

# Merger Cup Guide 2026

QMSU

March 2026



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**We Listen. We Act.  
We Improve Students' Lives.**

# MERGER CUP 2026

Every year Merger Cup brings together our student community for one of the most competitive and celebrated weeks in the sporting calendar. Fixtures take place across multiple venues throughout the week, culminating in a full day of sport at Chislehurst. This year you are part of it. Read this before your first fixture, come ready to compete, and make it one to remember.

This document covers everything you need to know: eligibility, fixtures, venues, conduct, transport and how to report an incident. Please share it with your club before the week begins.

## Key Dates

Deadline	Date
Merger merchandise order deadline	12/03/26 (10am)
Team sheet and code of conduct submission deadline	20/03/26 (11:59am)
Transport booking request deadline	20/03/26 (11:59am)
<b>Merger Cup Week begins</b>	<b>23/03/26</b>
<b>Chislehurst Day</b>	<b>28/03/26</b>

## Useful Links

Share these with your club before the week begins so everyone has them to hand.

Resource	Link
Transport booking request	<a href="#">[LINK]</a>
Team sheet submission	<a href="#">[LINK]</a>
Scorecard submission	<a href="#">[LINK]</a>
Incident reporting form	<a href="#">[LINK]</a>
Sports Development Team contact	<a href="mailto:Su-sportsadministrator@qmul.ac.uk">Su-sportsadministrator@qmul.ac.uk</a>

## Fixtures

All fixtures are final once published and the Sports Development Team cannot make changes to the schedule. Check your sport, date, time and venue carefully before you travel.

Date (2026)	Start Time	End Time	Sport	QM Team	BL Team	Venue	Points
25/03	13:00	14:00	Indoor Cricket	QM Men's 1s	BL Men's 1s	Q Motion	3
25/03	12:00	13:00	Indoor Cricket	QM Men's 2s	BL Men's 2s	Q Motion	3

25/03	14:00	16:00	Badminton	QM Women's 1s	BL Women's 1s	Q Motion	3
25/03	16:00	18:00	Badminton	QM Mixed 1s	BL Mixed 1s	Q Motion	3
25/03	18:00	20:00	Badminton	QM Men's 1s	BL Women's 1s	Q Motion	3
26/03	19:30	21:30	Brazilian Jiu Jitsu	Friendly		Q Motion	0
25/03	13:00	N/A	Snowsports	Friendly		Brentwood	0
25/03	12:00	13:30	Volleyball	QM Mixed 1s	BL Mixed 1s	Score Centre	3
25/03	14:00	15:30	Volleyball	QM Men's 1s	BL Men's 1s	Score Centre	3
25/03	15:30	17:00	Volleyball	QM Women's 1s	BL Women's 1s	Score Centre	3
25/03	15:30	N/A	Athletics	QM Men's 1s	BL Men's 1s	Victoria Park	3
25/03	15:30	N/A	Athletics	QM Women's 1s	BL Women's 1s	Victoria Park	3
25/03	14:00	15:00	Swimming	QM Mixed 1s	BL Mixed 1s	Mile End Leisure Centre	1
26/03	20:00	19:30	Water polo	QM Mixed 1s	BL Mixed 1s	Poplar Baths	1
27/03	19:35	20:40	Hockey	QM Women's 1s	BL Women's 1s	John Orwell	3
27/03	20:45	21:50	Hockey	QM Men's 1s	BL Men's 1s	John Orwell	3
28/03	09:30	11:00	Netball	QM Women's 4s	B Women's 4s	Chislehurst Netball courts	3
28/03	09:30	11:00	Football	QM Club Friendly		Chislehurst West Field	0
28/03	10:00	11:00	American Football TAG	QM vs BL Intra-Club Rec		Chislehurst East Field	1
28/03	11:00	14:00	Fencing	QM vs BL Intra- Club Rec		Q Motion Sports Hall	1
28/03	11:00	12:30	Netball	QM Women's 3s	BL Women's 3s	Chislehurst Netball courts	3
28/03	12:30	14:00	Rugby	QM vs BL Intra-Club Rec		Chislehurst East Field	1
28/03	11:00	13:00	Football	QM Men's 3	BL Men's 3	Chislehurst West Field	3
28/03	11:30	13:00	Netball	QM Women's 2s	BL Women's 2s	Chislehurst Netball courts	3
28/03	12:00	13:30	Lacrosse	QM Mixed 1	BL Mixed 1	Chislehurst East Field	3
28/03	12:00	16:00	Tennis	QM Mixed 1	BL Mixed 1	Farrington's School	3
28/03	12:00	14:00	Football	QM Men's 2	BL Men's 2	Chislehurst West Field	3
28/03	12:30	14:30	Football	QM Women's 1	BL Women's 1	Chislehurst East Field	3
28/03	13:00	14:30	Netball	QM Women's 1	BL Women's 1	Chislehurst Netball courts	3
28/03	14:30	16:30	Football	QM Men's 1	BL Men's 1	Chislehurst West Field	3
28/03	13:00	14:00	Basketball	QM vs BL Intra-Club Rec		Farrington's School	1
28/03	14:00	15:00	Basketball	QM Men's 1s	BL Men's 1s	Farrington's School	3

\*The sports development team has the right to amend fixture details and these will be shared with the affected teams.

## Venues

Merger Cup 2026 fixtures take place across the following venues. All students must adhere to the individual terms of use of each site. Where a venue has specific rules around alcohol, access, equipment or conduct, those rules apply and must be followed.

Venue	Address
Q Motion Sports and Fitness Centre	15 Bancroft Rd, Bethnal Green, London E1 4FZ
Score Centre	2 coronation Square, London E10 5UN
Farrington's School	Farrington's School, Perry St, Chislehurst BR7 6LR
Chislehurst School	Beaverwood Rd, Chislehurst BR7, UK
Queen Mary University of London Sports Ground	Perry St, Chislehurst BR7 6SD
John Orwell Leisure Centre	20 Tench St, London E1W 2QD
Brentwood Park	Warley Gap, Warley, Brentwood CM13 3DP
Victoria Park	Grove Road, Bow, London, E3 5TB
Mile End Leisure Centre	190 Burdett Road, Mile End, London, E3 4HL
Poplar Baths Leisure Centre	170 East India Dock Road, Poplar, London, E14 0ED

## Eligibility

Before your first fixture, make sure your club is sorted on the following.

- Every player must be a registered member of the club they represent. If someone plays who is not registered, the match is forfeited and 10 points are deducted from that institution's overall score.
- Membership must be a full club membership that allows competitive participation. Social-only memberships do not qualify. It must be paid before the player membership deadline above.
- A player cannot represent two different teams in the same sport. Playing in multiple sports is fine, as long as they hold a valid membership for each club.
- Every player needs a valid student ID at every fixture. No ID, no play. Make sure everyone has it with them.

## Fixture Classification

Every fixture is classified in advance by the Sports Development Team and published alongside the fixture list. You will know before your fixture what type of game you are playing.

When a club enters a team, the Sports Development Team will match them to the closest available opposition. Where a ranking or league structure exists, this will be used to find the most appropriate match. Where it does not, we will find the closest equivalent.

Where a direct match cannot be made, the Sports Development Team will contact the opposition club to try to arrange a fixture. We want everyone to have the opportunity to play.

Where a fixture cannot be arranged, the club will have the opportunity to take part in a friendly fixture. Friendly fixtures do not contribute to the overall score but are still a chance to compete and enjoy the week.

## Competitive Fixture

A fixture is Competitive when Queen Mary (QM) and Barts and The London (BL) each have their own separate club in that sport. It does not matter whether either competes in British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS). If two distinct clubs face each other in the same sport, it is Competitive.

## Recreational Fixture

A fixture is Recreational when a true head-to-head between two separate clubs in the same sport is not possible. This includes intra-club fixtures where a team is drawn from both institutions.

## Friendly Fixture

A Friendly fixture takes place where a pointed fixture cannot be arranged. The result does not contribute to the overall score. Friendly fixtures are still part of the week, and clubs are encouraged to take part where possible.

## Scoring

Points are awarded per fixture as follows:

Fixture Type	Win	Draw	Loss
Competitive	3	1	0
Recreational	1 each	1 each	1 each
Friendly	n/a	n/a	n/a

In Recreational fixtures both institutions receive 1 point each regardless of the result. Friendly fixtures are not pointed.

- At least 70% of all classified fixtures must be completed for Merger Cup 2026 to produce an official result.
- The institution with the highest total points wins. If both finish level, the institution with the most Competitive fixture wins takes the trophy. If still tied, it is declared a draw.

## Results

Results are updated throughout the week as scorecards are submitted. The final result will be announced at Merger Cup After Party.

## Sporting Integrity

To keep the competition fair for everyone, the following situations result in point deductions or disqualification. These are the only things that affect the overall score. Conduct and facilities issues are handled separately.

Situation	Consequence
Club unable to fulfil a fixture after the fixture list is published	3-point deduction, facility hire cost liability, opposition awarded 3 points
Player found ineligible after the team sheet deadline	Player not permitted to compete
Unregistered player competes	Match forfeited, 10-point deduction
Scorecard not submitted within 60 minutes of scheduled finish	1-point deduction from defaulting club's institution

Once the fixture list is published it is final. The Sports Development Team cannot make changes to the schedule. Where conditions are difficult on the day, officials and captains manage the situation in line with BUCS regulations.

If a result is disputed, both captains should raise it with the Sports Development Team immediately after the fixture. The Sports Development Team will review the situation and their decision is final. Disputes raised after the event cannot be considered.

## At Your Fixture

### Team Sheets

Every team must submit a team sheet via email ([su-sportsadministrator@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:su-sportsadministrator@qmul.ac.uk)) with the filled-in template before 20<sup>th</sup> March midday. Clubs can decide whether the president handles this centrally or individual captains submit for their own team.

- For intra-club fixtures, the team sheet must list everyone playing for either team.
- Everyone listed must be eligible to compete in line with the eligibility rules above. Anyone found to be ineligible after the deadline will not be permitted to compete.
- If a team has not submitted a team sheet before the deadline, that team will be withdrawn from competing.

### On the Day

- All matches are played under BUCS rules, or the closest equivalent where BUCS rules do not exist.
- Both captains are responsible for sourcing and confirming officials with the opposition in advance. Payment is made in cash on the day. A referee receipt form must be completed to receive reimbursement via an expense claim on the online finance system.

### Submitting Your Scorecard

Both captains are jointly responsible for submitting the scorecard after every fixture. This is how results are recorded and points allocated. Without a submitted scorecard, the result cannot count.

- The scorecard must be submitted within 60 minutes of the fixture's scheduled finish time.
- Both captains should agree the result before submitting. If there is a disagreement, raise it with the Sports Development Team immediately.
- Failure to submit on time will result in a 1-point deduction from the defaulting club's institution's overall score.

Save the scorecard link to your phone before your fixture. Do not leave it until after the final whistle to find it.

### Venues and Facilities

All students must adhere to the individual terms of use of each site and facility. Where a venue has specific rules around alcohol, access, equipment or conduct, those rules apply and must be followed.

- Leave all playing areas, changing rooms and surrounding spaces in the same condition you found them. If a professional clean is needed, the cost is charged to the club.

## Representing Your University

Merger Cup is a celebration of student sport and everyone involved: competitors, spectators, officials, staff and the public. How you conduct yourself reflects on your university, your club and everyone who has worked to make the week happen.

- Be respectful to all participants, supporters, officials, staff and members of the public.
- No violence, criminal activity or anti-social behaviour.
- Racial, homophobic or discriminatory abuse or chanting is not tolerated and will result in ejection from the event. It may also result in arrest.
- Do not throw objects at spectators or onto the field of play.
- No illegal substances at any Merger Cup venue. No alcohol on transport.
- Do not bring knives, fireworks, smoke canisters, flares, weapons, laser devices or any item that could be used as a weapon. Anyone found with these will be refused entry.

Conduct that brings your university or Students' Union into disrepute may result in individual sanctions, including bans from future Students' Union events or disaffiliation from Club Sport. Each case is assessed individually by the Sports Development Team.

## Accidents and Incidents

If there is an accident or injury at any fixture, alert the match official immediately. Do not wait. All incidents must be reported using the incident form. Share this with your club before the week so everyone has it to hand.

For anything urgent, contact the Sports Development Team directly.

## Transport

If your club requires coach transport to a Merger Cup fixture, submit a booking request. Requests received after the deadline cannot be guaranteed.

- Coaches depart at the exact time in the booking. Anyone who misses it arranges their own way to the venue.
- Coaches will not make stops beyond those in the original booking.
- Do not leave belongings on the coach. Neither the coach company nor the Students' Union is responsible for items left on board.
- Leave the coach as you found it. Any mess or damage is charged to the club's subs account.

## Chislehurst Day

The Chislehurst Day is the largest single day of Merger Cup 2026, with fixtures across multiple pitches and venues. The following guidance applies specifically to Chislehurst and the surrounding venues on this day.

## Who's There

The Queen Mary Students' Union Sports Development Team will be on site throughout the day in QMSU Sport kit. Student volunteers will also be on site in hi-vis vests or volunteer t-shirts to help point you in the right direction.

Medics and a paramedic will be on site throughout the day. If there is an accident or injury, alert a member of staff immediately and use the incident reporting form at [\[LINK\]](#).

## Chislehurst Site Rules

- No glass is permitted anywhere on the Chislehurst site or at any surrounding venue, including Farringtons School and the outdoor netball courts.
- Alcohol can only be consumed in the immediate Chislehurst site area, not at Farringtons School or the outdoor netball courts.
- Farringtons School is accessed via Perry Street then Old Perry Street.
- The outdoor netball courts are accessed via Chislehurst East Field.

A site map is included in the Venues section above. If you need help finding a venue on the day, speak to a member of staff or a volunteer.

## After Party

Details of the Merger Cup 2026 after party will be confirmed at [\[LINK\]](#).

## Social Media

We want to see your Merger Cup content. Tag us @qmsu-sport. If you are photographing or filming other people, make sure they are happy to be included before you post.

## Your Responsibilities as a Club

Make sure everyone in your club has read this document before their first fixture. As a captain or president, the experience your members have starts with you. Set the tone, know the rules, and come prepared.

If something goes wrong at any point during Merger Cup week, contact the Sports Development Team as soon as possible.

## Disclaimer

Everyone who takes part in Merger Cup 2026 does so at their own risk. If you feel unwell or get injured, tell the match official immediately and seek help. Queen Mary Students' Union, as the organising body, cannot accept liability for any injury sustained during Merger Cup 2026.

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## President's Declaration

As the President of my club, I confirm that I have shared this document with all club members and commit to upholding these guidelines on behalf of all registered competitors.

Name (print):

Club:

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Signature:

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Date: