



Proposed Changes to the  
BUCS Team Racing Championship  
following membership consultation

# Why are changes necessary?



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



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

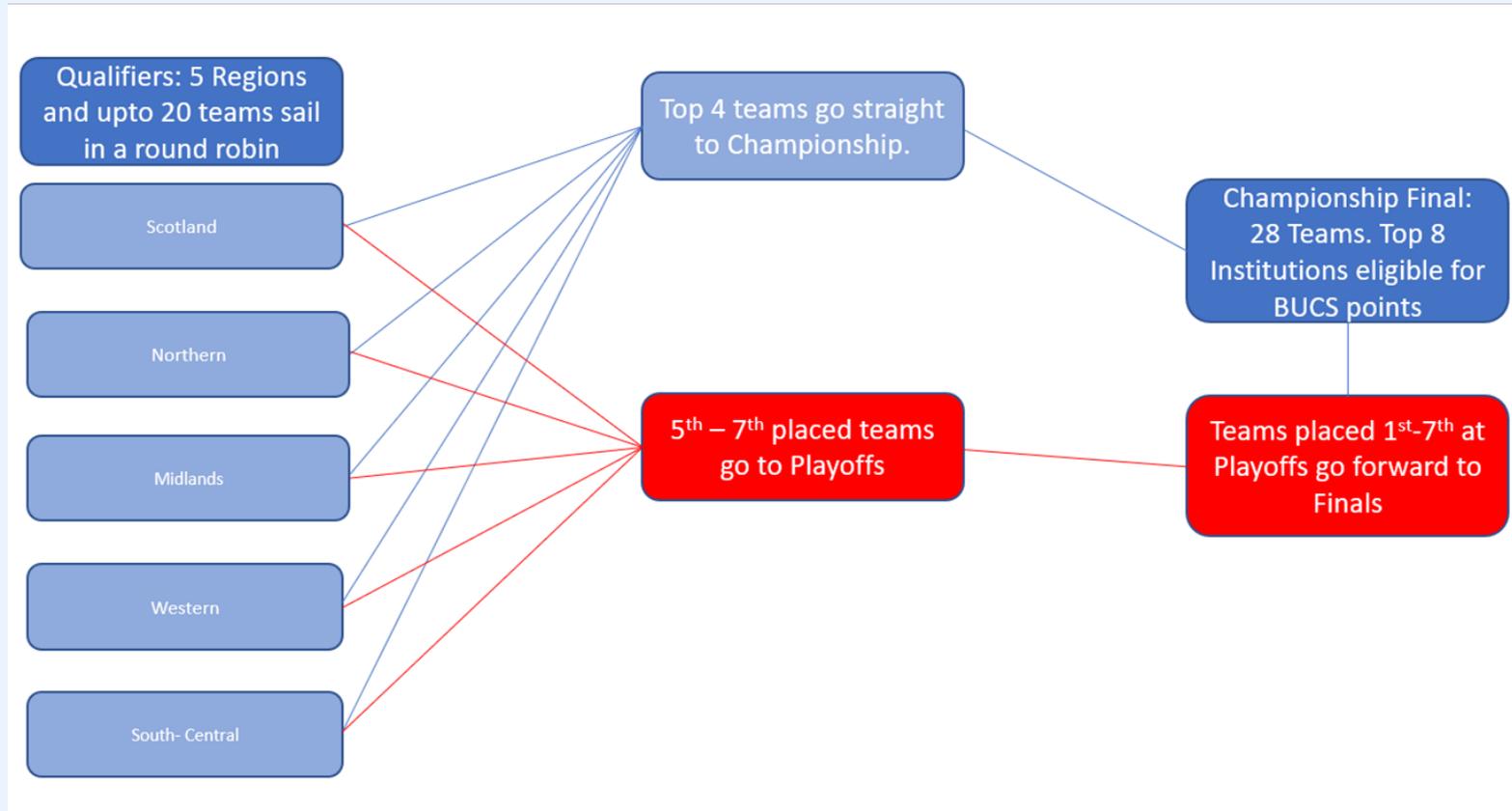


**Long Travel Times** - Some newer clubs have been placed in unsuitable regions due to space, eg. Sussex and Kent competing in the Midlands.

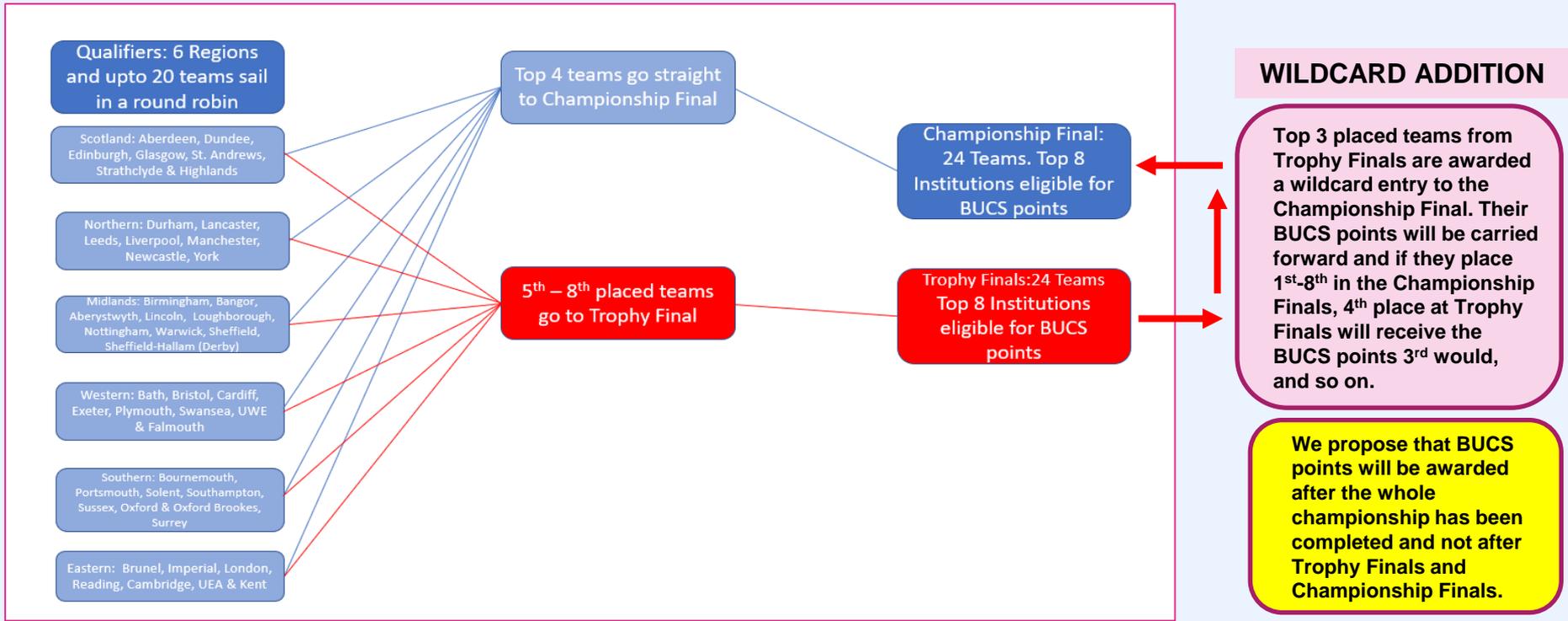


**Oversubscription** - Several regional Qualifiers have been oversubscribed in recent years, particularly the South Central.

# Current Competition Structure



# Proposed Competition Structure



~~Each institution would be limited to a maximum of two teams in either the Championship or trophy final.~~

Following an area chair led consultation, more USCs voted in favour of allowing 3 teams per university at all stages.

# Entry Fees Amendment

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 approximated to be ~~£500~~ £400-£450 (dependent on host club costs)**
  - This amount could be lower depending on cost of variables (noted within the example budget)
  - The increased cost compared to Playoffs reflects the greater amount of resources needed due to the number of teams attending. In FAQ 1, information is given about the BUCS/BUSA cut.
  - Teams who would compete in Playoffs then Finals currently will save £670
- Entry fees for the Championship Final would **remain the same (£720)**
- **[AN EXAMPLE BUDGET AND FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE FOUND IN FAQ DOCUMENT 2](#)**

# How will clubs be affected?

## What are the potential downfalls of the change?

- The replacement of playoffs with a Trophy Final means a greater emphasis is placed on Regional Qualifiers performance

We have considered this. Our primary goal is participation growth & increased engagement which the current format doesn't support.

- Not having a playoffs means that teams who under-perform at Qualifiers will miss out on going to the Championship Finals.

Following this feedback, we have revised our proposal to BUCS. We will now propose a "Wildcard" addition (see page 4) where the top 3 teams at the Trophy final are invited to the Championship final, should they wish to enter.

- A key advantage is more BUCS Points but not all universities base their club level support on BUCS performances.

All clubs/universities run differently. The addition of a second 'finals' elongates the season for many teams, over time improving performance.

# 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 would be eligible for BUCS points.

# 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.

# Next Steps

Have questions or ideas?

Fill in the google form found on the AGM Page on the website or email [busateamracingofficer@gmail.com](mailto:busateamracingofficer@gmail.com).

Give your feedback at the online AGM  
(14th April 2020, 7pm)

Full details have been sent to all Club Captains/Commodores and will be reiterated early next week, prior to the AGM.