispensation of the above restrictions on borrowing, during the carnival, because of injuries that have occurred 'during the carnival, meaning that a team is significantly disadvantaged (for example, may only have 10 players left on the Monday that can play, etc.).

Local Rules

1. Under 10/11 Corner Kicks (Short Corners), the Corner mark is to be placed 25m from the Centre of goals on the goal line.
2. Over 35s competitions: No slide tackles. Sanction: Indirect free kick. Note: Players may slide for the ball if it is not near an opponent.
3. Player Interchange
 - All interchanges must take place within the interchange zone or elsewhere on the field at the discretion of the referee at the time.
 - The number of interchanges that may be made is unlimited.
 - Interchanging is only permitted at stoppages at the referee's discretion and when the referee signals the interchange.
 - A coach or manager requesting an interchange shall notify the Assistant Referee or referee at an appropriate time. (e.g., at a stoppage).
 - The player leaving the field shall do so only after receiving the referee's permission to leave the field of play, unless already off the field, and must leave by the nearest point on the boundary line unless the referee indicates that the player may leave directly and immediately at the halfway line or another point (e.g. for safety/security or injury).
 - The player entering the field shall do so from the interchange zone, but only after the player leaving the field.
 - All interchanges are at the discretion of the referee who may refuse an interchange at any time.
 - The referee will not declare time off and on for an interchange

Red and Yellow Cards

Accumulation of three (3) or more issued yellow cards at the State Titles carnival will result in an automatic one (1) match suspension during the State Carnival competition. Accumulation

of five (5) or more issued yellow cards at State Titles will result in an automatic two (2) match suspension during the State Carnival Competition.

Any red cards given out during the State Carnival, will be dealt with during this competition, in the fact that players will be suspended from matches for how many games the offence committed is deemed worthy by Discipline. Serious offences, will be dealt with by an appropriate Discipline Panel convened specifically for that purpose.

It will be at the discretion of the player's Association/Zone if any yellow cards or match suspension that are accrued during the State Carnival carry over into their regular club.

Perpetual Trophies

Under 11 Mixed Champions- Honouring SCCSA Life Member- *Len Kerle*

Len Kerle served as an SCCSA Representative Coach for seven years and played a pivotal role in SCCSA rejoining QCSA in 1997. He held positions on the regional council and represented the association as a delegate at QCSA meetings, contributing to strong governance and collaboration across the state. He helped establish the Under 14 QLD team that joined the Seniors in 2000 at Nationals and led numerous SCCSA teams to the international Kanga Cup tournament, including guiding a side to a Grand Final appearance. His leadership, commitment, and vision have left a legacy within SCCSA and the broader Christian football community.

Under 12 Mixed Champions- Honouring SCCSA Life Member- *Noel Crawford*

Noel served five years as Secretary of SCCSA, during which time he helped grow the association's membership from 1,400 to more than 2,000 players and supported its continued consolidation and success. As the Under 14 Representative Coach, he guided the team to become joint winners of the Wide Bay Championships with Bundaberg and led the first SCCSA side to compete in the International Kanga Cup in Canberra, reaching the semi-finals. He also introduced the highly successful Just for Kicks junior soccer program to the Sunshine Coast.

Under 13 Mixed Champions- Honouring QCSA Life Member- *Cliff Phillips*

For over 35 years, Cliff has served as chairperson, secretary, registrar, coach and a West Zone delegate at the Raceview Soccer Club. He is also a Life Member of the Raceview Soccer Club. Cliff served on the QCSA Standing Committee of Management for about 25 years, spending most of that time as the Association's Secretary, and is also a life Member of the QCSA.

For four years he was the QLD Chaplain at the CCFA Nationals.

Over many years at the State Titles, he organised the trophies, helped with the fields and served as the MC.

Cliff has been involved in coaching Junior Teams for many years.

Under 13 Girls Champions- Honouring SCCSA Life Member- *Mary Kerle*

Mary organised the first Under 16 Girls representative team for SCCSA, leading them to compete in the Women's Division at the State Titles before taking the side to the international Kanga Cup tournament. She also helped establish a new SCCSA club for the Mooloolah region in 2003 and played a key role in fundraising and coordinating efforts to send numerous SCCSA teams and players to both the Kanga Cup and National competitions.

Under 16 Boys Champions- Honouring QCSA Life Member & CFFA Foundation Father- *Tony Scarcella*

This perpetual trophy is named in honour of Tony Scarcella, QCSA Life Member (2014) and one of the three founding fathers of the Christian Football Federation Australia (CFFA), where he was later awarded Life Membership in 2018.

Tony contributed over 20 years of dedicated service to QCSA, serving in key leadership roles including Chairperson, Secretary, Discipline Chair, and SCM Member.

He selected the Under 16 Boys category to inspire young players to strive for their full potential, regardless of ability, and to encourage growth in confidence, character, and love for the sport by contributing beyond just the game.

Tony's influence extends nationally through his foundational work with CFFA, helping establish the federation's values, governance, and long-term direction.

This trophy stands as a lasting tribute to his leadership, integrity, and unwavering commitment to Christian football and the generations of young athletes shaped by his service.

Under 16 Girls Champions - Honouring QCSA Life Member- *Greg Olive*

Greg served as the president of the North Pine Baptist Club for 35 years and was a member of the Standing Committee of Management of the QCSA Association. He was also honoured with Life Membership of the QCSA.

For 15 years, he held the position of chairman of the North Zone. Greg is considered one of the founding figures in the nationals, and he was the tour leader for the Queensland arm of the national competition. Additionally, he served as the Treasurer of CFFA for four years.

One of his notable initiatives was starting the "Girls in Pink" program for the north side of Brisbane, where he advocated for girls to play in pink uniforms within the QCSA competition.

Senior Womens Champions- Honouring QCSA Life Member- *Leonie McAneney*

Leonie McAneney was involved in QCSA for more than a decade: on a club level, as a member of SCM, at various times as the Discipline Chairperson and SCM Chairperson. As a QCSA Life Member, Leonie selected the Senior Woman's Trophy to be associated with because she has always believed that our girls and women need to be encouraged to compete and develop excellence with the same enthusiasm as our boys and men are. Soccer is a sport for all genders.

Senior Mens Champions- Honouring SCCSA Life Member- *Kerry Wolski*

Kerry Wolski is recognised for his outstanding contribution to SCCSA, having established the SCCSA Senior Men's Competition in 1999 with an inaugural four teams and playing a key role in the development of many representative sides competing at State Titles and the Kanga Cup. His dedication, leadership, and unwavering support have strengthened the organisation, enriched the experience of players and volunteers, and helped shape the positive, community-focused culture that SCCSA enjoys today

The Eric Jones Cup- STATE CHAMPION TROPHY

Eric Jones was the founding president of the QCSA in 1968. Fifty years later, Eric is still very much an active part of our Association through his work with the Blackstone Welsh Soccer Club.

The winner of The Eric Jones Cup will be the zone that receives the highest number of aggregate points over all the age competitions. In deciding the winner of The Eric Jones Cup, should two or more zones be level on points, then the zone with a superior goal difference will decide the winner. If they are still level, the zone with the most goals scored will be declared the winner.

Zones and affiliates will be awarded aggregate points on the basis of the outcome of each of the Age State Champion competitions.

Points are awarded as follows:

Age Champion – 4 Points

Runners up – 3 Points

3rd Place – 2 Points

4th Place – 1 Point

If in any particular age group teams are declared joint champions, both teams will receive 3.5 points, there will be no points awarded for the second place; next place will be third place receiving 2 points and 1 point for fourth place.

In age groups where a zone has more than one team participating, only the highest placed team in that particular age group will receive aggregate points towards any or all aggregate awards.

Pastor Alan Leanne Cup- Team Conduct Recognition

Pastor Alan Leanne was the founding president of Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association (1974)

This award acknowledges zones who teams demonstrate high standards of behaviour conduct. Awarded to the zone with the least amount of average yellow / red card points accumulated.

Yellow cards equally 1 point and red cards worth 3, as the zones have different number of teams nominated the total points will be divided by number for teams nominated to get an average score.

8. Venue Map



9. Timeline for Zone/Association nominations and payments

DATE	DESCRIPTION
February 2026	Expression of Interest and Nomination Form Sent
March 2026	Expression of Interest Closes
11 th April 2026	Team Nomination Closes 50% Non Refundable deposit of team Nominations due
18 th April 2026	Full Amount due for team Nominations
18 th April 2026	Draw and Photo Schedule Completed