

**2015**

**Galway  
Football  
League**

*Version 1.2*

**LEAGUE RULES**

**COMPETITION RULES**

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## ***GALWAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE RULES***

### **RULE 1: GALWAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

- 1.1 The Galway Football League will be referred to as “the League”. It shall be known as the Galway Football League, Cumann Sraith Pheile na Gaillimhe.
- 1.2 The League will have jurisdiction over all *Association Football* played in the county and city of Galway.
- 1.3 This jurisdiction would incorporate junior, youth, schoolboy, women’s and schoolgirls level.
- 1.4 This league shall be affiliated to the Football Association of Ireland, the Connacht Football Association, the Schoolboys Football Association of Ireland, and the Women’s Football Association of Ireland.
- 1.5 The Galway Football League is a company limited by guarantee, not having issued share capital. The Officers will sit as directors during their term of office.
- 1.6 The principal offices of the League shall be at Eamonn Deacy Park, Dyke Road, Terryland, Galway.<sup>1</sup>

### **RULE 2: DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 In the interpretation of these rules the following words and expressions shall have the meanings so defined;
  - a. The “League” shall mean the Galway Football League (GFL).
  - b. The “FAI” shall mean the Football Association of Ireland.
  - c. The “CFA” shall mean the Connacht Football Association.
  - d. The “SFAI” shall mean the Schoolboys Football Association of Ireland.
  - e. The “WFAI” shall mean the Women’s Football Association of Ireland.
- 2.2 The “Officers” shall mean the Chairperson, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.
- 2.3 “Days” shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.
- 2.4
  - a. The “Committee” shall mean the Committee of the Galway Football League.
  - b. The “Manager” means the Official of a Club responsible for selecting a Team.
  - c. “Match Officials” means referees, assistant referees, and includes reserve officials and fourth officials.
  - d. The “GOM” refers to the *General Operations Manager* who operates/runs the daily office business under the remit of the Galway Football League Officers and committee.<sup>2</sup>

### **RULE 3: OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 The objectives of the League shall be to co-operate with the F.A.I. CFA, SFAI, and the WFAI, in their efforts. The league will promote, foster, and develop the game of association football in the Galway League in accordance with these above associations. The League will take the necessary or advisable steps that prevent any infringements of the rules of the game.
- 3.2 The league will also take the necessary or advisable steps to stop improper methods or practices in the game.
- 3.3 The league will protect the game from all abuses, and will do all things to the attainment of the above objectives.<sup>3</sup>

### **RULE 4: HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT**

- 4.1 The Annual General Meeting may appoint an Honorary Life President.
- 4.2 The *Honorary Life President* may remain in office for the remainder of his natural lifespan, or until he may choose to resign.
- 4.3 The *Honorary Life President* may attend committee meetings, but will not be entitled to vote at such meetings.
- 4.4 The *Honorary Life President* may also attend the Annual or Special General meetings, but will not be entitled to vote at such meetings.<sup>4</sup>

### **RULE 5: HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS**

- 5.1 The league may appoint *Honorary Life Members* at the league AGM on the recommendation of the committee.
- 5.2 No more than **three** persons shall hold such life membership at any given time.

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<sup>1</sup> Rule 1 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>2</sup> Rule 2 ratified at 2015 AGM

<sup>3</sup> Rule 3 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>4</sup> Rule 4 ratified at 2013 AGM

- 5.3 Honorary Life Membership shall entitle the holder to enjoy privileges of free entry to all games under the League's jurisdiction.
- 5.4 *Honorary Life Members* may attend **Committee**, Annual and Special General Meetings of the League among other events deemed appropriate by the Committee.<sup>5</sup>

#### **RULE 6: RULEBOOKS**

- 6.1 The League Rulebook shall be available to download from the leagues website free of charge.<sup>6</sup>

#### **RULE 7: CHAIRPERSON**

- 7.1 The *Chairperson* will preside over the meetings of the Committee in a non-partisan manner.
- 7.2 The *Chairperson* will authenticate by signature the minutes of meetings, and exercise general supervision over committee affairs.
- 7.3 In the event of *Chairperson's* absence from any meeting, the members present shall appoint a person to preside over the meeting.
- 7.4 The *Chairperson* in conjunction with the Hon. Secretary shall ensure that all scheduled meetings are held with advance notice, and a copy of the *Agenda* given to all committee members.
- 7.5 The *Chairperson* may call an emergency meeting if he deems the issue to be of a serious and urgent nature.
- 7.6 The *Chairperson* is entitled to a deliberative vote and has also a casting vote in the event of a tie in any decision.<sup>7</sup>

#### **RULE 8: HON/SECRETARY**

- 8.1 The *Hon/Secretary* shall keep a true record of all meetings.
- 8.2 Correspondences shall be held in a manner prescribed by the committee.
- 8.3 The *Hon/Secretary* shall present a true report of the season's work at the AGM.
- 8.4 The *Hon/Secretary* through the *Administrator* will be responsible for all arrangements for the League.
- 8.5 The *Hon/Secretary* may call a committee meeting at any time.<sup>8</sup>

#### **RULE 9: HON/TREASURER**

- 9.1 The *Hon/Treasurer* will take charge of the funds of the league and keep an accurate account of it.
- 9.2 The *Hon/Treasurer* will submit Statements of receipts and expenditure at committee meetings.
- 9.3 All cheques must be authorised by the committee before issue and signed by the authorised signatories.
- 9.4 The accounts of the League shall be brought to a close on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December each year and shall be duly audited by such persons as may be nominated at the Annual General Meeting.<sup>9</sup>

#### **RULE 10: LEAGUE GOVERNANCE**

- 10.1 The governance and control of the League is vested in the committee.
- 10.2 The committee shall carry out its duties and exercise its powers to achieve the objects of the league as defined in these rules.
- 10.3 The committee shall have the power to deal with such matters concerning the league not expressly provided for in these Rules.<sup>10</sup>

#### **RULE 11: OPERATION OF GALWAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE COMMITTEE**

- 11.1 The committee will be entitled to place proposals for changes in the league rules before an AGM.
- 11.2 **The Committee through the General Operations Manager (GOM) shall be responsible for all the arrangements of the league.**
- 11.3 **In the role of Board of Directors, the league committee will also act in compliance with the requirement of regulatory of regulatory bodies.**
- 11.4 **The Committee will be entitled to place proposals for changes in the league rules before an AGM for acceptance or rejection by that body.**
- 11.5 The Committee may delegate any of its powers to *sub-committees* consisting of such members as approved by the committee.

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5 Rule 5 ratified at 2015 AGM

6 Rule 6 ratified at 2013 AGM

7 Rule 7 ratified at 2013 AGM

8 Rule 8 ratified at 2013 AGM

9 Rule 9 ratified at 2014 AGM

10 Rule 10 ratified at 2013 AGM

- 11.6 Any subcommittee formed with the exception of the *Disciplinary Subcommittee* will in the exercise of their power conform to any limitation that may imposed on it by the committee.
- 11.7 The **Convener** of each sub-committee shall report regularly on its work to the league committee.
- 11.8 At the beginning of each season, the committee will appoint a P.R.O. This person does not have to be a member of the committee.
- 11.9 At the beginning of each season, the committee will appoint a Child Welfare Liason Officer (CWLO). This person does not have to be a member of the committee.<sup>11</sup>

**RULE 12: POWERS OF THE GALWAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE COMMITTEE**

- 12.1 The committee has the power to apply, act upon, and enforce the rules of the league.
- 12.2 The committee has jurisdiction over all matters affecting the league and its competitions.
- 12.3 The committee has the power to deal with any club, team, official, member, player, and/or supporter guilty of misconduct, or in breach of the rules.
- 12.4 The committee has the power to suspend, fine, expel or discipline offending clubs, teams, or persons.
- 12.5 All committee decisions are final and binding unless they are rescinded on appeal to the C.F.A. S.F.A.I. WFAI or F.A.I.
- 12.6 The league has the power to investigate charges against League officials, and to remove from office any person whose conduct in the management of the League affairs has been objectionable.
- 12.7 Where it has come to the notice of a league member of an incident that warrants disciplinary action, that member has the power to report the facts to the League Committee in writing.
- 12.8 The league has the power to order games to be played on neutral ground or an opponent's ground as they see fit.<sup>12</sup>

**RULE 13: EXPENSES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- 13.1 Committee members and persons assisting the league in its functions shall be paid such expense and/or fees that are in line with the policy laid down by the committee at its first meeting of each season.<sup>13</sup>

**RULE 14: LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 14.1 Notification of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to all affiliated clubs 21 days in advance of the A.G.M
- 14.2 Proposed additions or alterations to rules must be sent in writing/email to the *Hon/Secretary* 14 days before the A.G.M
- 14.3 Each Club shall be entitled to vote as follows at the AGM:
- a. Junior Club = 2 Votes.
  - b. Youth or schoolboys teams = 2 Votes.
  - c. Junior and under age teams = 4 Votes.
  - d. Each club with Girls or Ladies Teams affiliated should have additional 2 votes (i.e. 6 votes for those clubs with Junior, Boys and Girls / Ladies teams).
- 14.4 Any club failing to attend the AGM shall be subject to disciplinary action, and fined €100.
- 14.5 Any club in monetary arrears, or are the subject of disciplinary actions, must (prior) to the AGM have all such commitments settled.
- 14.6 No club shall have the right to representation unless all affiliations and registration fees due have been received by the Committee in accordance with rules. Any club failing this rule will not be allowed vote at the AGM
- 14.7 All outgoing members of the committee will be entitled to vote at the AGM
- 14.8 Only members present at the AGM are entitled to vote, no vote by proxy will be accepted.
- 14.9 Only clubs with a minimum of juvenile team entered into the league can vote on juvenile competition specific rules or motion.<sup>14</sup>

**RULE 15: EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING:**

- 15.1 The committee may call an EGM, as it may deem necessary.

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11 Rule 11 ratified at 2015AGM  
 12 Rule 12 ratified at 2015AGM  
 13 Rule 13 ratified at 2013 AGM  
 14 Rule 14 ratified at 2015AGM

- 15.2 An EGM shall also be called upon receipt by the *Hon/Secretary* of a requisition signed by the secretaries of at least 50% plus 1 of the member Clubs of the League.
- 15.3 This requisition must be accompanied by a deposit of €300 to defray expenses.
- 15.4 No business shall be transacted by any such meeting *except* that specified in the requisition or contained in the Agenda issued by the Hon. Secretary.
- 15.5 The *Hon/Secretary* shall give 7 day's notice of such meetings to all clubs in the league.
- 15.6 No club shall have the right to representation unless all affiliations and registration fees due have been received by the Committee in accordance with rules. Any club failing this rule will not be allowed vote at the AGM.<sup>15</sup>

**RULE 16: LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP**

- 16.1 The league will be open to all bone/fide junior, youth, schoolboy, ladies, and schoolgirl clubs in the area who wish to affiliate to the league in accordance with the rules.
- 16.2 These clubs shall not be in breach of the rules of this league, and have fulfilled all obligations to its previous leagues.
- 16.3 For the purpose of this league, a *junior club* is one other than those competing in the Football League of Ireland (any section), divisional senior leagues such as Leinster, Munster, Connacht, Ulster, or leagues of a similar or higher status.
- 16.4 Each club must pay an "Annual Affiliation" fee on a date as defined by the *Hon/Secretary* each year.
- 16.5 No club shall be eligible to participate in the league *unless* this affiliation fee is paid.
- 16.6 Present clubs must have a *Youth Certificate Qualified* coach within their club by season ending 2015.<sup>16</sup>

**RULE 17: RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY**

- 17.1 The Galway Football League reserves the right to refuse admission to the league to any club, team, player, or individuals.<sup>17</sup>

**RULE 18: LEAGUE FORMAT**

- 18.1 Fixtures for boys Juveniles are set so that Odd age groups (11, 13, 15, 17) are run on an alternate weekend to the even age groups (12, 14, 16, 18).
- 18.2 Junior: Three main cups played for; Michael Byrne Premier & First Division, Joe Ryan Cup Second & Third Division, and Jack Lillis Cup to be played for by Fourth & Fifth Division.
- 18.3 U16 (Girls & Boys) and U18 (Girls & Boys) local competitions (League & Cup) will compete on or before April 30<sup>th</sup>.<sup>18</sup>

**RULE 19: CLUB ELIGIBILITY**

- 19.1 Membership of the league is open to all junior, youth, underage, ladies and schoolgirl clubs in the city and county provided they comply with the necessary requirements, and agree to obey the rules of this League.
- 19.2 All such clubs must complete a GFL application form on a date as defined by Hon/Secretary, and must also satisfy the league as to their suitability.
- 19.3 Each applicant must provide or have the use of their own ground, public ground, or an alternative ground.
- 19.4 The ground being nominated by the applicants shall in no way hinder or infringe on the rights of use of any existing affiliated clubs at the time of application, or at any future date.
- 19.5 The League may require proof of claims made by applicants particularly in relation to grounds.
- 19.6 The grounds nominated must be passed as suitable by the league.<sup>19</sup>

**RULE 20: CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 20.1 Each club must hold its AGM within the calendar year.
- 20.2 Notice of the date, time, and venue of the AGM together with the *Agenda* must be sent to the *Hon/Secretary* at least 10 days before the AGM takes place.
- 20.3 Any member of the GFL will be entitled to attend the A.G.M. of any Club but will not be entitled to vote unless he/she is a member of that Club.
- 20.4 Each club at its A.G.M. will elect the following officers: chairperson, vice/chairperson, secretary, treasurer, P.R.O. and a serving committee for the coming Season.

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15 Rule 15 ratified at 2013 AGM  
 16 Rule 16 ratified at 2013 AGM  
 17 Rule 17 ratified at 2013 AGM  
 18 Rule 18 ratified at 2015 AGM  
 19 Rule 19 ratified at 2013 AGM

20.5 The club secretary will inform the *Hon/Secretary* of the composition of the committee elected at the AGM.<sup>20</sup>

#### **RULE 21: NEW APPLICATIONS (Youth Certificate)**

21.1 Applications for membership shall be made in writing on the official registration form supplied by the league.

21.2 This is to be received by the *Hon/Secretary* on a date as defined.

21.3 This application must state clearly:

- a. The name of the club.
- b. The full Christian surnames and addresses of the officers and officials; club chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, treasurer, and P.R.O.
- c. A list of the elected committee of that club should also be offered.
- d. The situation of the club ground, and the owner of the ground, which must note if it is public or private.
- e. Each club ground must be covered by *Public Liability Insurance*.
- f. Club colours must be confirmed.
- g. Club secretary phone number, email address, and two other phone numbers that may be used to contact the club in urgent circumstances.
- h. The application form must be signed by the club chairperson and club secretary.
- i. All new applicants must have a minimum of two underage teams one of which must be competitive.
- j. This places a requirement on each club to ensure that they have at least one coach with a Youth Certificate Qualification on entering the league.<sup>21</sup>

#### **RULE 22: DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

22.1 At its opening meeting of the season the committee will appoint a disciplinary Committee.

22.2 The *Disciplinary Committee* has authorisation and jurisdiction to deal with all breaches of League rules and competitions for the league.

22.3 The *Disciplinary Committee* will be responsible for:

- a. Sanctioning offences recorded in all referee reports not otherwise automatically dealt with.
- b. Sanctioning all breaches of the disciplinary rules.
- c. Sanctioning serious infringements which have escaped the match official's attention.
- d. Rectifying obvious errors in the referee's disciplinary decisions.
- e. Extending the duration of a match suspension incurred automatically by an expulsion
- f. Imposing additional sanctions, such as additional suspensions, fines, or sanctions. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee may be appealed to the CFA, SFAI, or WFAI, but cannot be reviewed or altered by the league committee.
- g. Sanctioning offences according to FAI Rules *Section* on disciplinary issues.<sup>22</sup>

#### **RULE 23: NOTIFICATIONS OF DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS**

23.1 The Disciplinary Committee shall notify each decision to all parties concerned, **and** where relevant, and be accompanied by a referee's report on the incident where applicable.

23.2 Decisions or other documents intended for players or officials may be addressed to the Club Secretary or other body concerned.

23.3 Decisions shall be communicated by fax and/or email and/or by registered post. A fax or email delivery report or registered post receipt is sufficient evidence that a decision has been properly notified.

23.4 The decisions come into force as and from the Tuesday following notification.<sup>23</sup>

#### **RULE 24: ELECTION OF LEAGUE OFFICERS FOR AGM**

24.1 No person shall be eligible for election to these offices, unless not later than 14 days before the date of the AGM in each year they have sent by email or registered post to the Honorary Secretary a nomination in writing signifying their candidature for such office. The nomination shall be signed by the candidate and signed by the Secretary of the Clubs proposing and

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<sup>20</sup> Rule 20 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>21</sup> Rule 21 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>22</sup> Rule 22 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>23</sup> Rule 23 ratified at 2013 AGM

seconding the nomination, each of which shall be separate clubs. Both Clubs proposing and seconding the nomination must be in good standing with the league.<sup>24</sup>

#### **RULE 25: ELECTION OF LEAGUE COMMITTEE FOR AGM**

- 25.1 Nominations for the committee must be forwarded in writing to the *Hon/Secretary* by e-mail or post, 48 hours (Sundays and Bank Holidays included) prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- 25.2 Nominees must be proposed by a club in good standing with the league and no club may nominate more than two persons.
- 25.3 Outgoing members must also be nominated.
- 25.4 A committee of 9 will be elected at the Annual General Meeting by those present and entitled to vote.
- 25.5 In the event of more than nine proposals a ballot will take place with the Nine having most votes elected to form the Committee.
- 25.6 Independent tellers nominated by the Connacht Football Association or the Football Association of Ireland will conduct the counting of votes.<sup>25</sup>

#### **RULE 26: CO-OPTION ON TO THE LEAGUE COMMITTEE**

- 26.1 If for any reason any member of the committee resigns or is removed for Disciplinary reasons, the vacancy will be filled by the person next highest in the order of voting at the AGM.
- 26.2 If no such person exists, the Committee have the power to co-opt any person they deem fit to fill the vacancy.<sup>26</sup>

#### **RULE 27: COMMITTEE VOTING**

- 27.1 All Officers and members of the Committee will be entitled to vote on all matters except when it concerns their own club. The Chairperson shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.<sup>27</sup>

#### **RULE 28: APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

- 28.1 The league committee will appoint a firm who are members of a recognised body of accountants.
- 28.2 This firm will hold office until the following AGM.<sup>28</sup>

#### **RULE 29: FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

- 29.1 All fines levied by the Galway Football League in a season shall be published in the financial report at the AGM at the end of that season.
- 29.2 The report is to include the offence for which the fine was imposed, the date of the fine, the amount levied and the date the fine was paid.
- 29.3 The *audited accounts* of the league will be presented for approval at the AGM.<sup>29</sup>

#### **RULE 30: MINUTES TO CLUBS**

- 30.1 The *minutes* of the previous AGM, the Agenda, and the current year's motions, together with a copy of financial statement will be circulated to all clubs 7 days before the Annual General Meeting date.<sup>30</sup>

#### **RULE 31: MINUTES FOR MEETINGS OTHER THAN THE AGM**

- 31.1 For all meetings other than the AGM the *agenda* will be circulated at least 7 days before the meeting date.
- 31.2 The minutes of such meetings will be circulated within 7 day period after the meeting date.<sup>31</sup>

#### **RULE 32: GATE RECEIPTS**

- 32.1 Only appointed committee members will be entitled to collect monies at matches.
- 32.2 Any such monies will be the property of the committee, and subsequently given to the *Hon/Treasurer*.
- 32.3 The *Hon/Treasurer* will keep a true record of any such monies.<sup>32</sup>

#### **RULE 33: SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

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- 24 Rule 24 ratified at 2014 AGM
  - 25 Rule 25 ratified at 2013 AGM
  - 26 Rule 26 ratified at 2013 AGM
  - 27 Rule 27 ratified at 2013 AGM
  - 28 Rule 28 ratified at 2013 AGM
  - 29 Rule 29 ratified at 2013 AGM
  - 30 Rule 30 ratified at 2013 AGM
  - 31 Rule 31 ratified at 2013 AGM
  - 32 Rule 32 ratified at 2013 AGM



33.1 The committee may call *Special General Meetings* as it deemed necessary.<sup>33</sup>

**RULE 34: FIRST MEETING**

34.1 The committee will (at its first meeting after the AGM) elect from its members any *sub-committees* they deem necessary for the good governance of the league.

34.2 Delegates to the FAI, CFA, SFAI and WFAI will also be elected at this meeting.<sup>34</sup>

**RULE 35: CLUB RECORDS**

35.1 Each club must produce all its books and correspondence for inspection at any time the committee may determine.<sup>35</sup>

**RULE 36: MONIES DUE TO THE LEAGUE**

36.1 All Monies due by clubs to the league must be paid within 30 days of receipt of notification (i.e. ground rent, fines, etc).

36.2 If the matter is not settled within that period there will be 20% late payment penalty applied.<sup>36</sup>

**RULE 37: SECRET BALLOT**

37.1 In taking a vote on any matter any member of the committee may demand a vote by secret ballot.<sup>37</sup>

**RULE 38: PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**

38.1 Each club applying or already accepted by the Galway Football League must undertake to indemnify the Galway Football League from any liability for accidents or otherwise on their grounds or facilities.

38.2 Each club or team must have the grounds and facilities covered by Public Liability Insurance (*reference 21.3, New Applications*) to comply with this. A copy of this must be sent to the Galway Football League before each season commencement date.

38.3 This indemnity hereby undertaken on the part of each club is not negative in any manner by the failure or omission of any club to obtain or renew such insurance.<sup>38</sup>

**RULE 39: COMMITTEE MEMBERS MISSING THREE CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS**

39.1 Any committee member that fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the committee without giving a satisfactory explanation shall automatically cease to be a member of the committee.<sup>39</sup>

**RULE 40: ANNUAL REPORT PLAYING PITCHES**

40.1 The Galway Football League may employ an independent agent to survey and report annually on the condition of each participating clubs playing pitches.<sup>40</sup>

**RULE 41: MOTIONS PASSED AT AGM/EGM**

41.1 All motions with the exceptions of rule changes carried at the AGM/EGM take effect following ratification.

41.2 Rule changes affecting competitions shall come into effect following ratification, but not during the playing season.<sup>41</sup>

**RULE 42: AFFILIATIONS**

42.1 All clubs shall pay affiliation fees as agreed at the AGM in full before the commencement of the season unless otherwise agreed by the committee.

42.2 Failure to comply in full will result in non-participation in the Galway Football League.<sup>42</sup>

**RULE 43: INDEMNITIES**

43.1 The committee shall be empowered to provide indemnities to any officer, committee member, commission, or sub-committee, official or servant of the league in pursuit of the discharge of the objectives and functions of the league by them, such indemnity to be recorded in the register of indemnities of the league.<sup>43</sup>

**RULE 44: FINANCIAL ARREARS:**

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33 Rule 33 ratified at 2013 AGM  
34 Rule 34 ratified at 2013 AGM  
35 Rule 35 ratified at 2013 AGM  
36 Rule 36 ratified at 2013 AGM  
37 Rule 37 ratified at 2013 AGM  
38 Rule 38 ratified at 2013 AGM  
39 Rule 39 ratified at 2013 AGM  
40 Rule 40 ratified at 2013 AGM  
41 Rule 41 ratified at 2015 AGM  
42 Rule 42 ratified at 2013 AGM  
43 Rule 43 ratified at 2013 AGM

- 44.1 The sitting league committee reserves the right to refuse affiliation to, or expel from the league, any clubs with financial arrears from the previous season or earlier.
- 44.2 Any club transferring from an adjoining league with prior arrears to the GFL will be required to arrange settlement of the earlier arrears. In the event of a club with financial arrears owing to the GFL transferring to an adjoining league, the GFL will furnish details of the debts involved and details of the names of the officers of the Club.<sup>44</sup>

**RULE 45: LEGAL ACTION**

- 45.1 No affiliated Club or its members in the Galway Football League may take legal action against the League or associated bodies on any issue relating to the application of these rules.
- 45.2 Each club hereby indemnifies the Galway Football League in respect of all or any action proposed action or otherwise instituted or to be instituted in respect of any occurrence in relation to the running of the activities of the club however caused.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Rule 44 ratified at 2013 AGM  
<sup>45</sup> Rule 45 ratified at 2013 AGM

## ***GALWAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE COMPETITION RULES (CR)***

### **CR1: JURISDICTION**

- 1.1 All rules in this book are applicable solely to games and competitions played under the jurisdiction of the league and shall be subject to annual review and alteration by the committee.
- 1.2 The committee or its sub-committee/s shall have the power to deal with any situation, event or circumstances which arises and is not specifically covered within these rules.
- 1.3 No *League Committee Member* or office holder may represent, take part in, debate, or in any way influence any league discussion or decision/s affecting his/her club.<sup>46</sup>

### **CR2: PLAYERS**

- 2.1 A junior player for Galway Football League purposes is one competing with a Junior Club as defined in the FAI Rules *with* the following exceptions:
  - a. A player who has ever received Senior International honours (amateur honours excluded).
  - b. A player who has played more than five games in the Football League of Ireland competitions, in leagues of similar status, in other associations, or unless he has been re-instated for his Club by this League or by his Association.
  - c. A player (during the current calendar year) who has played 5 matches or more in the Leinster Senior League, the Munster Senior League, the Connacht Senior League, the Ulster Senior League, and/or a League of similar to higher status.
  - d. Players requiring reinstatement should apply to the F.A.I. Junior Council on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. Such players will continue to be junior players unless they return to senior status.
  - e. Winners of major leagues taking part in divisional or national association's premier cup competitions are eligible to take part in those competitions and will not lose their junior status.
  - f. A player who has not attained his 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday.<sup>47</sup>

### **CR3: DIVISIONAL STRUCTURES**

- 3.1 The committee will form teams into divisions for each age group on the basis of approved applications received from clubs in membership of the league at the start of each season as follows:
  - a. U8, U9, U10, & U11 will be non-competitive football.
  - b. U12 will be 9-a-side competitive format.
  - c. U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, and U18 and upwards will be 11-a-side competitive format.
- 3.2 In all age groups and formats, teams shall be promoted or demoted prior to the start of any new season, as far as possible on their standing from the previous season's league competition.
- 3.3 Divisions for teams will be formed by the committee and details issued to member clubs prior to the commencement of each season.
- 3.4 Member clubs will have 14 days from date of those issuing to request a change of team/s division.
- 3.5 The league committee shall have the sole right to grant or deny any such request for placement in division/s.
- 3.6 A competitive Reserve League to form part of League Structures.<sup>48</sup>

### **CR4: CLUB COLOURS**

- 4.1 Every club must register its club colours with the league who can decide as to their suitability.
- 4.2 Goalkeepers must wear distinctive colours that will distinguish them from other players and the referee.
- 4.3 In the event of two teams having the same colours, the *home* team must change.
- 4.4 Where there is a clash of colours in a *final*, the league committee will decide on which club will change.
- 4.5 All jerseys numbered 1 to 18. Each team must have a set of matching shorts and socks in all competitive games.<sup>49</sup>

### **CR5: FIXTURES**

- 5.1 All matches must be played in accordance with the rules of the game.
- 5.2 Clubs must take all necessary precautions to keep their grounds in proper playable conditions.

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<sup>46</sup> CR1 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>47</sup> CR2 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>48</sup> CR3 ratified at 2015 AGM

<sup>49</sup> CR4 Ratified at 2013 AGM

- 5.3 All matches must be played on grounds deemed suitable by the league.
- 5.4 The *General Operations Manager* can at his discretion order teams to play on mornings or evening's midweek and bank holidays.
- 5.5 In the event that the *General Operations Manager* wishes to set an underage game for either a day or time *outside* the normal day and time for that league, both clubs will be consulted in advance.
- 5.6 Weekly fixtures will appear on the league's website. This will be official notification of games to all clubs and will be strictly adhered to at all times.
- 5.7 All results must be notified by phone or by text before 5.30pm each Saturday and Sunday evening, or midnight on the day of the game for midweek fixtures. Failure to comply with above will result in a fine of €50 for each such occasion.
- 5.8 Clubs shall be responsible for the Following:
- a. Ensuring their playing field is marked to required standards, and in accordance with the laws of the game.
  - b. Ensuring their goalposts, nets, and corner flags must be of the approved standard.
  - c. Providing two match footballs in accordance with the laws of the game.
  - d. Adequate First Aid Kit.
  - e. Spectator control.
  - f. Refusing to play the club against it has been drawn on the date and time fixed shall be adjudged to have lost the match and be otherwise dealt with by the committee.
  - g. Filling in the referee's card with block letters for the players Christian and surnames.
  - h. An official of the club must sign the card.
  - i. No additions or alterations may be made to the card after the commencement of the game without the referee's permission.
- 5.11 The League must supply a full fixture list of all league games and a schedule of all cup competition dates to each club.
- 5.12 Clubs must receive the league fixtures no later than 7 days prior to the commencement of each league.
- 5.13 All league cup draws will be planned out and published before *Round 1* so that clubs can see a pathway to the final.<sup>50</sup>

#### **CR 6: GROUNDS**

- 6.1 Before the commencement of each season the committee shall review the playing pitch & changing facilities at the home venue of each club to decide on its suitability. In the interest of Child Safety & Protection a club will lose home advantage for each game that it cannot provide adequate changing facilities.<sup>51</sup>

#### **CR7: UNAUTHORISED FIXTURES**

- 7.1 No club or player shall be entitled to play any match (Other than fixtures organised by the CFA or FAI) outside the league without getting the committee's consent in writing.
- 7.2 The application must be made in writing to the Hon/Secretary of the League.
- 7.3 Challenge games against Galway clubs are exempt from this rule.<sup>52</sup>

#### **CR8: POSTPONEMENTS / CANCELLATIONS**

- 8.1 A postponement means any game stopped by the league committee or match official prior to the kick-off, that does not have a determined reschedule date at the time of the stoppage but will be replayed on another date.
- 8.2 A cancellation is any game cancelled by the league committee or match official prior to kick-off that will not be rescheduled.
- 8.3 Regarding bereavements, postponements may be granted for the death of an immediate family member of a registered club officer or player at the discretion of the committee.
- 8.4 Postponements or cancellations may be granted if both teams agree and league committee are satisfied that no other disruption to schedules will be caused.
- 8.5 Postponements will not be granted a day after the burial service has taken place, one minute's silence may be observed as a mark of respect.
- 8.6 In the event of a major tragedy or similar occurrence in a particular area, the league committee may exercise its discretion to cancel a fixture if the tragedy affects a registered Club in that area.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> CR5 ratified at 2015 AGM

<sup>51</sup> CR6 ratified at 2014 AGM

<sup>52</sup> CR7 ratified at 2013 AGM

### **CR9: FAILURE TO FULFILL A FIXTURE**

- 9.1 Any club team failing to fulfil a competitive fixture shall be fined €100, forfeit the game, and pay the expenses of the opposing club and referee.
- 9.2 Should such club team fail to fulfil a Second competitive fixture it shall be fined €200, forfeit the game, and the *team* suspended for the remainder of the season from all competitions.<sup>54</sup>

### **CR10: ABANDONED GAMES**

- 10.1 In the case of an abandoned tie, after examining the referee's report the committee shall decide on the matter.
- 10.2 If a match is abandoned due to bad light or weather conditions or that extra time is not played the match will be re-fixed at the same venue.
- 10.3 The committee will review all abandoned games individually.
- 10.4 In cases where it is to the advantage of the competition and no injustice is done to either team, the committee are empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to be recorded as the final result.<sup>55</sup>

### **CR11: WITHDRAWALS**

- 11.1 Any club or team that withdraws totally from the league shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and bringing the game into disrepute.
- 11.2 Any club withdrawing a team from the league shall be fined €20 for each remaining game in that league.<sup>56</sup>

### **CR12: PERMISSION TO PLAY ON GFL REGISTERED GROUNDS.**

- 12.1 Any club wishing to play on grounds registered to the GFL in any competition must apply in **email** to the *Hon/Secretary* of the league.
- 12.2 If more than one club apply for the use of the ground on the same date the first applicant has the choice of time.
- 12.3 The committee shall decide ground rent.<sup>57</sup>

### **CR13: PROTESTS**

- 13.1 All protests must be received by the *Hon/Secretary* per registered post *or electronic mail* within 4 days (Sundays and Bank Holidays excluded) after the cause of the protest.
- 13.2 The protest must be accompanied by a deposit of €200 which shall be refunded in the event of the protest being upheld.
- 13.3 This €200 shall be forfeited in all cases where the protest has been rejected or withdrawn.
- 13.4 An exact copy of such a protest must be sent by registered post *or electronic mail* to the club, league, or association protested against within the same period.
- 13.5 A period of 4 days after receipt of the protest shall be afforded to the body protested against to lodge a counter protest in accordance with the same regulations that apply to the protest. Personal hearings may be requested and granted provided all expenses involved are paid for by the club concerned.
- 13.6 Any club in doubt as to the eligibility of its opponents can make representations to the referee at half time, be at liberty to obtain the signature, and dates of birth of any three opposition players.
- 13.7 Any team's refusal to accede to such a request will be regarded as an effort to conceal an irregularity in registration and/or over-age, and will be a breach of this rule.
- 13.8 At the end of a game a club shall be at liberty to obtain the signature and date of birth of any substitute who as introduced to the game after the half-time interval. All such signatures and dates of birth shall form the basis of any protest and be produced at any subsequent protest hearing.
- 13.9 Clubs may search the registration form for an opposition team by applying to the League Administrator and the payment of the current search fee.
- 13.10 A maximum of 7 players' details may be searched under the procedures for lodging any one protest.
- 13.11 Protests can only be lodged and dealt with by the League where they emanate from a game played by the protesting club against their opponents. No third party protests will be dealt with by the League.

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53 CR8 ratified at 2015 AGM  
54 CR9 ratified at 2013 AGM  
55 CR10 ratified at 2013 AGM  
56 CR11 ratified at 2013 AGM  
57 CR12 ratified at 2015 AGM

- 13.12 No player who has played for his club in a divisional league competition can play for any other team within the club in any other divisional league cup competition during the current season. In the case of provincial or national cups the rules of those bodies apply.
- 13.13 No decision of the Committee or its sub-committees may be appealed to the League itself, all appeals must be forwarded to the SFAI according to the SFAI rules governing such appeals.<sup>58</sup>

#### **CR 14: RIGHT OF APPEAL**

- 14.1 Any league official, club, player or member of a club dissatisfied with a decision of the league has the right to appeal to the Connacht Football Association, the SFAI, and/or the WFAI.
- 14.2 Any such appeal must be forwarded to the *General Secretary* of the aforementioned bodies in writing by registered post, and bearing a postmark.
- 14.3 This appeal in accordance of the rules of the body with which the protest is being made must be accompanied by the appeal fee as per the Appeal Rules of that particular body.
- 14.4 An exact copy must be forwarded by registered post within the same period to the body against whom the appeal has been lodged.<sup>59</sup>

#### **CR 15:**

15.1

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#### **CR 16: REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

- 16.1 All players must be registered in the manner prescribed and outlined by the league committee.
- 16.2 *First Registration:* When registering a Youth or Schoolboy/Girl Team for the first time the Club must produce a Birth Certificate for all players from Under 11 to Under 18.
- 16.3 Each player must personally sign the registration form. The registration form must be signed by the club secretary, acting secretary, or other authorised officer of the club indicating date of signing.
- 16.4 All players must be registered 48 hours before participating in any match. The date of receipt of the registration form by the League will be the date of registration.
- 16.5 The following registration charge shall be applied to each player in the GFL:
- Junior Male €30, reduced to €15 if the number of league games is less than 12 over the season.
  - Junior Female €25, reduced to €10 if the number of league games is less than 8 over the season.
  - School Boy €10, reduced to €5 if the number of league games is less than 6 over the season.
  - School Girl €7, reduced to €5 if the number of league games is less than 6 over the season.
- 16.6 The Galway Football League will keep an up to date record of all players registered.
- 16.7 Club secretaries will have access to the registrations at all reasonable times providing they nominate in advance in writing the name/names of the registration forms they wish to examine.
- 16.8 A search fee of €20 will apply to each registration form. All clubs must keep a record of all its registrations and transfers.
- 16.9 Players (and a parent or guardian in the case of juveniles) shall need to sign only one GFL form to be eligible to play for his/her club. The club shall use the online registration system to allocate players to teams once they have been approved as registered for the club by the GFL registrar.
- 16.10 A club that fields a player who is not correctly registered will lose the game, and be dealt with accordingly by the committee. The fine for this offence is €200.
- 16.11 Any team playing an illegal player may be automatically eliminated from that competition. If the disclosure of this irregularity is delayed the team can still be eliminated from the competition. If the team won the competition they will have to return the trophy and the other finalists declared the winners. In the event of the irregularity being disclosed too late to eliminate the team, a club found to be guilty will be fined €200.
- 16.12 A player that plays in a game and is over age for that competition shall receive a maximum One Year ban from the date of the offence and fined €100.
- 16.13 Any Club that plays a player already suspended will be fined €100 and the Club and Team Manager severely dealt with by the Committee.

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<sup>58</sup> CR13 ratified at 2014 AGM

<sup>59</sup> CR14 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>60</sup> CR15 removed at 2015 AGM

- 16.14** Any player already suspended that plays a game will be suspended for a minimum of Three Months from the date of the completion of the original suspension and fined €100.
- 16.15** A manager or coach who suspects a player from another team is over age before a game is not entitled to challenge or speak to the child directly.
- 16.16** Rule 34 FAI (subsequent to FAI Rule number change).
- 16.17** Rule 46 FAI re-grading (subsequent to FAI Rule number change).<sup>61</sup>

**CR 17: TRANSFERS** Any player registered in the Galway Football League cannot sign a second form [within same season] for another club in the GFL or any other league under the jurisdiction of the FAI/CFA/SFAI/WFAI, without receiving the consent and approval of his/her previous club.

- 17.2 The player must obtain a *transfer* on an *Official Transfer Form* supplied by the Galway Football League and gain clearance from the league. Clubs are not entitled to sign any such player unless he has received a transfer.
- 17.3 All transfer applications must be made in writing to the *Hon/Secretary* of the league by the club seeking the transfer on the *Official Transfer Form*, signed by the secretaries of both clubs and the player him/herself.
- 17.4 No player shall play for his new club for a period of 24 hours after the transfer is granted.
- 17.5 In the case of inter-club transfers, the rules of the receiving league will apply. A fee of €10 must accompany each transfer request.
- 17.6 Clubs wishing to transfer players within their *own* club must do so, on the *Official Transfer Form*. This will be free of charge.
- 17.7 Any player from leagues or association from outside the jurisdiction of the Galway Football League must provide a copy of his official transfer form from his last club. This clearance must accompany his registration form.
- 17.8 A fee of €30 will be invoiced to the player's new club by the treasurer.
- 17.9 A letter/email of clearance from the player's previous league outlining any outstanding disciplinary sanctions or monetary commitment to his former league or association.
- 17.10 The closing date for all transfers will be in accordance with the rules of the (S) (W) FAI governing transfers.
- 17.11 A club desiring to transfer to a different league at the end of the season must obtain a transfer in accordance with the rules of the body governing Inter League transfers.
- 17.12 Clubs will not be unreasonably refused such a release and they shall have the right of appeal to the CFA, in accordance with the appeal rules of this body.<sup>62</sup>

**CR 18: REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS**

- 18.1** Each club is required to have its players and grounds at the disposal of the League if required.
- 18.2** Any player selected to play in a match arranged by the league, C.F.A. /F.A.I./S.F.A.I or W.F.A.I. who without sufficient cause refuses or fails to play will be deemed guilty of misconduct and subject to a two (league) game ban.
- 18.3** Players who do not wish to participate in such games must notify their club secretary at the start of each season, who in turn will notify the *Hon/Secretary*.
- 18.4** A club that has a player or players selected for a Match arranged by the League, CFA/FAI/SFAI/WFAI will be entitled to have their game postponed in that age category if that game clashes with the Representative Fixture.
- 18.5** Any Representative Coach/Manager found to be approaching players to the advantage of his/her own club will be dismissed immediately and his representative expenses withheld by the league.
- 18.6** Any player selected to represent the Galway Football League should do so without a cost.
- 18.7** The Galway District League shall enter an U17 Galway District League Academy Squad in the new national U17 League of Ireland that is due to commence in August 2015.
- 18.8** A complete independent review of the Galway District League Academy sides takes place by the incoming Galway District League Committee.
- 18.9** That the Galway & District League will only enter representative U12 to U16 sides where those sides are and managed by independent persons not affiliated or associated with Galway & District League clubs. This is to ensure a fair and independent process where community based clubs are protected from inducement. If there are insufficient persons suitable then the Galway & District League prioritise as to which inter-league competitions they enter using only independent

<sup>61</sup> CR16 ratified at 2014 AGM

<sup>62</sup> CR17 ratified at 2013 AGM



personnel. Alternatively in the absence of such independent personnel and in an attempt to restore confidence all inter-league involvement from U12-U16 be suspended for one season 2014/2015 to facilitate a serious overhaul of arrangements.<sup>63</sup>

#### **CR 19: INDUCEMENT**

- 19.1 Any Club or Team found guilty of inducing or attempting to induce players from another Club or Clubs outside the normal window will be dealt with severely by the Committee.
- 19.2 Clubs may not sign more than *two players* in any given season who have played for any Inter league squad from under 12 to under 16 inclusive whilst being registered to another Club in the previous season.
- 19.3 Clubs are entitled to retain any players from the Inter leagues squads who were registered with that Club in the previous season.
- 19.4 A list of registered players who have been members of any Inter League squad in the previous season shall be available from the League Committee.
- 19.5 Clubs failing to adhere to this rule shall be fined €1,000 per extra player signed.<sup>64</sup>

#### **CR 20: REFEREES REMUNERATION**

- 20.1 The GFL shall provide details in advance of the appointed referee for each fixture, and any changes.
- 20.2 Hand written Match Cards should be replaced with an electronic system linked to player registrations (such as SportsManager).
- 20.3 Referees will be paid the agreed fee by the club before the start of each match. Clubs may request a receipt from the referee for such expenses.
- 20.4 If a referee deems it unsuitable to start the game he must be paid the agreed appearance fee.
- 20.5 The fees that are paid to the referees shall be defined each year by the new GFA committee.
- 20.6 The new league representatives will meet with the local referee's representatives to set the fees for the forthcoming season.
- 20.7 These referees' fees shall be communicated to all clubs before the start of each season and at any other time that may be appropriate.<sup>65</sup>

#### **CR 21: APPLICATIONS FOR POSTPONEMENTS**

- 21.1 Application for postponements must be made in writing *or electronic mail* to the Hon/Secretary 10 days prior to the date of the game. No verbal applications will be considered.<sup>66</sup>

#### **CR 22: OWNERS OF CUPS AND SHIELDS**

- 22.1 The Galway Football League is the sole owner of all trophies competed for under its jurisdiction.<sup>67</sup>

#### **CR 23: CUPS AND SHIELDS**

- 23.1 Underage Cup competitions be abolished and be replaced by an open draw for all league teams at each age group with the winners remaining in the cup and the first round losers playing in a shield competition. Premier teams to get a bye to the second round therefore won't qualify for the shield competition.
- 23.2 All Local trophies must be returned on or before the 28<sup>th</sup> of February each year to the Galway Football League Office.
- 23.3 The cost of repairs to any damage to cups will be redeemed from the Club.
- 23.4 Failure to comply with 23.2 will result in a fine of €50 per trophy returned late.
- 23.5 Clubs are responsible for the safe keeping of trophies whilst in their possession and all trophies shall be returned when requested and in good condition.<sup>68</sup>

#### **CR 24: SPORTSMANSHIP**

- 24.1 Each club must field its strongest team in all 11-A-Side competitions and by so doing strive to win all games.
- 24.2 Failure to comply with this may result in severe disciplinary action.<sup>69</sup>

#### **CR 25: COMPETITIONS & FIXTURES**

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<sup>63</sup> CR18 ratified at 2014 AGM  
<sup>64</sup> CR19 ratified at 2013 AGM  
<sup>65</sup> CR20 ratified at 2014 AGM  
<sup>66</sup> CR21 ratified at 2014 AGM  
<sup>67</sup> CR22 ratified at 2013 AGM  
<sup>68</sup> CR23 ratified at 2014 AGM  
<sup>69</sup> CR24 ratified at 2013 AGM



- 25.1 All competitive matches will be played according to these rules.
- 25.2 Any club intending to organise a closed season competition must seek permission from the Galway Football League.
- 25.3 The committee shall be responsible for the setting up of, management, and control of all league competitions and fixtures and no team or club may alter the fixtures details issued by the league without the express consent of the *Administrator*.
- 25.4 Breach of this rule may result in disciplinary action being taken, the level of which shall be at the discretion of the committee.
- 25.5 The circumstances surrounding the failure of any team to fulfil its fixture/s shall be dealt with by the committee under the consideration of a walkover.
- 25.6 Any team conceding or deemed to have conceded a walkover by the committee shall be fined, the level of which shall be determined by the committee, and having the game awarded to their opposition.
- 25.7 Any team conceding more than two walkovers in any combination of league fixtures in any one season will be removed from the league and all its competitions for the remainder of the relevant season.
- 25.8 In all competitive games of a knock out nature the appointed referee will decide if pitches are playable on the day. If pitch or weather conditions should cause a postponement the home team must find an alternative pitch or the fixture will revert to their opponents' ground. This rule shall also apply where local authorities declare a pitch unplayable.
- 25.9 Any game started and later abandoned for weather or pitch conditions shall result in loss of home advantage and the game being re-fixed in the ground of the team originally drawn away.
- 25.10 All-weather playing surfaces shall be used for Galway Football League games provided these are in complete compliance with, and certified as such, the current FAI standards/codes. This certification shall be available for inspection on demand.
- 25.11 All visiting clubs must be notified by home clubs 48 hours in advance of the kick off time should there be the possibility that an artificial surface of the required standard and certification will be used. This notification shall include any restrictions on footwear.
- 25.12 All matches in whichever of its competitions, shall be played according to these rules, the home team shall be responsible for stewarding and marking of the pitch etc. Both teams shall each supply two footballs of the regulation size and quality.
- 25.13 All match cards must be filled in by a responsible adult mentor from each team
- 25.14 The match card must be signed by an adult team mentor whose signature shall attest to the proper eligibility and accuracy of the players details on that card, (adult in this rule is to mean over 18 years). Clubs shall carry full responsibility for all details of players entered onto any match card irrespective of whoever signed the match card.
- 25.15 In Cup games home advantage shall apply to the team drawn first, this shall not apply to finals games where a neutral venue shall be nominated by the Committee.
- 25.16 In small sided games roll on-roll off substitutions are allowed. Substituted players may be re-entered into the game subject to there being no more than the maximum number of players as required under that game format.
- 25.17 *Reference Competition Rule 4 on club colours.*
- 25.18 Where a team ceases to exist, or is removed from the league for whatever reason, and having played fewer than 50% of its league fixtures in its division, they will have their results declared null and void. Where 50% or more games have been played their league results will stand.
- 25.19 All teams scheduled to play any such team (as above) will be awarded the match points or progress to the next round of any game of a knock out nature.
- 25.20 Claims for the "award" of a game must be sent in writing by registered post and signed by the relevant club secretary to the League Secretary within three days, following the date of that fixture. For the purposes of this rule Saturdays, Sundays and Bank/Public Holidays are excluded.<sup>70</sup>

#### **CR 26: MATCH CARDS/ REFEREES REPORTS.**

- 26.1 Each player's full Christian and surname must be stated clearly on the card.
- 26.2 A total of 7 substitutes may be listed on a youth or junior referee's card but only 3 may be used.
- 26.3 In all under age games from Under 16 down 5 Substitutes can be used from 7.
- 26.4 *Reference Competition Rule 25.14 above.*
- 26.5 All referees reports shall be dealt with and clubs may be required to attend at disciplinary hearings at the discretion of the committee or disciplinary sub-committee.
- 26.6 Players sent off in competitive games are automatically suspended from their next game in the competition in which he/she was sent off.

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<sup>70</sup> CR25 ratified at 2013 AGM

- 26.7 Where such a player's team has been eliminated from the competition in question the automatic suspension will take effect for his/her next competitive game at the age group where he/she is registered.
- 26.8 Subject to a review of the referee's report, the sanction may be increased by the investigating committee.<sup>71</sup>

### **CR 27: SUSPENDED CLUBS PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS**

- 27.1 All suspensions of clubs, teams, players, members, or supporters will disqualify them from any involvement with any other Club under the jurisdiction of the Galway Football League.
- 27.2 Any suspended player that plays a game will be suspended for three months from the date of the completion of the original suspension offence and fined €500.
- 27.3 A player that plays in a game and is over age for that competition shall receive a maximum one year ban from the date of the offence.
- 27.4 All clubs will be notified of any such suspension affecting them.
- 27.5 No club will take part in any game against suspended clubs or players.
- 27.6 Every club is responsible for the actions of its players, officials, and spectators.
- 27.7 Clubs are required to take all precautions necessary to prevent spectators threatening or assaulting officials and/or players while in the vicinity of their playing Ground.
- 27.8 Any officer, committee member, and/or player suspended by the league and wishing to sign or join another club must apply in writing to the league to be reinstated, before being admitted to any other club in that League.<sup>72</sup>

### **CR 28: BEHAVIOUR/FINES**

- 28.1 All member clubs are fully responsible at all times for the behavior and actions of its players, technical staff and supporters.
- 28.2 Clubs should ensure that their competing teams are on the pitch 10 minutes prior to kick off time.
- 28.3 The Committee, or Disciplinary Sub-committee will have the power to deal with reports or complaints against such person/s brought to its notice through whatever reporting fashion.
- 28.4 No player will be expected to pay any fine imposed under the jurisdiction of the league. All fines for player or adult misconduct shall be imposed against his/her club which shall be responsible for its payment.
- 28.5 Any fine imposed which is not the subject of an onward appeal must be paid within 14 days of the date of issuing of the notice of that fine.
- 28.6 Failure to pay fines within this timeframe may result in additional sanctions being imposed.<sup>73</sup>

### **CR 29: LAWS OF THE GAME**

- 29.1 All matches shall be governed by current FIFA laws of the game.
- 29.2 Games of a knock out nature that end in a draw will be decided by playing 10 minutes each half extra time at underage and junior level.
- 29.3 Small sided games of a knock out nature if ending in a draw shall be decided by playing 5 minutes each half extra time.
- 29.4 Where extra time fails to produce a winner the game shall be decided by using FIFA penalty shoot-out rules.
- 29.5 In all games of a league nature, three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a loss.
- 29.6 In all League type competitions the winner and runner in each division shall be determined by the highest number of match points accrued.
- 29.7 No team shall win or finish runner-up in any division based on goal difference or any other system other than match points accrued.
- 29.8 Where more than one team has accrued the same number of match points for winner or runner-up position at the conclusion of the division's schedule of games, a knock out basis play-off game shall be staged by the League to separate the teams.
- 29.9 Size of footballs to be used:
- a. U 7 & 8                      Size 3 Ball.
  - b. U 9, 10, 11, 12, 13        Size 4 Ball.

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<sup>71</sup> CR26 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>72</sup> CR27 ratified at 2013 AGM

<sup>73</sup> CR28 ratified at 2013 AGM

c. U14, 15, 16                      Size 5 Ball.<sup>74</sup>

**CR 30: EXCHANGE LISTS OF PLAYERS**

30.1 Each team manager shall exchange a full list of players and substitutes names before kick off if requested to do so by either team in all games at Junior and Underage level.<sup>75</sup>

**CR 31: MID-WEEK GAMES**

31.1 No team shall be requested to play two midweek games within 48 hours of each other.<sup>76</sup>

**CR 32: CUP FINALS**

32.1 The cup finals of all local competitions shall be played at Eamonn Deacy Park (subject to availability), or at a ground designated by the league.<sup>77</sup>

**CR 33: PRESENTATION OF CUPS & MEDALS**

33.1 All trophies and medals will be presented to teams on the day (or final day) they win the competition.<sup>78</sup>

**CR 34: START OF LEAGUES**

34.1 All Junior League shall commence on the date agreed at the AGM, or if this is not possible, the GFL shall give clubs a minimum of 14 days' notice on the date and first fixture that leagues will commence.<sup>79</sup>

**CR 35: ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING AND ARTIFICIAL SURFACE**

35.1 Matches under the jurisdiction of the league can be played on artificial turf surface only where the surface has been certified in accordance with FIFA standards appropriate to the relevant competitions.

35.2 Matches under the jurisdiction of the league can be played with the use of artificial lighting provided that they are installed as per FIFA directives for leagues and clubs as may be revised from time to time.<sup>80</sup>

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74 CR29 ratified at 2013 AGM  
75 CR30 ratified at 2013 AGM  
76 CR31 ratified at 2013 AGM  
77 CR32 ratified at 2013 AGM  
78 CR33 ratified at 2013 AGM  
79 CR34 ratified at 2014 AGM  
80 CR35 ratified at 2013 AGM