# Scottish Premiership Clubs Vote to Ban Artificial Pitches for 2026-27 Season



Scottish Premiership clubs have voted to ban artificial pitches in the top-flight league starting from the 2026-27 season. The resolution needed a minimum of nine votes to pass and received approval from the majority of the 12 Premiership clubs. Kilmarnock, which currently uses an artificial pitch, plans to return to a grass surface in 2025.

The Scottish Professional Football League (SPFL) has granted a two-year period for clubs with artificial pitches to make necessary changes, and will collaborate with a leading pitch consultancy firm to enhance the quality of grass pitches in the Premiership.

Raith Rovers CEO Andy Barrowman voiced strong opposition to the ban, arguing that the decision will impose significant financial challenges on clubs from lower divisions aspiring to join the Premiership. Raith Rovers, along with Falkirk, Hamilton Academical, and Queen of the South, proposed an alternative plan but were not successful in altering the outcome. Barrowman highlighted the logistical and financial difficulties for clubs needing to install grass pitches upon promotion to the top tier.