



Proposed Changes to the  
BUCS Team Racing Championship  
and BUSA Regions

# Why are changes necessary?



**Oversubscription** - Several regional Qualifiers have been oversubscribed in recent years, particularly the South Central.



**Growth** - There are a number of universities looking to develop teams in the coming years, but no space in the current format.



**Long Travel Times** - Some newer clubs have been placed in unsuitable regions due to space, eg. Sussex and Kent competing in the Midlands.



**Regional Inequality** - There is growing concern around inequality of performance across the existing regions, exacerbated by the current format.



**Promote Development** - A new format would enable more teams to progress past Qualifiers and make hosting BUCS events accessible for more USCs.

# Constitution Changes

**The vote at the 2020 BUSA AGM will be based solely around the addition of a sixth region (Eastern).**

Our constitution states

*“7. OFFICERS & HONORARY MEMBERS*

*7.1 There shall be the following Officers:*

*(l) 5 Regional Chairs (Scottish, Northern, Midlands, Western, South/Central)”*

**We wish to change this to 6 Regional Chairs (Scottish, Northern, Midlands, Western, Southern and Eastern)**

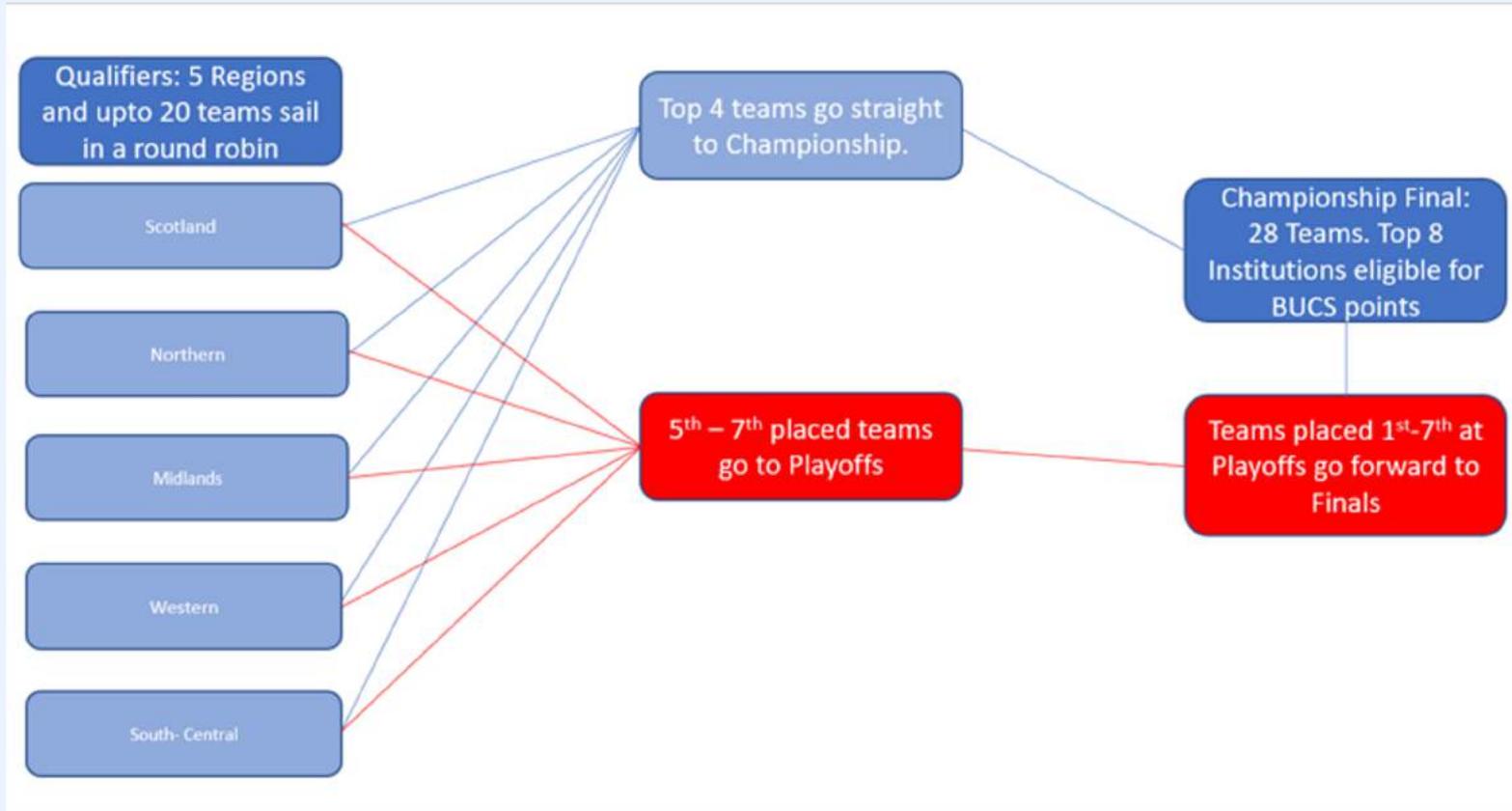
# Proposal Summary

<b>Western</b>	<b>Midlands</b>	<b>Northern</b>	<b>Eastern</b>	<b>Southern</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
Bath	<i>Aberystwyth</i>	Durham	Brunel	Bournemouth	Aberdeen
Bristol	Birmingham	Lancaster	Cambridge	Oxford	Dundee
Cardiff	Bangor	Leeds	East Anglia	Oxford Brookes	Edinburgh
Exeter	<i>Derby</i>	Liverpool	Imperial	Portsmouth	<i>Edinburgh Napier</i>
<i>Falmouth</i>	<i>Lincoln</i>	Manchester	Kent	Southampton	Glasgow
Plymouth	Loughborough	Newcastle	London	Southampton Solent	Highlands and Islands
Swansea	Nottingham	York	Reading	Sussex	<i>Queens Belfast</i>
West England	Sheffield			Surrey	St. Andrews
	Sheffield Hallam				Strathclyde
	Warwick				

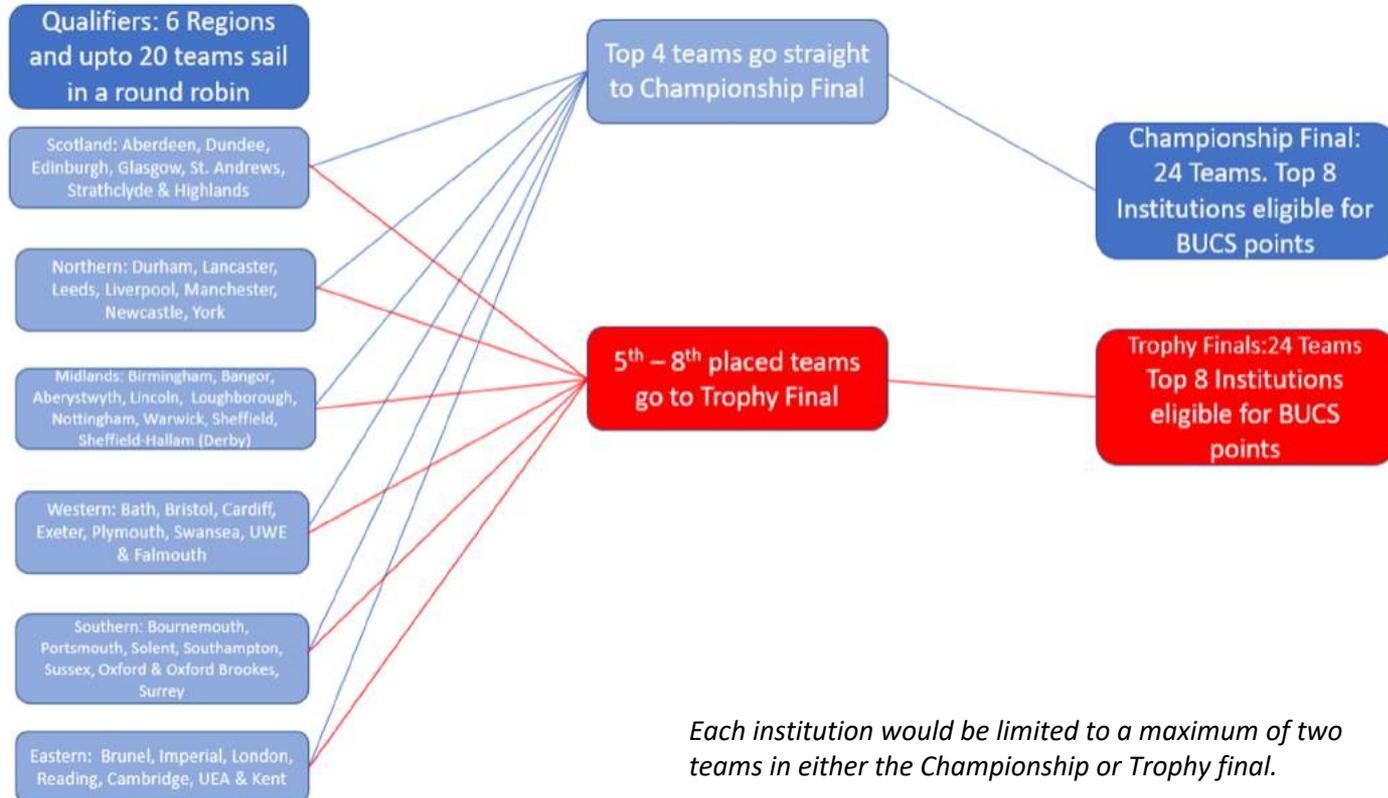
Alterations to the structure of the BUCS Team Racing Championships to facilitate the addition of a sixth BUSA region as detailed below. This will increase event capacity, allowing a greater number of teams and universities to enter.

The introduction of a Trophy Final to sit alongside the existing Championship Final will help to improve the quality of competition at all levels of university team racing.

# Current Competition Structure



# Proposed Competition Structure



# How will clubs be affected?

## Increase Competitor Numbers at Qualifiers

- Combat current regional oversubscription.
- Provide space for newer/smaller universities intending to compete to join the event.
- Allow the two newest clubs (Kent and Sussex) to be moved to more geographically appropriate regions.
- Provide space for some institutions in oversubscribed regions to enter additional teams (up to 3 per institution).

## Increase Competitor Numbers Progressing Past Qualifiers

Currently 27 teams attend the BUCS Championship Finals with only 8 eligible for BUCS points. In total that is 35 teams progressing further than Qualifiers.

With the new proposed format 48 teams would progress on from Qualifiers and a further 8 teams could also be eligible for BUCS points.

# How will clubs be affected?

## Quality of Competition and Regional Performance

Following a review of BUCS Team Racing performance and participation over recent years, it has been highlighted that there is a regional disparity across the UK.

During the current Playoffs competition, the top 7 teams out of 15 are invited to the Finals.

6

Playoffs hosted 2013-14 until 2018-19

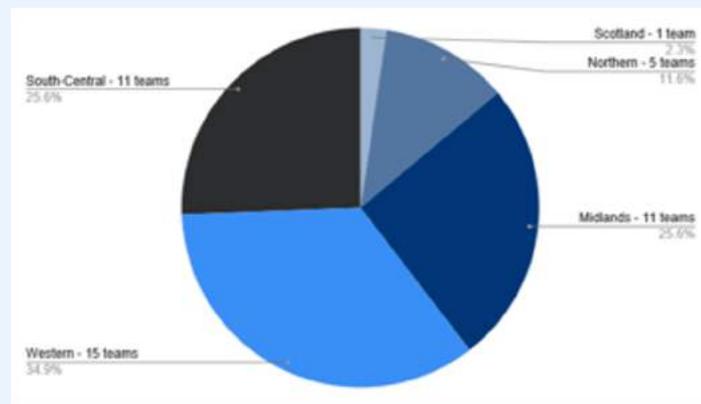
90

Teams attending Playoffs in this time.

18

Number of teams entered to Playoffs per region in this time.

Number of teams progressing through Playoffs per region since 2013-14



With more teams (especially from underrepresented regions) progressing through Qualifiers, prolonging their competition season and getting the extra experience of a high standard event in the form of the Trophy Final, a 'trickle down' effect should occur over the next few seasons as the standard of Team Racing improves progressively across the whole of the UK.

# How will clubs be affected?

## Institutional Support for Clubs

From polling our members, the funding many clubs receive from their institution is dependent on BUCS points. Whilst simply attending a Trophy event will eventually benefit clubs as they get to race teams on a similar level and train for longer, being able to compete for BUCS points adds incentive for clubs to train and perform their best.

The eventual financial reward from institutions for some clubs should further enhance the improvement process by allowing teams to get professional coaches, attend more events and invest in new equipment to train with.

## Widening Event Delivery Experience

Hosting two smaller events will increase the number of University Sailing Clubs with the required resources to host a BUCS Sailing event. This will provide more students with the opportunity to host a high standard event with the support of BUSA, giving them valuable event management experience.

# Entry Fees

By removing Playoffs and adding a Trophy Final, the entry fees of the competition would change slightly:

- Regional Qualifiers entry fees should remain **unchanged**
  - **£350** for Northern, Midlands, Western, Southern and Eastern teams, **£580** for SSS Leagues
- Trophy Final entry fee would be set at **£500**
  - This would reflect the greater number of teams attending, more races and higher quality standard of competition with BUCS points on offer
  - Teams who would compete in Playoffs then Finals will save £570
- Entry fees for the Championship Final would **remain the same (£720)**

# Next Steps

Have questions or ideas?

Email [busateamracingofficer@gmail.com](mailto:busateamracingofficer@gmail.com) or message us via any of our social media channels (@busamedia).

Vote at the online AGM  
(14th April 2020, 7pm)

Full details will be released via email in the coming weeks prior to the AGM.