

Fo-Dhlithe Coiste Chontae Phort Láirge

Waterford GAA Bye Laws

2021

(Approved at a meeting of An Coiste Bainistíochta 15ú Eanáir 2021)

These Bye-Laws shall be read in conjunction with the current Treoraí Oifigiúil.

1. COUNTY CONVENTION (Rules 3.10 to 3.17 T.O. 2020)

- 1.1 County Convention, convened in accordance with Rule 3.10, shall elect/appoint Officers and Representatives in accordance with Rule 3.11 and Delegates in accordance with Rule 3.12 following nomination in accordance with Rule 3.13:
Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Coaching Officer, Officer for Irish Language and Culture, Public Relations Officer and shall appoint a Children's Officer and a Development Officer both recommended by the outgoing County Committee.
It shall further elect two representatives on Provincial Council and one representative on Central Council.
It shall elect or authorise selection of Delegates to Annual Congress and Provincial Convention in accordance with Rule 3.12.
- 1.2 Before publication of Convention motions submitted in accordance with Rule 3.14 these shall be examined by the Management Committee. Motions considered out of order should be returned to the submitting Unit indicating reasons and affording opportunity to re-submit.
- 1.3 A Full-Time Secretary appointed for a period in excess of one year shall not have voting rights and is not subject to re-election (Rule 3.11 (b), (1))
- 1.4 The County Treasurer is not subject to the maximum period of office of five years.

2. COUNTY COMMITTEE (Rules 3.18 to 3.19 T.O. 2020)

The County Committee shall consist of the Officers elected/appointed pursuant to Bye-Law 1, the Two Provincial Council representatives, and the One Central Council representative, (elected pursuant to Bye Law 1 above who shall be ex-officio members), The Two Divisional Committee Chairpersons, Secretaries and Treasurers (representing the East and West Divisional Boards), one named Representative from each affiliated adult club, the County Referees' Administrator, the I.T. Officer, the Chairperson of Bord Na nÓg, and one named Representative from County Primary Schools Committee and County Post Primary Schools Committee. With the exception of the County Officers, Central and Provincial Council representatives all other members shall have the power to appoint proxies. Such proxies must produce written authorisation.

In accordance with Rule 3.20 and subject to Rules 3.21 and 4.2 T.O. 2020 the County Committee shall appoint the following sub-committees whose powers and functions shall be as detailed therein and, in these Bye-Laws where appropriate. All members of sub-committees shall be named. The membership of each shall be determined as follows:

- (a) **Management Committee:** It shall consist of the Officers of the County Committee, representatives to Central and Provincial Council, Divisional Chairpersons and Secretaries, the Chairperson of Bord Na nÓg and the I.T. Officer.
Five members shall constitute a quorum.

- (b) Competitions Control Committee:** It shall consist of the County Vice-Chairperson who shall be Chairperson of the CCC, the County Chairperson, the County Secretary, the County Treasurer, the County PRO, the Fixtures Analyst, the Chairpersons and Secretaries of the two Divisional Committees and the County Referees Administrator, who shall vote only on the appointment of referees.
- (c) Fixtures Analyst:** One Fixtures' Analyst shall be appointed as per Treorai Oifigiuil
- (d) Hearings Committee:** It shall consist of a Chairman and six other named members (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (e) Planning, Physical Development and Safety Committee:** It shall consist of the County Development Officer and seven other members (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (f) Referees' Administration Committee:** It shall consist of the County Referees' Administrator and four other members (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (g) Coaching and Games Development Committee:** It shall consist of the County Coaching Officer, as Chairperson, Games Development Manager (who shall act as Rúnaí), and eleven other members nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (h) Cultural Committee:** It shall consist of the Officer for Irish Language & Culture and six other members (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (i) Public Relations/Marketing Committee:** It shall consist of the County Public Relations Officer and six other members (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (j) Deise Óg / Youth Committee:** It shall consist of the County Children's Officer and 9 members namely two representatives of Coaching and Games, Bord Na Nóg, Primary and Secondary Schools and one representative from the Development Squads (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee
- (k) Finance Sub Committee:** It shall consist of the County Treasurer and six members nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (l) Information Technology Committee:** It shall consist of the I.T. Officer and four other members (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (m) County Teams' Management & Panels' Committee:** The membership of the County Teams' Management and Panels' Committee shall be as outlined in the Charter for County Committee / Player Relationships and as approved by Árd Chomhairle from time to time and shall be nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- (n) Health and Wellbeing Committee:** It shall consist of the Children's Officer and eleven other members (one of whom shall act as Rúnaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.

3. In accordance with Rule 3.19(I) the County Committee shall form Divisional Sub-Committees and other Sub-Committees as follows:

(a) East and West Divisional Sub-Committees:

- I. the boundary between Eastern and Western Divisions shall be a line from the source of the Mahon River to the sea, denoting the Western boundaries of Bearnna na Gaoithe, An Charraig Bheag, Rath o gCormac, Cluain Fhiaidh Paorach, Choill MhicThomais Fhinn, An Baile Nua, agus Chill Mhór.
- II. The Divisional Sub-Committees shall consist of: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Public Relations Officer (P.R.O.). and one representative from each affiliated club within the Division.
- III. Divisional Sub-Committees shall, subject to the approval of Choiste Condae, control of the Intermediate, Junior and Under 21, Hurling and Football Championships in their area, except the County Finals in those grades subject to approval by Choiste Condae. Subject to approval of Choiste Chontae they shall have power to nominate a team to represent their Division in the County Final of competitions where Divisional Championships have not been completed.
- IV. Divisional Sub-Committees shall maintain a Competitions Control Committee with the same functions within the Sub-Committees jurisdiction as those of the C.C.C. Choiste Chontae. Hearings will be heard by the County Hearings Committee.

(b) Bord Na nÓg:

- I. It shall be nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- II. Subject to the approval of the County Committee it shall be responsible for all the arrangements and administration of games at U-13, U-14, U-15 and U-16 Hurling and Football.
- III. It shall establish a Competitions Control Committee which shall have the same functions within its jurisdiction as those of a CCC at adult level and determined by the Official Guide and County Bye-Laws. Disciplinary Hearings will be heard by the County Hearings Committee.
- IV. The committee may subject to the approval of the County Committee delegate the administration of some competitions to Divisional Bord Na nÓg committees.

5. Attachment to First Club:

A person seeking to become a member of the Association shall have an unfettered choice as to which Club he wishes to join.

6. Transfers:

- a) A player who wishes to leave one Club to join another Club must apply to the County Committee for a transfer.
- b) Section (a) of this Bye Law shall apply to players over the age of 17
- c) The following criteria shall govern applications for a transfer for members under the age of 17:
 1. A player who has played with a club at any grade from under 12 or over (including Go Games) to under 17 (minor) grade in championship or league may only transfer to another club if the player's family residence has changed to the area of the club he wishes to be transferred. (Age grades as defined by Rule 6.17 T.O.2020)

Exceptions:

- I. A change of address is not required in the case of a player whose family residence is already in the area of a club to which he wishes to be transferred, and who is presently a player of a club outside the club area of his family residence.
 - II. An application for a transfer may be considered and granted in exceptional circumstances where a case involving a member is on file with both the County Children's Officer and the GAA National Child Welfare Manager. An application shall only proceed following consultations with the County Children's Officer and the GAA National Child Welfare Manager.
2. A player whose family residence is changed to an area common to two or more clubs, and is presently a player of a club other than those in the area of his family residence, shall be entitled to transfer to a club of his choice in the area of his family residence.

8. Grading of Clubs and Players:

- a) All applications for regrading shall be forwarded to the Rúnaí Choiste Chontae on or before the first Friday in March.
- b) A club is entitled to regrade a maximum of seven players to its next Championship Level.

Exception:
Clubs participating in the Junior B Football Championship may regrade 10 players to that level.
- c) A player shall not lose his current Championship status by playing in his first game of a higher-grade Championship. Should the player participate in a subsequent game of the same higher Championship then his status shall be of that higher grade for the remainder of the Championship Year.
- d) An 18-year-old player (first year out of Under 17 Grade) will have free grading in the adult championship until the play-offs/knockout games. It is only applicable where Championships are organised on a League format.

This exception permits a player to play at a higher grade one weekend and return to his current lower Championship status the following weekend. A player may only partake in one grade during a seven-day period (Friday morning to the following Thursday night.).
As per Rule participation as a substitute constitutes participation in a game.

- e) Intermediate hurling and football championship winners shall have the option of remaining in the Intermediate grade the following year. A club shall automatically be promoted to senior status on winning an Intermediate title two years in succession.
Should the Intermediate Championship winners opt to remain in the Intermediate grade for the following year then there shall be no relegation from the Senior grade for that said year.
- f) A club may enter only one team at the same level of a permitted Championship grade.
- g) A club who wishes to affiliate an additional Intermediate or Junior team at a lower level shall submit a list of 18 players who shall be eligible to play for the higher graded team only.
- h) A player who is graded Junior may not play in a lower Junior Championship grade than that of his last Junior Championship game unless he is regraded to that level.
- i) Penalties for breach of this Bye-Law are as follows:
Player - twelve weeks Suspension.
Team - On a proven Objection -- Award of Game to Opposing Team.
On an Inquiry by the Committee-in-Charge - Forfeiture of Game without Award of Game to Opposing Team, or Fine, depending on the circumstances.

9. Playing Restrictions:

- a) A player from a Club that does not have a hurling/football team may apply to the County Committee for permission to play hurling/football with an alternative club in the County.
- b) A player from a Club that does not have a hurling/football team as his age grade, may apply to the County Committee for permission to play hurling/football in that grade with an alternative club in the County
- c) The County Committee shall delegate the consideration of applications to the CCC.
- d) The closing date for the receipt of applications shall be the second Friday in January.
- e) Permission shall be granted for the year of application – a twelve-month period only.
- f) All players revert to their original Club once the playing season is over.
- g) A Player aggrieved by the decision of the CCC shall have the right to a hearing at the Co. Hearings Committee whose decision shall be final.
- h) The initial application shall be to a neighbouring club. In the event of a neighbouring club not being able to accommodate such a request the option shall be open for the player to apply to another club within the county.
- i) The CCC shall consider all applications in the interest of the promotion of hurling /football.

10. Inter-County Players Availability to Clubs:

The period of time during which an intercounty player shall not be expected to fulfil interclub championship fixtures at his own grade shall be as follows:

Senior (Adult) – maximum of seven (7) days

Under 20 – maximum of four (4) days

Minor (Under 17)– maximum of four (4) days