

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael
Coiste Chontae an Dúin

Fodhlíthe: Bye-Laws 2022

To be read in accordance with GAA Official Guide.

(Approved by An Coiste Bainistíochta, on behalf of Ard Comhairle, 21 Eanáir 2022)

1.1 County Convention:

County Convention, convened in accordance with Rule 3.10, shall having firstly been duly nominated in accordance with Rule 3.13 elect/appoint the following Officers and Representatives in accordance with Rule 3.11:

Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant-Treasurer, Coaching Officer, Officer for Irish Language and Culture and Public Relations Officer, and shall appoint a Planning and Training Officer and a Children's Officer 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 authorize selection and/or election of Delegates to Annual Congress and Provincial Convention in accordance with Rule 3.12 T.O 2021.

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) Exception (1) T.O. 2021).

The position of Treasurer is not subject to a maximum number of years in office (Rule 3.11 (b) Exception (2) T.O. 2021).

1.2 County Committee:

All the affairs of the Association within the County shall be governed and controlled by the County Committee in accordance with Rule 3.19 T.O. 2021 and these Bye-Laws. It shall consist of the following members.

- i) Officers - Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant-Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant-Treasurer, Planning and Training Officer, Coaching Officer, Officer for the Irish Language and Culture, Public Relations Officer, Hurling Officer and Children's Officer.
- ii) Central Council Representative.
- iii) Provincial Council Representatives (2).
- iv) Chairperson and Secretary of the Divisional Committees.
- v) Named Representatives of the Clubs (one Representative per club).
- vi) A named Representative of each of the following Committees: County Handball, County Primary Schools, County Post-Primary Schools.
- vii) County Referees' Administrator.
- viii) County Safety and Facilities Officer.

- 1.3 All members of the County Committee shall have voting rights except the County Secretary.
- 1.4 The quorum for meetings of the County Committee shall be eighteen (18), three (3) of whom shall be Officers.
- 1.5 At its first meeting after the date of the County Convention, the County Committee shall decide on a Schedule of Meetings for the ensuing year.
- 1.6 In accordance with Rial 3.20 T.O 2021, the County Committee shall appoint the following subcommittees membership of which is set out as follows in these Bye-Laws : All members of sub-committees shall be named.

County Management Committee: An Coiste Bainistíochta

2.1 Membership

The County Management Committee shall consist of the following members: Officers-Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant-Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Planning and Training Officer, Coaching Officer, Officer for the Irish Language and Culture, Public Relations Officer and Hurling Officer, Central Council Representative, Provincial Council Representatives (2), Chairpersons of the Divisional Committees.

- 2.2 All members of the County Management Committee shall have voting rights except the County Secretary.
- 2.3 The quorum for meetings of the County Management Committee shall be five (5) members.
- 2.4 The County Management Committee shall act as the Standing Orders Committee for County Convention and shall examine motions submitted and decide whether these are in order.

The Committee may put a motion in order where there is a failure to quote the numbers of the Rules affected or where there are minor clerical errors.

In the case of motions from Clubs being not in order, Clubs shall be advised in writing of the reason for a motion being out of order and, subject to a time-limit determined by the County Committee, shall be afforded an opportunity to re-submit an appropriately corrected motion for the consideration of the County Management Committee.

The County Chairperson shall have the authority at County Convention to rule a motion out of order. (Time limit of seven 7 days approved by the County Committee).

County Competitions Control Committee: *Coiste Cheannais na gComórtaisí*

3.1 Membership

The membership of the County Competitions Control Committee shall consist of ten named persons who shall be decided upon and appointed by the County Committee and shall include the County Assistant Secretary (who shall be secretary of the Committee), one fixtures analyst and the County Referees' Administrator (who shall be entitled to vote only on the appointment of referees).

3.2 All members of the County Competitions Control Committee shall have voting rights except the County Secretary. The County Referees' Administrator shall be entitled to vote only on the appointment of Referees.

3.3 The quorum for meetings of the Competitions Control Committee shall be three (3) members.

Fixtures Analyst:

4.1 A Fixtures Analyst shall be appointed by the Management Committee.

4.2 The Fixtures Analyst shall be responsible for monitoring and analysing the County Fixtures Programme on an annual basis. He/she shall present a Report to Annual Convention on fixtures played in all club competitions and make recommendations for changes in the fixture calendar where appropriate. This report will be submitted to the Provincial and Central Fixtures Analysis Committees annually.

County Hearings Committee: *An Coiste Éisteachta*

5.1 Membership

The membership of County Hearings Committee shall consist of 10 named people who shall be decided upon and appointed by the County Committee.

5.2 The quorum for meetings of the County Hearings Committee shall be three (3) members.

5.3 Appeals against decisions of the Competitions Control Committee of the Divisional Committees shall be made to the County Hearings Committee.

Safety and Facilities Committee: *Coiste Sábháilteachta agus Saoráidí*

6.1 The Committee shall have six members including County Safety and Facilities Officer who shall be Chairperson, a Qualified Event Controller. The remaining members, nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee, should be suitably qualified in areas relevant to the terms of reference of the Committee as outlined in R. 3.20 (v) T.O. 2021.

County Coaching and Games Development Committee: *Coiste Oiliúna agus Forbairt na gCluichí*

- 7.1** The membership of the County Coaching and Games Development Committee shall consist of ten named persons and shall include the County Coaching Officer as Chairperson, the Games Development Manager (who shall act as Secretary) and other members who shall be decided upon and appointed by the County Committee.

County Cultural Committee: An Coiste Cultúir

- 8.1** The membership of the County Cultural Committee shall consist of ten named persons including the County Officer for the Irish Language and Culture and other members decided upon and appointed by the County Committee.

County Public Relations and Marketing Committee: An Coiste Eolais agus Cumarsáide

- 9.1** The membership of the County Public Relations and Marketing Committee shall consist of ten named persons and shall include the County Public Relations Officer and other members who shall be decided upon and appointed by the County Committee.

County Youth Committee: Coiste Na nÓg

- 10.1** The County Youth Committee shall consist of eight named persons decided upon and appointed by the County Committee.

County Referees' Administration Committee: Coiste Riaracháin na Réiteoirí

- 11.1** The membership of the County Referees' Administration Committee shall consist of ten named members appointed by the County Committee and shall include the Referees Administrator.

County Finance Subcommittee: Fó-Choiste Airgeadais

- 12.1** The Membership of the County Finance Committee shall consist of eight named persons and shall include the County Chairperson, County Treasurer and County Secretary and other members decided upon and appointed by the County Committee

County Information Technology Committee: Coiste Theicneolaíocht an Eolais

- 13.1** The membership of the County Information Technology Committee shall consist of six named members decided upon and appointed by the County Committee.

County Teams Management and Panels Sub-Committee

14.1 Function:

As per Rial 3.20 (xiii), T.O. 2021.

Membership of this Sub-Committee shall be as detailed in the said Charter.

Co. Health & Wellbeing Committee:

- 15.1** The membership shall consist of ten named people appointed by the County Committee and should include the County Children's Officer.

Planning and Training Committee: Coiste Pleanála agus Oiliúna

- 16.1** The Committee shall consist of five members, the Chairperson of which shall be the County Planning and Training Officer. All members shall, upon appointment, complete the necessary training as prescribed by The National Officer Development Committee and Club and County Planning Committee.

Audit and Risk Committee: Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca

- 17.1** The Committee shall consist of no more than five named members including a Chairperson nominated by the Management Committee and approved by the Provincial Audit and Risk Committee and up to four members nominated by the Management Committee. The Treasurer shall not be a member

In accordance with Rial 3.19 (I), T.O. 2021 the Co. Committee may appoint the following subcommittees whose powers and functions shall be as outlined in these Bye-Laws .:

History and Archival Committee: Coiste Staire agus Ceartláinne

18.1 Function

The History and Archival Committee shall advise the County Committee and Clubs on all matters relating to the compilation of the history of the Association in the County.

18.2 Membership

The Membership of the History and Archival Committee shall consist of five named people who shall be decided upon and appointed by the County Committee

Hurling Development Committee: Coiste Forbairt Iomána

19.1 Function

The Hurling Development Committee shall have responsibility for the promotion and development of hurling and providing recommendations to County Management and County Committee.

19.2 Membership

The Membership of the Hurling Development Committee shall consist of eight named people who shall be decided upon and appointed by the County Committee

20. Divisional Committees: Coistí Róinne

20.1 Membership

The Divisional Areas as defined by the County Committee shall each be governed by a Divisional Committee consisting of the officers elected at the annual general meeting i.e. Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant-Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer and six Additional named Members appointed by the County Committee.*

The Divisional Committee shall comprise the Officers elected at the Annual General Meeting by the outgoing Committee plus two delegates (each delegate one vote) from each affiliated Junior, Intermediate and Senior Football club in the Divisional Area taking part in the county championship of that year.

The quorum for meetings of a Divisional Committee shall be six (6), three of whom shall be officers.

The Competitions Control Committee of the East Down Divisional Committee shall consist of eight (8) named members.

The Competitions Control Committee of the South Down Divisional Committee shall consist of seven (7) named members.

20.2 Requests for a Hearing and Appeals against the decisions of the Competitions Control Committees of the Divisional Committees shall be heard by the County Hearings Committee.

20.3 The Divisional Committees, through their Competitions Control Committee, shall supervise and have control of football tournaments, including seven-a-side, in their respective areas except in the case of a tournament which requires the sanction of the County Committee, Provincial Council or Central Council.

20.4 No competition within a Divisional Area shall be commenced without the permission of the Competitions Control Committee of the Divisional Committee.

20.5 The Annual General Meeting of the Divisional Committees shall be held between October 31st and November 30th each year.

20.6 The Officers of the County Committee shall at all times have power to attend any meeting of a Divisional Committee but shall not have power to vote.

21 Transfers:Aistriú

21.1 Procedures

1. Any player wishing to transfer from one Club to another within the County shall make application between January 1st and March 31st inclusive.
2. Applications shall be made to the Rúnaí of the County Committee on the official form as approved by the County Committee and shall be processed in accordance with Rial 6.5 T.O 2021.
3. A player who wishes to join a Club in Down from a Club in another County must apply for a transfer to the Provincial or Central Council, as appropriate, and must comply with Rial 6.6 T.O. 2021. The player may only transfer to the local club in the catchment area of his permanent address.

A Transfer shall be deemed invalid if it transpires that the Applicant Player was ineligible at the time of granting.

21.2: Definition of Permanent Residence:

“Permanent residence” is the fixed address at which the applicant permanently resides, his true, fixed and permanent home as determined by the *County C.C.C.* An applicant shall reside at this fixed address for a minimum period of two months prior to the date of the transfer application being made. Residence in a club catchment area for the purpose of attending a Primary School, Post-Primary School or Third Level Institution shall not be considered as a qualifying criteria in respect of “permanent residence”.

For an applicant under eighteen years of age, residence shall be deemed to be that of the ‘permanent residence’ of his family. In the event of the parent(s)/guardian(s) of an applicant under eighteen years of age not living at the same address, the matter of permanent residence shall be determined by the County Competitions Control Committee based on the information available to them. The onus of proof of a permanent residence rests with the applicant.

21.3 Documentation:

1. An applicant seeking to transfer from one Club within the County to another Club within the County may submit supporting documentation, together with his completed transfer application form.
2. Where required, the following documentation must be provided to support an application and verify permanent residence as outlined in Fodhlí 26.2 (1 and 2):

Electoral Registration Details

AND

Driving Licence/Provisional Licence (both parts).

Applicants who do not possess driving licence/provisional licence must provide alternative photographic identification. Where the applicant is under eighteen years of age, a copy of his birth certificate must be submitted with the application.

3. The CCC will assess the application based on the information provided.

21.4 Criteria

All applications for transfer from one Club within the County to another Club within the County must be made on the official form as approved by County Committee. Applications for transfer shall not be considered except in the following cases:

- (a) An applicant whose permanent residence has changed to the catchment area of the club to which he wishes to be transferred;
- (b) An applicant whose permanent residence has changed to a catchment area common to two or more clubs and who is presently a member of a club outside of the catchment area of his residence, shall be entitled to transfer to the club of his choice in the catchment area of his residence;
- (c) An applicant whose permanent residence is already in the catchment area of the club to which he wishes to be transferred to, and who is presently a member of club which is outside the club catchment area of his permanent residence;
- (d) An applicant whose permanent residence is in a parish common to two or more clubs may apply to transfer to another club within the same parish area;
- (e) An applicant who has not taken part in an official league or championship with his club during the previous year, may apply to transfer to the club of his choice within the same parish area only.
- (f) Catchment area as determined by the County Committee under Rule 6.3 T.O. 2021 is that area consisting of the parish of the Club or within a Town an agreed division of the town boundary.

22. Attachment to First Club

In accordance with the provisions of Rial 6.4 (Treoraí Oifigiuil 2021), a person seeking to become a member of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in Down for the first time, shall have an unfettered choice of clubs.

23. Sanctions

1. Subject to the provisions of Rial 6.8 Treorai Oifigiuil, a player of a Club without an U 21, Minor or Younger Grade team may apply to the Coiste Chontae under Rial 3.19(n) for a sanction to play with another team within the County.
2. Applications shall be submitted on the Official Sanction Form.
3. Applications for sanction shall be considered in the first instance by Coiste Cheannais na gComortaisi who shall make a recommendation on the application for consideration by Coiste Chontae.

24. A Club desirous of leaving one Division to join another Division must obtain the sanction of the County Committee. The County Committee, before granting such a transfer, shall make enquiries of the Divisional Committees as to how the transfer would affect the competitions under their charge.

25. Grading of Clubs and Players:

25.1 Competitions Control Committee shall have responsibility for dealing with applications for Regrading.

25.2 County Committee has the right to make the final decision on an application for Regrading by a Club.

25.3 A Player aggrieved by a decision on his application for Regrading shall have the right of appeal to the County Hearings Committee whose decision shall be final. The appeal shall be made within three working days of the receipt of notification of the decision, it shall state the grounds on which the appeal is being made and shall be signed by the appellant player. Other formalities regarding submission of appeal (e.g. provision of duplicate copy, fee) outlined in Rule 7.11 (f) to (i) TO 2021, are not applicable in this case. All other relevant sections of Rule 7.11 shall apply.

26. Club Fees:

Clubs are required to pay Affiliation and all other Outstanding Fees to the County Committee (or have an agreed plan for payment(s) in place with An Coiste Bainistíochta) not later than 1 March.

A club that fails to comply with this byelaw will forfeit any fixtures until fully compliant.