

Congress Motions 2019

Membership

Management

Speaker: Peter Rice

Seconded by: Dave McCabe

Amend Rule 41 to read:

Membership of the Association shall be granted by a Club. However officers of Central Council, **the National CODAs and members of the National Hearings and Appeals Panels** may register with the National Registrar and become Full Members by doing so. Membership shall be open to all regardless of their age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexuality or social/economic status.

Passed 81:8

Registrations

Dublin

Speaker: John Sheridan

Seconded by: Trina Murray

Amend Rule 49 (d) to read:

Club and Team Officials, Trainers, Coaches and Selectors (Present fee **€10.00** to Central Council + Injury Fund (Optional) + Club, County Board, Provincial and Development Fund)

Lost 23:68

Cork
Shinnick

Speaker: Marian Crowley

Seconded by: Mary

Amend Rule 51 to read: Amendment passed with show of hands

A player's **or member's** registration is valid only **when processed and completed by the LGFA Registration System.**

Passed 80:5

Roscommon

Speaker: Grace O'Brien

Seconded by: Keith Gilroy

Amend Rule 52 to read: Amendment passed 52:34 – if passed effective from 2020

'The Registration year shall be **from 1st April to the 31st March of the following year.**

Lost: 53:38 – Required 2/3rd Majority

Injury Fund

Management

Speaker: Peter Rice

Seconded by: Dave McCabe

Amend Rule 77 to read:

All applications for payment of money from the Injury Fund, **shall be signed by the County Secretary or other authorised officer**, on an official application form and shall be accompanied by medical certificates, receipts, bills, referees reports where applicable, and any other documentation as required by Central Council.

Where the injury has occurred in a club game, the claim form must be signed by the Club Secretary **or other authorised Club officer**.

Where the injury occurred in training, the claim form must be signed by the person in charge of the training session, preferably a qualified coach and the Club Secretary **or other authorised Club officer**.

The County Secretary **or other authorised officer** should be notified of the Claim Notification Number and dates of payment.

Passed 85:6

International

Management

Speaker: Con Moynihan

Seconded by: Billy Stafford

Rule 109: Remove 'in Duplicate' to read:

Players who intend to play on a temporary basis in our affiliated units in New York LGFA, US GAA and Canada GAA must complete an official permit form and have it signed by the Club, County and National Secretaries.

Passed 89:2

Clubs

**Management
Brady**

Speaker: Dominic Leech

Seconded by: John Joe

Amend Rule 115 to read:

A Club must have at least 11 playing members that are eligible to play in the age group or grade of football in which the Club intends fielding a team and 3 registered adult officials, **at least one of whom must be female**, before it can affiliate to the Association.

Only a properly registered Club can take part in County, Provincial or National Competitions, or be entitled to representation on Committees, County Boards or Councils.

Passed: 82:10

**Management
Naughton**

Speaker: Kathleen Kane

Seconded by: Michael

Amend Rule 120 by removing 'purchase a copy of the Official Guide, or' to read: Amendment passed by show of hands

Each affiliated Club shall make themselves familiar with the rules of the Official Guide and shall be bound by the rules and regulations contained therein. Every affiliated Club and registered member shall be deemed to have full knowledge of the rules of the Association.

Passed 88:5

Monaghan

Speaker: Marie Brady

Seconded by: Dominic Leech

Amend Rule 126 to read:

In the event of a clash of colours in an Inter-Club game, the **home** team must wear jerseys of a different colour. Should the game be played at a neutral venue, both teams must change or come to a mutual arrangement. In all games a goalkeeper must wear distinctive attire. Failure to do so shall incur a fine of €15.

Lost 14:78

Player Eligibility for Club, County and Province

Management

Add to Rule 136 (a) and Rule 139: "Permission is only granted for competitions within the county" to read:

A player may not play for more than one club except:

- (a) An underage player may play for an exclusively Underage Club and a Club in Senior, Intermediate or Junior grade with permission from the County Board. **Permission is only granted for competitions within the county.**

Withdrawn

Rule 139 to read:

Where there is a Club in a player's CCA, but the Club is unable to provide football for her at Adult or Underage level, the player must register with her CCA Club.

Where there is club football for her in another Club within her CCA, she may get permission to play or transfer to that Club.

She cannot transfer or get permission to play with another Club outside her CCA whilst there is a Club in her CCA, unless she is exempted under Rule 137 (Home Club). This permission is to be renewed on an annual basis.

Where there is no Adult Club football within her CCA, and she wishes to seek permission to play with another Club she must apply on the Official Application Form and forward it to the County Board, Provincial Council and the National Grading Committee of Central Council.

The Grading Committee will make the final decision subject to appeal to Central Council.

- (a) The closing date for a player seeking permission to play Adult Football is 4 weeks prior to the commencement of the competition. The maximum number of players allowed to obtain permission to play for any Club shall be four. This permission is to be renewed on an annual basis **and is only granted for competitions within the county.**

Withdrawn

Cork

Speaker: Marian Crowley

Seconded by: Sonia Gernon

Amend Rule 141 to read:

Notwithstanding rules 137 to 140, a player or players may apply in writing to the Management Committee of Central Council for permission to deviate from a specific rule or rules in exceptional circumstances and seek permission to play with another club. Such permission may be granted **following consultation with the relevant County board with the exception of requests submitted under child protection** where circumstances are deemed to warrant it, subject to approval by Central Council

Lost: 46:42 – Required 2/3rd Majority

Schools and Colleges Committees

HEC

Speaker: Donal Barry

Seconded by: Mary Courtney

Amend Rule 165 to read:

In order for a player to qualify to compete in the HEC competitions she must be in full time education.

Postgraduates must make a special application to the Management of the HEC, who shall decide on their eligibility.

For the Garda College and Army Cadets: students who graduate during the months between January and March still qualify to play in the HEC Championship of that academic year.

Passed 83:2

County Boards

Management

Speaker: Con Moynihan

Seconded by: Mary Shinnick

Amend Rule 188 to read:

County Boards may allow players from three Junior clubs, or, one Junior and one Intermediate club to amalgamate to form a Senior Team, without losing their Junior or Intermediate status.

County Boards may allow 2 Junior clubs to amalgamate to form an Intermediate team without losing their Junior status.

Passed 51:5

An amalgamated team which wins the County Championship shall be permitted to represent the County Board in the Provincial and All Ireland Club Championships.

Amendment Passed 67:19

Provincial Convention

Management

Speaker: Peter Rice

Seconded by: Finbarr O'Driscoll

[Amend Rule 204 to read](#)

The Provincial President shall be elected for **one term of four years by secret ballot and shall not serve two consecutive terms.**

Passed 80:8

Management

[Rule 206: Delete \(j\)](#) Cultural and Language Officer

Withdrawn

Provincial Council

Management

[Rule 210: Delete \(j\)](#)

Rule 210 currently reads:

Provincial Council shall consist of

- a) President
- b) Vice President
- c) President Elect for one year prior to her/his term as President
- d) Secretary
- e) Assistant Secretary
- f) Treasurer
- g) Assistant Treasurer
- h) Registrar
- i) PRO
- j) Cultural and Language Officer
- k) Development Officer (appointed)
- l) Three delegates from each Affiliated County, one of who must be a current player
- m) Two delegates from the Provincial Schools Council
- n) Two delegates from the Provincial Colleges Council
- o) Officers from Central Council from within the Province
- p) Members of sub-committees of Central Council who have voting rights at Central Council

Withdrawn

Annual Congress

Management

Amend Rule 229 (c) in line with Rule 241 to read:

The President Elect shall be elected for **one term of four years by secret ballot one year prior to her/his term as President.**

Passed 86:4

Management

Rule 229 (d): Delete 'Cultural and Language Officer' to read:

(d) To elect by ballot the Assistant Secretary, Treasurers, Development Officer and other officers it deems necessary.

Withdrawn

Central Council

Management

Amend Rule 241 (a)

The President shall be elected for one term of four years by secret ballot and shall not serve two consecutive terms.

Rule 241 (a) currently reads:

Central Council shall consist of:

- (a) President who shall be elected for a three year term but may stand for re-election at the end of her/his second year in office to serve two consecutive terms.

Passed 82:5

Management

Speaker: Peter Rice

Seconded by: Finbarr O'Driscoll

Add to Rule 241 (d)

Outgoing Provincial Presidents shall remain as a member of national management committee until the completion of congress of that year at which time the new President takes up his/her role.

Passed 80:14

Management

Speaker: Hugh Devenney

Seconded by: Geraldine Giles

Delete 241 (g)

(g) Cultural and Language Officer

Lost 20:69

Competitions

Management

Speaker: Jerome Casey

Seconded by: Ted Maloney

Amend Rule 337 to read:

Underage players can only play in their own age group and one grade above it at Inter-County level. (e.g. Under 14 **Inter-County** player can play at Under 14 and Under 16 but not Under 17 upwards. An Under 15 or 16 Inter-County player cannot play at Junior, Intermediate or Senior Level).

Over 18 grade is deemed an adult grade.

At club level, underage players can only play in their own age group and two grades above it with grades being deemed as Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18. An Under 8 player can play Under 8, 10 and 12. An Under 10 can play Under 10, 12 and 14. An Under 12 can play Under 12, 14, 16. An Under 14 can play Under 14, 16 and 18. An Under 16 can play Under 16, 18 and Adult and Under 18 can play Under 18 and Adult.

Passed 83:6

1st January 2020

Proposed: Dominic Leech

Seconded by: Jock Grogan

Lost 31:60 34%: 66%

Management

Speaker: Jerome Casey

Seconded by: Tony Bass

Amend Rule 348 to read:

Games in Under 11 and younger shall be organised on the Go-Games Model. Go Games are modified where results are not formally recorded and where all participants get to play during the course of the game.

Teams at Under 6 and 7 shall be a maximum of 7-a-side. Teams at Under 8 and 9 shall be a maximum of 9-a-side. Teams of Under 10 and 11 shall be a maximum of 11-a-side.

At Under 12 level, competitions may be organised on a league format, **with no championships**, on the basis that participating teams should be a maximum of 13-a-side. Games should be organised over four quarters, and provision shall be made for all members of the team panel to participate in a minimum of one quarter.

Passed 75:18

Tournament Games

Management

Speaker: Jerome Casey

Seconded by: Billy Stafford

Amend Rule 366 by changing 24 to 48 and deleting at (a) "in the first instance" and inserting "within the county" to read:

Authorisation to hold and/or to compete in all tournament, friendly and challenge games shall be obtained **48** hours in advance by all teams from:

- (a) The County Board for games **within the county**
- (b) Provincial Council, where teams are from different counties within the Province
- (c) Central Council, where teams are from more than one Province

County secretaries to be copied in on all applications in the case of (b) and (c) Amendment

Proposed: Kathleen Kane

Seconded by: Lucia

Butler

Passed 79:9

Medals and Trophies

Management

Speaker: Eileen Jones

Seconded by: David McCabe

Amend Rule 376 to read:

There shall be one captain per team. It shall be the privilege of the captain of the winning team to accept the cup or trophy on behalf of her team. The safe custody of the cup or trophy shall be the responsibility of the successful Club, County, School, College or Province. Any costs incurred in the replacement or repair of cups or trophies shall be borne by the Club, County, School, College or Province responsible.

A cup or trophy shall not be filled with any type of alcoholic beverage.

Passed 69:11

Teams

Management

Speaker Eileen Jones

Seconded by: Michael Naughton

Amend Rule 378 to read:

A team shall consist of 15 players and a panel of 30 players. Teams are allowed a maximum of 7 officials, **one of whom must be a female liaison officer**, on the side-line.

Passed 88:4

Ball in Play

Dublin

Speaker: John Sheridan

Seconded: Ted Maloney

Amend Rule 438 to read:

If the ball is played over the end line and outside the goalposts, by one of the defending side, the opposing team shall be awarded a 45 metre kick opposite to where the ball crossed the end line.

The 45 metre kick may be taken from the hand or off the ground at all grades, including adult.

Should a player taking the 45 metre kick foul the ball, she shall retake the kick.

Loss 18:75

Fouls

Management

Speaker: Geraldine Carey

Seconded by: Keith Gilroy

Amend Rule 474 (a) by inserting "an object"

'Striking an opponent or colleague with hand, arm, elbow, head, knee or **an object**.'

Passed 79:10

Free Kicks

Management

Speaker: Pat Quill

Seconded by: Arthur Corrigan

Amend Rule 476 to read:

If a foul occurs, the referee may allow play to continue, if s/he considers this to be to the advantage of the offended team for up to 5 seconds after the foul. Where no advantage accrues the referee may award a free from where the original foul occurred. **Should another foul be committed on the offended team within the 5 seconds then the free is awarded from the most advantageous position.**

Should the foul occur inside the 13 metre line apart from penalty kicks, the referee shall award the free from the 13 metre line opposite to where the foul occurred.

Disciplinary action, if warranted, may be applied to the offender, who, in any event should be advised by the referee at the next break in play, that a foul had been committed.

Passed 87:4

Management

Speaker: Liam McDonagh

Seconded by: Tony Bass

Amend Rule 482 by deleting "from where she stood or illegally charged the free kick" and replace it with "13 metres nearer their opponents' goal" to read:

Should an opposing player stand nearer than 13 metres from the ball when a free kick, side-line kick or 45 metre kick is being taken, or illegally charge a free kick, the opposing team shall be awarded a free kick **13 metres nearer their opponents' goal**.

Passed 88:6

Kick Out

Management

Speaker: Mary Connolly

Seconded by: Billy Stafford

Amend Rule 500 by inserting "directly in front of the goalposts" after "13 metre line" to read:

The ball may be kicked from the hands or off the ground from the 13 metre line, **directly in front of the goalposts**, for a kick out from goal after a wide in all competitions. All players except the kicker and the goal keeper shall be outside the 20 metre line, and at least 13 metres from the ball until it is kicked.

The ball must cross the 20 metre line before being played by another player. Where another player offends, a free shall be awarded to the opposing team on the 20 metre line opposite to where the foul occurred.

Passed 82:9

Referee

Management

Speaker: Geraldine Giles

Seconded by: Mary Courtney

Amend Rule 522 to read:

The team lists and referees match report shall remain the property of the Committee or Council in charge of the fixture or the relevant CODA and shall not be issued to any other party. However, if a person **or unit**, is the subject **of a CODA hearing, that report shall be made available as per the CODA rules.**

Passed 90:0

Amend CODA Rules due to Anti-Doping requirements from Sport Ireland

Speaker: Paula Prunty

Seconded by: Michael O'Neill

Description	Page	Rule	Proposed Amendment (in red)
1. Anti Doping Rules	5	Definitions	Official: means match officials and any officers of the Association, any Sport Ireland doping control official or any other person involved in doping control
2. Anti Doping Rules <i>“Offensive conduct towards a Doping Control official or any other person involved in Doping control”</i>	10	2.3 (iv) AND Sanctions Matrix	Insulting behaviour to other competitors, match officials, and/or any LGFA Officials; (delete LGFA)
3. Anti Doping Rules <i>“Offensive conduct towards a Doping Control official or any other person involved in Doping control”</i>	10	2.3 (v) AND Sanctions Matrix	Violation of instructions and directives from match officials, and/or any LGFA Officials; (delete LGFA)
4. Anti Doping Rules Failure or refusal to comply with an investigation, without acceptable justification	10	INSERT NEW OFFENCE at 2.3(vi) AND Sanctions Matrix	Failure or refusal to comply with an investigation carried out by an Official without acceptable justification
5. Provision/discretion to amend clerical errors	21	7.3	The Hearings Committee shall have discretion to extend the deadline and amend any clerical errors in submitted forms where they deem it appropriate.
6. Provision/discretion for Committee's to make some directions / recommendations	22	7.19	The Hearings Committee may impose a sanction, or any combination of sanctions as set out in Schedule 1 and/or issue a recommendation or direction where they deem it appropriate.
7. Clarifying when a Suspension is effective from	New	New	The Hearings Committee shall have the discretion to decide the date at which any sanction it imposes is effective from

Passed 91:0

Proposed Amendments to CODA Rules

DEFINITIONS

Speaker: Paula Prunty

Seconded by: Trina Murray

Appeals Committee: means the three persons appointed to hear an appeal of a Decision of **any Unit or a Hearings Committee** regarding an Objection, Complaint or Disciplinary matter at County Board, Schools, Colleges, provincial council and central council

Decision: means any decision of **any Unit**, Hearings Committee or Appeals Committee

Bullying: means the use of strength or power to threaten, frighten or hurt. **Bullying involving an underage member shall be covered under the provisions of the Code of Behaviour (Underage)**

Direction: means any direction given, in addition to or in place of a Sanction, by the Hearings or Appeals Committee. A Direction shall be discretionary and may include the following:

- (a) Attendance at an education, communication or other type of course;
- (b) Suspension or deferral of Sanctions pending further review or compliance with directions

Sanction: means any fine, penalty, disqualification or suspension, including the sin bin or other form of limitation imposed on any Member of the Association as set out in Schedule 1. **Any Sanction issued by a Hearings Committee or Appeals Committee must consist of a fine and/or suspension.**

Passed 85:4

2. OFFENCES

2.2. COMPLAINT

Speaker: Paula Prunty

Seconded by: Geraldine Giles

- (i) Bullying as between adults;

3. SANCTIONS

3.2 SUSPENSIONS

3.2.1 The suspension of a Member means suspension from:

- a) Playing in games;
- b) Refereeing or acting as any match official;
- c) Acting as a manager, mentor, coach, selector, female liaison officer, water carrier, runner, physio or first aider;
- d) Being in the dressing room on match day;
- e) Being in the team bench area;
- f) Being inside the fencing of an enclosed pitch, during the course of the game.
- g) Hold officership of the Association;

A suspended playing member may train with her team.

This rule does not forbid a suspended member from being present at a game or training session, or drawing up a training schedule for implementation by fellow selectors.

Passed 79:4

5. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Speaker: Paula Prunty

Seconded by: Peter Jordan

5.11 – Delete the words ‘any of’ to read:

5.11 - In determining the appropriate method to resolve the Complaint, the CODA shall have regard to the following:

- a. Informal Dispute Resolution by the CODA or other Member;*
- b. Mediation by a DRA appointed mediator;*
- c. Formal Hearing on payment of €300*

Passed 87:1

Currently reads:

5.11 - In determining the appropriate method to resolve the Complaint, the CODA shall have regard to any of the following:

- a. Informal Dispute Resolution by the CODA or other Member;*
- b. Mediation by a DRA appointed mediator;*
- c. Formal Hearing on payment of €300*

7. HEARINGS PROCEDURE

Speaker: Paula Prunty

Seconded by: Liam McDonagh

7.3 The Hearings Committee shall have discretion to extend the deadline **and amend any clerical errors in submitted forms** where they deem it appropriate.

7.19 The Hearings Committee may impose **a Direction or** a Sanction as set out in Schedule 1 **and/or issue a recommendation or direction where they deem it appropriate.**

7.23 Pending the appeal, the original sanction and/or Direction imposed by the Hearings Committee shall stand.

Passed 86:4

8. APPEALS PROCEDURE

Speaker: Paula Prunty

Seconded by: Gerry Doherty

8.1 A decision of **any Unit or** Hearing’s Committee may be appealed to the Appeals Committee of the next highest Unit.

8.2 A Notice of Appeal (see Appendices [13]) shall be served on the CODA of the next highest Unit within three (3) days of delivery of the written Notice of Decision of the **relevant unit or** Hearings Committee **who made the original decision** together an appeal fee of €300 made payable to the next highest Unit. Such fee shall be reimbursed to the Appellant if the appeal is upheld by the Appeals Committee.

Passed 90:1

Speaker: Paula Prunty

Seconded by: Arthur Corrigan

SCHEDULE 1 - TABLE OF SANCTIONS			
Part A Sanctions Matrix			
Objections	Low	Medium	High
Playing an underage or overage player		*	*
Playing a player who is not eligible		*	*
Playing a suspended player		*	*
Complaints			
Inappropriate or abusive language	*	*	
Intimidation	*	*	
Bullying, Racism, Sexism, Ageism			*
Inappropriate Conduct			
Poor standard of care	*	*	*
Disciplinary Action			
Offensive behaviour to other competitors, match officials and/or any LGFA officials	*	*	
Violation of instructions and directives from match officials and/or LGFA officials	*	*	
Abuse or discrimination on grounds of Race, colour, handicap, sex, sexual orientation, religion or ethnic origin			*
Foul play, i.e. use of excessive force	*	*	
Serious foul play, inciting a brawl or violence		*	*
Participation at an event without the permission of LGFA	*	*	
Assaulting an opponent or participant other than a match official		*	*
Criminal investigation or conviction likely to bring the LGFA into disrepute			*
Verbal or physical abuse other than Racial, sexual orientation as outlined above	*		
Bringing the LGFA into disrepute		*	*
Mischievous or vexatious complaints			*
Breach of any of the Associations rules	*	*	
Assaulting an official			*
Verbal abuse	*	*	
Forgery or Falsification			*
Physical abuse	*	*	*
Match fixing			*
Improperly influencing the outcome of a game for financial gain			*
Breach of any rules, regulations and Code of Ethics	*	*	*
Purporting to represent the LGFA without permission of the LGFA	*	*	
Taking part in an event/competition organised by a club not affiliated to LGFA unless that event has been sanctioned by LGFA	*		

Part B Guidance on Sanctions			
1. Fines			
	Affected Unit (min - max fine)		

Level of Offence	Individual	Club	County or Higher Unit
Low	€25 - €50	€50 - €300	€300 - €1,000
Medium	€50 - €100	€100 - €500	€500 - €3,000
High	€100 - €200	€200 - €1,000	€1,000 - €5,000

2 Suspension or expulsion	Affected Unit (min - max fine)
Level of Offence	Any Unit
Low	4 - 6 weeks
Medium	6 - 16 weeks
High	16 weeks to 20 years

3. Forfeiture of a Game	Affected Unit (min - max fine)
Level of Offence	Any Unit
Low	1 game
Medium	2 - 3 games
High	4 games +

Passed 83:1