THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION
An Cumann Camógaíochta

An Treoir Oifigiúil
Cuid a hAon

Official Guide Part 1

Camogie Constitution Rules

2026-2027

This is An Treoir Oifigiúil Cuid a Haon
(Official Guide Part I Official Guide Constitution Rules)
and is effective from 28th April 2026.

THE OTHER BINDING PARTS OF THE OFFICIAL GUIDE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Part II Playing Rules
- Part III Code of Practice for all Officers of the Association
- Part IV Disciplinary Code and THDC Mandatory Procedures
- Part V Association Code on Sponsorship
- Part VI Code for Camogie Supporters' Club
- Part VII Child Safeguarding Policy

Codes of Conduct:
Camogie Association Code of Conduct
Match Official Code of Conduct

These documents can be downloaded from www.camogie.ie/administration

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Ard Chomhairle/Central Council of the Camogie Association,
Croke Park,
Dublin 3.

Tel: 01 865 8651
Email: info@camogie.ie
Web: www.camogie.ie

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THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION

Camogie Constitution Rules 2026/27

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Definition of Terms

- **Adopted County** – the County that a player subsequent to her native county transfers their home club in which the club is affiliated to and legally participates for in a competitive game, either league or championship.
- **AGM/Annual Convention/EGM** – Annual General Meeting or Annual Convention shall be held by the relevant unit annually in accordance with rules of An Treoir Oifigiúil. EGM or Extraordinary General Meeting may be called as outlined in An Treoir Oifigiúil. Unless otherwise specified, meetings referred to in the official guides will be considered ordinary meetings of the relevant unit, board, council, committee or group.
- **Annual Congress –** The supreme governing body of the Association.
- **Ard Chomhairle –** The supreme governing body for the Association between congresses.
- **Club –** The basic Unit of the Association. Units within the Third Level Education sector are regarded as Clubs for the purposes of CCAO and Third Level activities only.
- **Competition –** League or Championships officially sanctioned by County, Provincial, National Education Councils, International Boards or Ard Chomhairle. Underage blitzes and indoor Camogie activities are not considered competitions.
- **Core Executive Committee Members –** A term used to describe the following officer positions on an Executive Committee: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, PRO, Children's Officer, Development Officer and Delegates to the higher Unit.
- **County Board –** The central committee in a county to which all clubs must affiliate. It is responsible for the administration and development of Camogie within its county.
- **Days:** This refers to calendar days in An Treoir Oifigiul Part 1, unless otherwise specified in this Official Guide.
- **Developmentally Appropriate –** In accordance with the Camogie Association Player Pathway.
- **Dual Player –** A playing member of the Camogie Association who is also a playing member of the Ladies Gaelic Football Association.
- **Executive Committee –** The committee responsible for the day to management and administration of camogie within its Unit.
- **Ex-officio Members –** Persons who, by virtue of office, are entitled to attend and contribute at meetings but who do not having voting rights.
- **Female Liaison Officer –** A Female Liaison Officer (FLO) is the female official required to be part of every management team. The FLO will act as a liaison between the players and the management team and / or with the club committees.

  At inter county level, the FLO is a neutral support person and must not be involved in or influence the selection process of teams.
- **Home Club –** The club with which a player first legally participates in club competition, either league or championship, organised by the County Board or one of its sub-committees is designated as a player's home club.
- **International Board –** The International committee to which all county boards/ clubs internationally must affiliate. It is responsible for the administration and development of Camogie within its jurisdiction.

- **Match Bans –** To serve the ban means that a player has to actually miss an officially sanctioned game that her team plays. If a game is properly convened and the other team fails to turn up but the player's team does, this does not constitute a served match ban as no game has been played.
- **Match Official –** The term "Match Official" is used to describe the following persons – a Referee, an umpire or a linesperson.
- **National Education Council –** Refers to the national governing bodies for Camogie in post-primary schools (Comhairle Chamógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna) and in the 3rd level education sector (Chomhairle Chamógaíochta um Ard-Oideachas).
- **Native County –** is defined as the county you were born / raised in or the county your home club is affiliated to. A player declares her native county by legally participating for it in a competitive game, either league or championship. Once a player declares their native county, no other county can be called their native county thereafter.
- **Officer –** A term used to describe the following officer positions on an Executive Committee:
  Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, PRO, Children's Officer, Development Officer and Delegates to the higher Unit. The term also applies to all members of Ard Chomhairle and members of its sub committees.
- **Official –** The term "Official" shall refer to appointees such as team managers/mentors/trainers and coaches.
- **Official Correspondence –** Notification of fixtures, notices of meetings, circulation of minutes of meetings, objections/appeals, circulation of disciplinary findings, bye-laws for ratification, request for special meetings, request for investigations, team sheets (CC2), declaration Forms (CC3), transfer forms (CC4), Referee's reports (CC5), sanctions/permissions to play abroad (CC6 and CC6a) and sponsorship approval form (CC7), nominations and papers for AGMs, Annual Conventions at all levels, nominations and papers for Annual Congress. Online or electronic forms will be permitted to be used subject to Ard Chomhairle approval.
- **Provincial Council –** The provincial committee to which all county boards in a province must affiliate. It is responsible for the administration and development of Camogie within its province.
- **Signed by –** In the case of official regrading forms, nomination forms the term 'signed by' requires the person's name to be written in her/his own hand. A printed name or an e-signature is not acceptable.
  In the case of transfers, sanctions and student permits, the activation of the approval button will be classified as authorised signature on the approved online registration system. In the case of online or electronic forms, the submit button will be deemed as an authorised signature.
- **Small Sided Games –** Small sided games as set out by policy ratified by Ard Chomhairle.
- **Sub-Committee(s) –** A committee operating to specific terms of reference under the Executive Committee of a particular Unit or Ard Chomhairle.
- **Subsidiary Committee –** A committee who has jurisdiction for games development and administration at particular levels e.g. a Division within a county i.e. a Divisional Board or for a particular group a Minor Board or an Underage Board.
- **Unit –** A term used to describe a Club; a County Board; a Provincial Council, an Education Council and an International/Board.

All questions as to the interpretation of the rules in this Official Guide will be referred to Ard Chomhairle whose decision is final.

SECTION A
Title, Objectives and Values of the Association

1. Title

The name of the Association will be "An Cumann Camógaíochta" ("The Camogie Association") herein after known as "The Association".

2. Objectives and Values of the Association

2.1. The Association is the national organisation which administers, legislates and promotes the game of Camogie. The resources of the Association will be utilised for this purpose, together, with other activities sanctioned and approved by Ard Chomhairle and Annual Congress.

2.2. The objectives of the Association are to:

a. promote, develop and manage Camogie in Ireland and internationally;

b. promote the active participation of women in sport;

c. work in partnership with the wider Gaelic games family;

d. foster an awareness of the richness of our national culture, including the Irish language;

e. support Irish industries;

f. create a safe environment for our members and supporters;

g. promote community development and community spirit.

h. The Association recognises the role of the Dual Player. The Association, in partnership with the LGFA, will endeavour to facilitate as far as is practicable, the Dual Player.

2.3. The core values guiding the Association are:

a. inclusiveness;

b. voluntarism;

c. equality in accordance with relevant equality legislation and fair play;

d. anti-racism and anti-sectarianism;

e. openness, accountability and professionalism;

f. respect and welfare towards our members.

2.4. The Association is a voluntary and democratic body. This Rule does not prohibit the payment of salaries to employees of the Association.

2.5. The Association is non-party political. No member will seek to identify the Association with any political movement, nor will party political questions be raised or discussed at any meeting of the Association.

2.6. The records created and received by the Association, its members and administrators are the property of the Association. These records shall be transferred to a recognised GAA archive in accordance with such directions as may be given by Ard Chomhairle.

2.7. The National Flag should be properly displayed at all games as far as is practicable and in accordance with protocol.

2.8. Recognising the leadership and constructive ongoing engagement demonstrated by the Camogie Association in recent years, Congress mandates the Uachtarán and Ard Chomhairle to continue working towards the integration of the Camogie Association, the GAA and LGFA to ensure that:

I. Organisational and governance structures reflect an integrated Gaelic Games Organisation.

II. Gender equity and its delivery is recognised as a core value of the Gaelic Games family, promoting it across stakeholders, Government and citizens.

III. There is equitable access to full participation in Gaelic Games across all units of the Organisation.

IV. The promotion of our Gaelic Games is strengthened on an equitable, diverse, cross community basis.

Congress requests that a formal progress update be provided to Ard Chomhairle on a regular basis and that the Uachtarán would provide a comprehensive report of progress at Congress.

2.9. The Gaelic Players Association is recognised as the official representative body for adult players in inter county competitions (Senior, Intermediate and Premier Junior Championship, and National Leagues).

SECTION B
Structure of the Association and Membership

3. Basic Structure of the Association

3.1. The Club, comprised of its members, is the basic Unit of the Association. Each Club is represented at County Board. Each County Board is represented at Provincial Council. Each Provincial Council is represented on Ard Chomhairle. Annual Congress is the Association's supreme governing body. Ard Chomhairle is the supreme governing body of the Association from Congress to Congress. Each Unit and Ard Chomhairle is subject to the Rules in the Official Guide.

3.2. Comhairle Chamógaíochta um Ard-Oideachas (CCAO the Higher Education Camogie Council) administers Camogie within third level education. Comhairle Chamógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna (the Post-Primary Camogie Council) administers Camogie within post-primary education. Each Council is subject to the Rules in the Official Guide. Both Councils must affiliate to Ard Chomhairle and are under the jurisdiction of Ard Chomhairle. Camogie within the primary school sector is administered by Cumann na mBunscol.

3.3. Internationally, Camogie is administered by International Camogie Boards. Where there is no independent Camogie Board the Camogie Association recognises GAA Boards as an appropriate structure for the administration of Camogie internationally. Such Boards and Committees must affiliate to Ard Chomhairle and they and their subsidiary Units, are subject to the Rules in the Official Guide.

3.4. Each Unit under Ard Chomhairle must have an Executive Committee to run its affairs. The members of the Executive Committee are elected at the Unit's Annual General Meeting or Convention. The Executive Committee at club, county and provincial levels, must be comprised of the following core Officers: Cathaoirleach (Chairperson), Leas Cathaoirleach (ViceChairperson), Rúnaí (Secretary), Cisteoir (Treasurer), Cláraitheoir (Registrar), Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí (P.R.O.), Oifigeach na bPáistí (Children's Officer), Oifigeach Forbartha (Development Officer) and Delegate(s) to the higher Unit. The Children's Officer must be appointed by the Executive Committee of each Unit and be in place throughout the season. The name and contact details of the Club Children's Officer must be notified to the County Children's Officer; County Children's Officers' details must be notified to the Provincial Children's Officer. Details of Provincial and Education Council Children's Officers must be notified to the National Children's Officer.

Should a Unit fail to comply with the requirement to have an appointed Children's Officer at any time, all underage Camogie activities within that Unit will be suspended immediately until such requirements are complied with. All Officers must be members of the Association and are entitled to vote at meetings by virtue of that office. No delegate to the higher Unit is required for National Education Councils or International Units.

If a Unit fails to elect a full complement of Executive Committee members at an AGM, and following at least one re-convened AGM (see also Rule 18.9) the Unit may make interim arrangements and must notify these to the higher Unit.

3.5. An Executive Committee may have additional members as provided for in the Unit bye-laws. These additional members must be members of the Association and are entitled to vote at Executive Committee meetings only.

3.6. An elected officer must only serve on the same Executive Committee in the same officer capacity for no more than five consecutive years. The Uachtarán of the Association, the Cathaoirleach of Provincial Council and Ard Chomhairle members elected by Annual Congress are all exceptions to this as each will serve one term of three years.

3.7. An elected officer must only serve a maximum of ten consecutive years on the same Executive Committee at county and provincial level in any officer capacity.

3.8. The powers and duties of the Executive Committee will include the day to day management and administration of the Unit.

3.9. Should an Officer vacancy arise on the Executive Committee following that year's AGM (or reconvened AGM), it must be filled on the basis of:

a. nominations by affiliated Units or members and

b. ballot vote of eligible Units and members.

This process must commence immediately when vacancy arises – with a nomination form on which to return the proposals for officers being issued within one week and ballot concluding within one month of the resignation.

Exception: If an officer vacancy in the role of Vice Chairperson, P.R.O., Development Officer and Delegate(s) to the higher unit only arises after 6 months from date of AGM (or reconvened AGM) and before the next AGM, the committee in charge can co-opt a person onto the Executive to fill that position until the following AGM.

In the case of the Uachtarán of the Association the position must be filled in accordance with Rule 11.4.

4. Membership

4.1. Membership of the Association can only be granted by a Club or through a National Education Council.

Membership is open to all persons who subscribe to the aims and objectives of the Association. All members are bound by the Official Guide, mandatory codes and Ard Chomhairle binding decisions.

The club with which a player first legally participates in club competition either league or championship, organised by the County Board or one of its subcommittees is designated as a player's home club. A Club reserves the right to refuse membership to any person. The decision to refuse membership must comply with relevant equality legislation. A person can only be registered with one club, with the exception of Social Playing Camogie. A player can register with a second club for the purpose of Social Playing Camogie under rule 4.2.1 (vi).

4.2. Persons wishing to become members (playing/ non-playing) of the Association will pay to the Club, an annual membership fee. The fee will be decided at the Annual General Meeting. On receipt of club affiliation at national level, membership of the Association is established and a member will have a right to vote, subject to Rule 5.3, at meetings and at the Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Unit concerned.

4.2.1. There will be six types of membership

(i) Full membership for persons who are players and have reached the age of 18 years.

(ii) Child membership for persons who are players and are aged under 8 ('under' is understood as per definition in Rule 28.4)

(iii) Youth membership for persons who are players/non-players aged over 8 ('over' is understood as per the definition in Rule 28.4) and have not reached the age of 18 years

(iv) Administrators/Coaches/Referees/Team Mentors/ Female Liaison Officers at all levels of the Association who are non-players

(v) Social membership may be granted to persons, who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and the Camogie Association, but who do not seek to take part in the administrative or games related affairs of the Club. These members will have voting rights.

(vi) Social playing membership, for persons who are players or former players, have reached the age of 18 years and are not a Full member. Social playing members can participate in Adult Social Programmes as designated by Ard Chomhairle to promote social participation in Camogie. Social playing members are ineligible to play for club or county teams in any competitions and must comply with insurance obligations as per rule 23.1.

Social playing membership are not eligible to be Administrators / Coaches / Referees / Team Mentors/ Female Liaison Officers and must upgrade membership to full membership to take on these roles. Social Playing Membership can be an add-on membership for full non-playing members who wish to participate in Social Camogie.

Social playing membership does not provide voting rights at any level of the Association.

4.2.2 Before 31st March each year a club must submit affiliation/ membership fees as outlined in the table below. Once a club is affiliated, its members remain registered until 31st March of the following year.

4.2.3 National Education Councils will pay €300 per annum direct to Ard Chomhairle by 31st March. International/Boards will pay €2 per member direct to Ard Chomhairle by 31st March.

Exception - All members of international units who participate in All-Ireland Championship Competitions and National Féile must pay the Full Registration Fee as outlined in Rule 4- Membership.

i. All Members must be registered on the electronic registration system.

ii. All second level schools, and third level education

Affiliation fee/ Membership type	Total	Affiliation fee per member to County Board	Affiliation fee per member to Provincial Council	Affiliation fee per member to Ard Chomhairle
Child members aged under 8 (Players)	**All membership revenue to club**			
Youth Members aged over 8 (Players)	€13	€5	€2	€6
Youth Members aged over 8 (Non Players, Assistants) – additional county/ provincial fees cannot be added to this membership	€3	€0	€0	€3
International Unit Members (not competing in championship competition/ Féile)	€2	€1		€1
Full Members (Adult Players)	€23	€5	€2	€16
Social Playing Membership	€6	€2	€2	€2
Full Members (Administrators/Coaches/Referees/Team Mentors/ Female Liaison Officers at all levels of the Association	€3	€0	€0	€3
Social Members	**All membership revenue to club**			

players must be registered members of the Association on the approved online registration system.

iii. All second level schools and third level education coaches/team mentors must be registered members of the Association, on the approved online registration system.

iv. Persons wishing to become members (playing/ non-playing) of International Units must register with the Camogie Association via the approved electronic registration system and pay the associated fee.

4.2.3a To become an affiliate body of An Cumann Camógaíochta, Cumann na mBunscol will pay €300 per annum direct to Ard Chomhairle by 31st March.

4.3. Where the title of Honorary President is conferred on a member by a Unit this position will be a lifelong position and will entitle the Honorary President to speaking rights at the relevant Unit level of the Association. The Honorary President will have voting rights only at club level. The Honorary President must be a registered member of the Association.

SECTION C
Administrative Structures, their Powers and Duties

5. The Club

5.1. No Club will be named after a living person.

5.2. A Club must have at least twelve playing members before it may affiliate to the Association. Application for affiliation must be made to the relevant County Board, using the Camogie Association's electronic registration, which must be completed (as provided for in the system and in accordance with Rule 5.5). The electronic registration must comprise members who have paid their annual club membership in accordance with Official Guide Section 4. On acceptance of initial affiliation by the County Board, the Club will be provided with a copy of the Official Guide from the County Board. Each affiliated Club and each member of each affiliated Club are bound by the Rules of the Association.

5.3. Each Club will be comprised of the registered members of the Club. All members aged 18 years or over will have the right to vote at general meetings including the AGM.

5.4. Before 31st March each year, each Club must affiliate to the County Board by providing the board with:

a. club colours; and
b. proof of insurance.

An electronic list of registered members will be available through the approved online registration system and registration fees will be collected through the approved online registration system.

5.5. The names of members to be registered will be provided in Irish and English in the electronic registration system. This does not apply in the case of names who have no Irish or English form. Members must be registered on the approved online registration system with the appropriate fee paid.

5.6. No two Clubs in the same County will have similar colour details. The Club whose colours have been longest affiliated will be entitled to retain these colours. In the event of a clash of colours by clubs in competition within the County, the longest established club will retain their colours. Where a club has previously disbanded, the date of re-establishment is the date to be used.

5.7. Only those Clubs who have affiliated to the County Board may take part in any competition.

5.8. Each Club is answerable for the conduct of its members and known partisans and/or supporters.

5.9. In Counties where County Boards do not exist, Clubs will affiliate to the Provincial Council who will decide in which competitions such Clubs are eligible to participate. Where no Provincial Council exists, Clubs will affiliate to Ard Chomhairle.

5.10. Each club is required to:

a. comply with the Camogie Association's binding codes and mandatory procedures;

b. promote best practice in player welfare;

c. adhere to good governance standards as outlined in Section D of the Official Guide;

d. liaise and co-operate with other organisations within the Gaelic games family and other relevant bodies.

e. appoint sub committees as required.

5.11. A decision to disband a Club may only be taken at a meeting specially convened for that purpose. Such meeting must be convened in accordance with Rule 16.1 Two members of the County Board Executive Committee, who must not be members of the Club seeking to disband, will be requested to attend the special meeting. A motion to disband a Club will be carried only if supported by 75% of those present, entitled to vote, and voting. Should a Club disband, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of debts and liabilities will not be distributed among the members, such property will be transferred to the County Board. A decision to disband must be communicated in writing within seven days to the County Board.

5.12. The Camogie Association recognises the following as the definition of a "One Club":

The One Club is one that equally promotes the games, ideals and aspirations of the Camogie Association, GAA

and Ladies Football. Its administration will be governed by a single constitution, which provides for the election of an Executive Committee to manage the business and affairs of the club as well as providing for a single membership structure. All activities, including fundraising and games development will be carried out to support the development of the club and the promotion of all games.

6. County Boards

6.1. On the establishment of three Clubs within a County, a County Board will be formed. Where a County Board is formed, should the number of clubs fall below three but above one, the County Board will remain established for a period of 12 months from the date of the next AGM.

Thereafter the County Board may apply for a derogation to Ard Chomhairle to remain established for a further period of 12 months.

6.2. Each County Board will be comprised of

i. The Executive Committee

ii. An Cathaoirleach Tofa in the year following his/her election

iii. And two voting delegates from each affiliated Club, who must be a registered member of that Club

iv. Where there are 4 or fewer affiliated Clubs, each Club will have an additional voting delegate

6.2.1. In addition each County Board will have one voting delegate each from Cumann na mBunscol and Comhairle Chamógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna both of whom must be members of the Association, and where applicable, one voting delegate of each Subsidiary Committee. In addition to voting delegates only core executive committee members will have the right to vote (Ref Rule 3.4 and 3.5). The Uachtarán or his/her nominee from Ard Chomhairle is an ex-officio member of County Boards.

6.3. Executive Committee Officers, as defined in Rule 3.4 cannot be represented by proxies at meetings of the County Board.

6.4. Each County Board is required to:

a. control Club affiliations;

b. control County competitions;

c. make bye-laws, as appropriate, which will not be at variance with the Rules of the Association. Such bye-laws must in the first instance be approved at the Annual Convention and then ratified by Ard Chomhairle;

d. submit motions, as appropriate, to Provincial Convention or Annual Congress, as applicable. Such motions must in the first instance be approved at Annual Convention;

e. be responsible for all matters in relation to county teams that represent the county in inter-county competition;

f. determine the manner of selecting teams to represent the County in Inter-County competition;

g. delegate authority and establish terms of reference for all Sub-Committees and subsidiary committees as appropriate;

h. raise finances, to control, administer and utilise the funds and property of the Association as set out in Rule 2.1;

i. Appoint a Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee to hear and adjudicate on transfers, objections and to independently investigate irregularities and have autonomy to suspend, fine, disqualify or debar individuals, clubs or Units for breaches of the Rules or Codes of the Association or any bye-laws made thereunder in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The committee will act in accordance with the procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle.

j. appoint a Development Sub-Committee to promote Camogie in the County chaired by the County Board Development Officer;

k. appoint any other Sub-Committees as required;

l. comply with the Camogie Association's binding codes and mandatory procedures;

m. promote best practice in player welfare;

n. adhere to good governance standards as outlined in Section D of the Official Guide and its relevant Codes of Practice;

o. liaise and co-operate with other organisations within the Gaelic games family and other relevant bodies.

6.4.1 Each County Board may appoint staff whose employment contract and job specification must be agreed with the Ard Stiúrthóir and ratified by Ard Chomhairle's Resource Management Sub Committee.

6.4.2 The County registrar is the designated person to ensure that all clubs are in compliance with Rule 5.4. In the absence of a registrar the duty will revert to the chairperson.

6.5. Before 30th April each year, each County Board will affiliate to the Provincial Council by providing the Council with:

- details of County colours.
- an electronic list of registered members will be available through the approved online registration system.

6.6. Only those County Boards which have complied with Rule 6.5 may participate in Inter-County competition.

6.7. Each County Board will ensure that the authorised expenses of Executive Committee members, match officials and others acting on its behalf, are paid.

6.8. Each County Board will be answerable for the conduct of its members, known partisans and supporters.

6.9. In all matters, the County Board will be subject to the Provincial Council and Ard Chomhairle.

6.10. Where a Provincial Council does not exist, a County Board will affiliate directly to Ard Chomhairle who will decide in which competitions such Counties are eligible to participate. In the case of County Boards abroad, the manner of their participation in Inter-County competition will be decided by Ard Chomhairle.

7. Provincial Councils

7.1. On the establishment of three County Boards within a Province, a Provincial Council will be formed. Where a Provincial Council is formed, should the number of counties fall below three but above one, the Provincial Board will remain established for a period of 12 months from the date of the next AGM. Thereafter the Provincial Board may apply for a derogation to Ard Chomhairle to remain established for a further period of 12 months.

7.2. Each Provincial Council will be comprised of

i. The Executive Committee

ii. The Delegate to Ard Chomhairle

iii. An Cathaoirleach Tofa in the year following his/her election

iv. And two voting delegates from each affiliated County Board within the Province.

The Chairperson of a Provincial Council cannot simultaneously be Chairperson of a County Board.

v. Where there are 4 or fewer affiliated County Boards within the Province, each County Board will have an additional voting delegate

7.2.1. In addition each Provincial Council will have one voting delegate from the relevant Provincial Council of Comhairle Chamógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna, one voting delegate of Comhairle Chamógaíochta um Ard-Oideachas and Cumann na mBunscoil all of whom must be members of the Association. In addition to voting delegates only core executive committee members will have the right to vote (Ref Rule 3.4 and 3.5). The Uachtarán or his/her nominee from Ard Chomhairle is an ex-officio member of Provincial Councils.

7.3. Executive Committee members, as defined in Rule 3.4, cannot be represented by proxies at meetings of Provincial Council. A County representative may, with the prior approval of the County Board, be represented by a proxy.

7.4. Each Provincial Council is, within its own Province, required to:

a. control County affiliations;

b. organise and control Provincial and/or Inter-county/ Inter-club competitions;

c. control Camogie, in a County where no County Board exists or where a County Board has ceased to exist;

d. make bye-laws, as appropriate, which will not be at variance with the Rules of the Association. Such bye-laws must in the first instance be approved at Annual Convention and then ratified by Ard Chomhairle;

e. be responsible for all matters in relation to Provincial teams that represent the Province in Provincial competition;

f. submit motions, as appropriate, to Annual Congress. Such motions must in the first instance be approved at Annual Convention;

g. determine the manner of selecting teams to represent the Province in Inter-Provincial competition;

h. raise finances, to control, administer and utilise the funds and property of the Association as set out in Rule 2.1;

i. appoint a Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee to hear and adjudicate on transfers, objections and to independently investigate irregularities and have autonomy to suspend, fine, disqualify or debar individuals, clubs or Units for breaches of the Rules or Codes of the Association or any bye-laws made thereunder in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The committee will act in accordance with the procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle;

j. appoint a Development Sub-Committee to promote Camogie in the Province which must be chaired by the Provincial Council Development officer;

k. appoint any other Sub-Committees as required;

l. delegate authority to Sub-Committees as appropriate. All Sub-Committees will be required to work to specific terms of reference;

m. comply with the Camogie Association's binding codes and mandatory procedures;

n. promote best practice in player welfare;

o. adhere to good governance standards as outlined in Section D of the Official Guide and the Association's relevant Codes of Practice; and

p. liaise and co-operate with other organisations within the Gaelic games family and other relevant bodies.

7.4.1 Each Provincial Council may appoint staff whose employment contract and job specification must be agreed with the Ard Stiúrthóir and ratified by Ard Chomhairle's Resource Management Sub Committee.

7.4.2 The Provincial registrar is the designated person to ensure that all county boards are in compliance with Rule 6.5. In the absence of a registrar the duty will revert to the chairperson.

7.5. Before 30th April each year, each Provincial Council will submit to Ard Chomhairle:

- details of county colours.
- an electronic list of registered Club members shall be available on the approved registration system.

7.6. Each Provincial Council will ensure that authorised expenses of Executive Committee members, match officials and others acting on its behalf are paid.

7.7. In all matters, the Provincial Council will be subject to Ard Chomhairle.

8. National Education Councils

8.1. National Education Councils are required to:

a. control competitions under its auspices;

b. make bye-laws, as appropriate, which will not be at variance with the Rules of the Association. Such bye-laws must in the first instance be approved at Annual Convention and then ratified by Ard Chomhairle;

c. submit motions, as appropriate, to Annual Congress. Such motions must in the first instance be approved at Annual Convention;

d. appoint a Hearings and Disciplinary Sub Committee to hear and adjudicate on objections and to independently investigate irregularities and have autonomy to suspend, fine, disqualify or debar individuals, post primary schools or third level Units for breaches of the Rules of the Association or any bye-laws made thereunder in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The committee will act in accordance with the procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle.

e. appoint an Appeals Committee, where relevant, to hear and decide on appeals arising from decisions by Provincial College Council(s) Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committees;

f. appoint a Development Sub-Committee to promote Camogie within the Education sector chaired by the National Education Council Development Officer;

g. appoint any other Sub-Committees as required;

h. to delegate authority to Sub-Committees as appropriate. All Sub-Committees will be required to work to specific terms of reference;

i. comply with the Camogie Association's binding codes and mandatory procedures;

j. promote best practice in player welfare;

k. adhere to good governance standards as set out in Section D of the Official Guide and the Association's relevant Codes of Practice; and

l. liaise and co-operate with other organisations within the Gaelic games family and other relevant bodies.

m. National Education Councils will ensure that all players/coaches/mentors are registered on the approved electronic registration system before the commencement of competitions each year.

8.2. Within fourteen days of its Annual Convention, to take place within the current academic year, each National Education Council Secretary will forward to the Ard Stiúrthóir:

a. a copy of the Secretary's Report;

b. a copy of the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts; and

c. the members of the Executive Committee and their contact details.

8.3. Each National Education Council will be responsible for the authorised expenses of Executive Committee members, match officials and others acting on its behalf.

8.4. In all matters, each National Education Council will be subject to Ard Chomhairle.

9. International Boards

9.1. On the establishment of three or more clubs abroad an International Camogie Board may be formed subject to the approval of Ard Chomhairle. Where there is no independent Camogie Board the Camogie Association recognises GAA Boards as an appropriate structure for the administration of Camogie internationally.

9.2. Each International Camogie Board is required to:

a. control competitions under its auspices;

b. make bye-laws, as appropriate, which will not be at variance with the Rules of the Association. Such bye-

laws must in the first instance be approved at Annual Convention and then ratified by Ard Chomhairle;

c. submit motions, as appropriate, to Annual Congress. Such motions must in the first instance be approved at Annual Convention;

d. Appoint a Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee to hear and adjudicate on transfers, objections and to independently investigate irregularities and have autonomy to suspend, fine, disqualify or debar individuals, clubs or Units for breaches of the Rules of the Association or any bye-laws made thereunder in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The committee will act in accordance with the procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle;

International camogie boards only have the power to expel clubs or individuals for breaches of the Rules. For appeals refer to Rule 27.3;

e. appoint a Development Sub-Committee to promote Camogie; chaired by the Board's Development Officer;

f. appoint any other Sub-Committees as required;

g. delegate authority to Sub-Committees as appropriate. All Sub-Committees will be required to work to specific terms of reference;

h. comply with the Camogie Association's binding codes and mandatory procedures;

i. promote best practice in player welfare;

j. adhere to good governance standards as outlined in Section D of the Official Guide and the Association's relevant Codes of Practice; and

k. liaise and co-operate with other organisations within the Gaelic games family and other relevant bodies.

9.3. Each International Board will be responsible for the authorised expenses of Executive Committee members, match officials and others acting on its behalf.

9.4. In all matters, the International Board will be subject to Ard Chomhairle.

10. Ard Chomhairle

10.1. Between each Annual Congress, Ard Chomhairle is the supreme governing body of the Association. Where reference is made to unit it shall also be deemed to provide the same power to Ard Chomhairle throughout An Treoir Oifigiul - Official Guide.

10.2. Ard Chomhairle is comprised of:

a. An tUachtarán;

b. An tUachtarán Tofa in the year following her/his election;

c. The Ard Stiúrthoir. The Ard Stiúrthóir is an ex-officio member of Ard Chomhairle and will report to Ard Chomhairle and provide any information requested by Ard Chomhairle;

d. The Cathaoirligh of the Provincial Councils who are Leas-Uachtaráin of the Association;

e. One delegate from each Provincial Council;

f. Two trustees who shall be appointed by Ard Chomhairle for a period of three years. A trustee can complete a maximum of two terms of office.

g. Three members elected by Congress for a three year term as follows:

- coaching and games development representative: a member with demonstrated Coaching & Games Development expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council, who will also serve on the relevant Sub-Committees;
- Secretary: a member with demonstrated administrative experience, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Board, who will serve on the relevant Sub-Committees;
- Treasurer: a member with demonstrated financial expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council, who will chair the National Resource Management Sub-Committee and relevant Sub-Committees.

Should a vacancy occur during the term of any of these three elected members, Ard Chomhairle will have the authority to co-opt a person to replace the member until the next Congress.

h. A nominee from the GAA Coiste Bainistíochta Representative is an ex-officio member of Ard Chomhairle.

10.2.1 In addition to those listed in 10.2 above, Ard Chomhairle may appoint up to 2 additional members to the Ard Chomhairle in order to ensure that the Ard Chomhairle has an appropriate gender balance and has access to the required skills mix. Individuals appointed under this rule will serve for a 1 year term or until the next Congress but can subsequently be reappointed by Ard Chomhairle thereafter to serve up to a maximum of three consecutive terms in this capacity.

10.3. Each member of Ard Chomhairle has the right to vote with the exception of the Ard Stiúrthóir and the GAA Representative, who are both non voting members of Ard Chomhairle.

10.4. a) Cathaoirligh of the Provincial Councils may not be represented by proxy at Ard Chomhairle meetings.

b) Uachtarán cannot be represented by proxy at Ard Chomhairle meetings.

c) Three elected roles on Ard Chomhairle of Secretary, Treasurer, and Coaching & Games representative cannot be represented by proxy at Ard Chomhairle.

10.5. The roles and responsibilities of Ard Chomhairle include:

a. establish the mission, vision and future strategic direction of the Association ensuring that the financial and other necessary resources are in place to achieve its plans and objectives.

b. provide leadership to the Association, within a framework of prudent and effective controls, which enables risks to be assessed and managed.

c. apply the Rules as set out in this Official Guide. Ard Chomhairle can rule on special cases, even where no particular Rule of the Association relates to those cases. A record of such rulings will be maintained by the Ard Stiúrthóir. Such rulings will be conveyed to Councils and County Boards. Where the subject matter warrants, Ard Chomhairle will submit such ruling as a motion for ratification at the next Congress.

Ard Chomhairle may consider derogation requests from a specific rule, where strict adherence to the Rule may not be in the best interests of the Association. Such applications must be accompanied by supporting evidence as set out by Ard Chomhairle. Such permission may only be given in exceptional circumstances in the interests of the promotion of camogie. Application for permission shall be made annually.

d. review reports on the management accounts of the Association and all Sub-Committees.

e. ensure that Sub-Committees are formally established and constituted and that each Sub-Committee operates with appropriate and approved Terms of Reference which are reviewed annually by Ard Chomhairle.

f. review, approve and monitor performance against the National Development Plan and annual business plan on an ongoing basis based as per agreed Key Performance Indicators.

g. submission of motions, where appropriate, to Annual Congress and reports on

i. its Stewardship of the Association since the last Annual Congress

ii. the Governance of the Association

iii. progress against the National Development Plan, and

iv. other relevant matters.

h. ratify of byelaws as submitted by County Boards, Provincial Councils, National Education Councils and International Boards provided such byelaws are not contrary to the Official Guide;;

i. uphold the reputation and brand of the Association and ensure that systems and procedures are in place to facilitate this.

j appoint and/or remove the Ard Stiúrthóir, ensure the performance of the Ard Stiúrthóir is evaluated annually by Ard Chomhairle and that the performance of the management team and staff are evaluated by the Ard Stiúrthóir.

k. enter into any contract for the lease, purchase and disposal of property.

l. ensure that Ard Chomhairle has the appropriate policies, plans and procedures in place which are relevant to the effective and efficient running of the Association and are proposed by Ard Chomhairle, the Ard Stiúrthóir and sub-committees.

m. open bank accounts in the name of the Association. Transactions in these accounts must be administered in accordance with approved financial procedures.

n. ratify the appointment of staff in accordance with the Association's recruitment policy.

o. borrow money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking and property or any part thereof in accordance with approved financial procedures.

p. control All-Ireland competitions and Provincial Competitions and Camogie in a Province where no Provincial Council exists or where a Provincial Council has ceased to exist.

q. ensure that the Association complies with its legal, ethical, risk and environmental obligations.

r. accept affiliations/membership fees from Clubs where a County Board or a Provincial Council does not exist.

s. be accountable for the oversight and governance of the Association and compliance with binding codes and mandatory procedures.

t. promotion of best practice in player welfare.

u. review and approve the annual financial statements for the accounting year, ensuring that they provide a true and fair view of the financial status of the Association and that these statements are audited annually in accordance with professional standards.

v. liaison and co-operation with other organisations within the Gaelic game's family and other relevant bodies; and

w. establish and approve the risk policy for the Association and ensure that it is supported by a risk management plan, supporting procedures and a risk register.

x. annually appoint a voluntary female representative of the Camogie Association to the GAA Coiste Bainistíochta.

10.6. On taking up office, the incoming Uachtarán will nominate to Ard Chomhairle all members of Standing Sub-Committees (with the exception of the Rules and Motions Committee whose membership is governed by rule 12.4) for its ratification. Ard Chomhairle has the power to delegate authority to Standing Sub-Committees as appropriate. Ard Chomhairle Standing Sub-Committees will be required to work to specific terms of reference. The terms of reference of the Sub-Committees will be approved by Ard Chomhairle and posted on the official Camogie website.

10.7. Ard Chomhairle may raise finances to control, administer and utilise the funds and property of the Association as set out in Rule 2.1.

11. An tUachtarán

11.1. A candidate for the position of an tUachtarán must be nominated by County Board or/and Provincial Council or/and National Education Council or/and International Board.

11.2. An tUachtarán will be elected by secret ballot at Congress one year prior to the commencement of his/her term of office. For that year she/he will serve as Uachtarán Tofa and three consecutive years as Uachtarán.

11.3. The outgoing Uachtarán will not be eligible for immediate re-election.

11.4. In the case of resignation, death or permanent incapacity of the Uachtarán, Ard Chomhairle has the authority to appoint from among the Vice-Presidents an acting Uachtarán, who will perform the duties of the Presidency until the next Annual Congress.

11.5. An tUachtarán's role includes –

a. responsible for providing leadership to members of Ard Chomhairle and ensuring Ard Chomhairle's effectiveness in all aspects of its leadership of the organisation;

b. chairperson of Annual Congress and Ard Chomhairle;

c. be the lead representative for the Association with internal and external parties;

d. oversee and manage the efficient and orderly operations of Ard Chomhairle;

e. with the Ard Stiúrthóir, ensuring that the Association works to the best standards of corporate governance;

f. with the Ard Stiúrthóir, ensuring that Ard Chomhairle and its sub committees comply with their agreed terms of reference;

g. lead, support and maintain the Association's ethos, culture, values, behaviours and objectives within the highest standards of integrity and probity;

h. ensure appropriate interaction between Ard Chomhairle, Ard Stiúrthóir, management, staff and volunteers;

i. carry responsibility as chair of Ard Chomhairle in ensuring that the Association and Ard Chomhairle adheres to the appropriate standards of corporate governance and is compliant with relevant codes, legal and other statutory obligations; and

j. acts as a direct liaison between Ard Chomhairle and the management of the Association in liaison with Ard Stiúrthóir.

12. Annual Congress

12.1. Annual Congress is the supreme governing body of the Association and as such it will be required to:

a. Consider and approve an Annual Report from the Ard Stiúrthóir, Sub-Committees set up under Rule 10.5.e. and from subsidiary Units (Provincial Councils, National Education Councils & International Boards & Committees).

b. Consider audited annual accounts of Ard Chomhairle to 31st December and accounts of Provincial Councils to year end 30th November or date as specified by Ard Chomhairle, prepared in accordance with Rule 22.2.

Sanction for failure to submit these audited accounts is withdrawal of voting rights for the subsidiary Unit concerned at Annual Congress. (Ref Rule 22.2).

c. Elect an tUachtarán in accordance with Rule 11.

d. Elect by secret ballot three members of Ard Chomhairle listed in Rule 10.2 g. who will serve a three-year term on Ard Chomhairle;

e. Consider motions and enact, amend or rescind Rules; and

f. Determine Association policy in broad outline.

12.2. The Annual Congress will be held on the first weekend of April each year, except where that coincides with Easter weekend. Each Congress will fix the date and venue for the next Congress.

12.3. The Annual Congress will be comprised of the following members:

a. The outgoing members of Ard Chomhairle;

b. One Provincial Council delegate;

c. Iar Uachtaran

d. Delegates, all of whom must be aged 18 years of over, from affiliated Units on the following basis:

- Counties:
- o 3-14 Clubs – two delegates;
- 15- 30 Clubs – four delegates;
- 31 or more Clubs – six delegates;
- Cumann na mBunscol – two delegates;
- Comhairle Chamógaíochta um ArdOideachas – two delegates;
- Comhairle Chamógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna – two delegates;
- International Boards: Each of these which affiliate as a Unit to Ard Chomhairle – two delegates.

Each of the foregoing, with the exception of appointed staff of the Association will have the right to vote.

12.4. Powers of Rules and Motions Committee

The Rules and Motions Committee shall be a Standing Committee of Ard Chomhairle.

The Committee shall provide advice in writing to Ard Chomhairle, where requested by Ard Chomhairle in writing, on matters relating to the rules of the Association (other than the Playing Rules).

The Committee will comprise of the Uachtarán, the immediate two Past Presidents, the Ard Stiúrthóir and two other members nominated by Ard Chomhairle.

The Committee will approve motions as submitted by County Boards, Provincial Councils, National Education Councils and International Boards for submission to Annual Congress. 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 a motion submitted by a County Board, Provincial Council, National Education Council and International Board not being in order, the relevant Units will be advised in writing of the reason(s) for a motion being not in order, and subject to a time-limit determined by Ard Chomhairle, will be afforded an opportunity to resubmit an appropriately corrected motion for the consideration of the Annual Congress Motions Committee.

In the event of motions from different County Boards, Provincial Councils, National Education Councils and International Boards that relate to the same Rule, the Committee will liaise with these Units to seek an agreed approach, if appropriate. The Committee will advise on the presentation of the motions on the Congress Clár.

12.5. Annual Congress has the power to rule a motion out of order.

12.6. Within one month of Annual Congress, the Ard Stiúrthóir will forward to the Secretary of each County Board and Council the minutes of Annual Congress including the text of new and amended Rules and attendance at same. The County Board and Council Secretaries will distribute the text of new and amended Rules to Clubs and Colleges.

12.7. Unless otherwise decided by Congress, new and amended Rules will become operative one calendar month from the date of Congress and will be posted on the official camogie website.

13. Staff of the Association

Under the direction of the Ard Stiúrthóir all employees of the Association implement policies and decisions as agreed by Annual Congress and Ard Chomhairle. Voting rights for employees of the Association are confined to the Club of which they are a member.

14. Supporters' Clubs

14.1. A Supporters' Club at any level of the Association may be set up only by the Committee in charge at the relevant level, i.e. County Board or Council. The constitution of such a Club will be as set out in the binding "Code for Camogie Supporters Club".

SECTION D
Governance Procedures

15. Official Correspondence

15.1. Electronic format (E-mail) must come from official Camogie email addresses for all official correspondence to and from Units. In the case of e-mails from accounts other than official Camogie email addresses, the sender's name must be contained in the e-mail itself and the e-mail must be sufficiently identifiable as coming directly from the person sending the e-mail.

15.2. Official correspondence must issue to and from the Secretary of the relevant Unit except:

(i) When binding codes or mandatory codes of this Official Guide stipulate alternative correspondence procedures or

(ii) a person is employed by the Unit or Ard Chomhairle to administer, in conjunction with, and, on behalf of, the Unit.

In the absence of the Secretary, correspondence will only be acceptable from an officer nominated by the Executive Committee of the Unit concerned. Where appropriate, delegates to a higher body must be copied on all correspondence concerning meetings and business of the higher body.

15.3. All official correspondence to/from Units/Members must be signed in Irish or English. This does not apply in the case of surnames where there is no Irish form. When there is more than one form of a surname in Irish, the English form may be added for clarification purposes. In the case of e-mails the sender's name must be contained in the email itself and the e-mail must be sufficiently identifiable as coming directly from the person sending the e-mail.

15.4. Electronic official designated e-mail addresses shall be used where provided to officers of Units. These e-mail records are the property of the Association and must be maintained in accordance with procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle and retained as the records of the Association.

16. Meetings

16.1. The quorum for meetings of all Units of the Association must be 20 per cent of those entitled to attend and vote, in addition to the Officers present.

16.2. Decisions taken at meetings at all levels of the Association must be taken by a simple majority of those in attendance at the time of the vote, entitled to vote, and voting, motions for such decisions having been proposed and seconded. Decisions so taken will not be rescinded at any subsequent meeting except with the consent of two-thirds of those present at the time of the vote, entitled to vote, and voting.

16.3. Decisions taken at the Annual Convention at all levels of the Association will not be rescinded except at a subsequent Annual Convention, and then, only with the consent of two-thirds of those in attendance at the time of the vote, entitled to vote and voting. Each member must receive advance notice of intention to rescind such decisions.

16.4. Enactment of a new Rule at Annual Congress requires a simple majority of those in attendance at the time of the vote, entitled to vote, and voting. Rescindment or amendment of an existing Rule requires a two-thirds majority of those in attendance at time of voting, entitled to vote, and voting. Each member must receive advance notice of intention to rescind such decisions.

16.5. Election of officers as outlined in Rule 3.4 will be by secret ballot. Candidates for positions at all levels must be nominated, and, in each instance, the candidate's Club/County/College as applicable must be stated. In the event of there being more than two candidates for elected office at any level, election will be under the Proportional Representation (PR) system as outlined in Ard Chomhairle guidelines. In the case of two candidates, the candidate who obtains a simple majority of those in attendance at time of vote, entitled to vote, and voting, will be elected.

16.6. In the event of a tie in voting, the Cathaoirleach will exercise her/his casting vote whether or not she/he exercised her/his vote in the original decision.

16.7. In the event of a tie for the election of any officer position the outcome must be decided by drawing lots. Tellers must be appointed to carry out the draw.

16.8. Any member of the Executive Committee who has absented her/himself from three consecutive meetings, without reasonable explanation, will be deemed to have resigned from the Executive Committee.

17. Extraordinary General Meetings

17.1. At all levels of the Association an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Unit concerned may be summoned by the appropriate Executive Committee. Members will receive at least five days' notice of the date, time and venue of such meeting and the special business to be transacted.

17.2. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be summoned by a Unit's Executive Committee on a written request signed by:

- In the case of a Club, no fewer than 33 per cent of the members registered;
- In the case of a County or Council, no fewer than 33 per cent of affiliated Units.

17.3. The only business to be transacted at such a meeting will be the special business for which it is summoned.

17.4. A Special Meeting of Ard Chomhairle will be summoned by the Ard Stiúrthóir on the written request of five members. The only business to be transacted at such a meeting will be the special business for which it is summoned. Members will receive at least five days' notice of the date, time and venue of such meeting and the special business to be transacted.

17.5. Ard Chomhairle may summon a Special Congress should the necessity arise. The only business to be transacted at such a meeting will be the special business for which it is summoned. Members will receive at least fourteen days' notice of the date, time and venue of such meeting and the special business to be transacted.

18. Notice of Club, County & Council (Provincial/Education/ International) Meetings

18.1. Members will be notified by the Unit Secretary of the date, time, venue and agenda of meeting at least five days beforehand.

18.2. Each Unit will hold an AGM/Annual Convention at a date decided upon by the relevant Executive Committee on or before -

a. November 22nd in the case of a Club AGM except in the case of camogie Units whose AGM is part of a GAA club AGM;

b. December 8th in the case of a County Board Annual Convention; and

c. The third weekend in January in the case of a Provincial/Education Council or International Board Annual Convention.

18.2.1 Any County/Province that fails to comply with the deadlines above will result in removal of voting rights at higher unit for three consecutive meetings. Voting rights can only be restored once all required documents have been submitted.

18.3. The AGM/Annual Convention will be comprised of the Executive Committee and in the case of

a. a Club AGM, all members of the Club who have paid their membership at least three months in advance of the AGM for the year under consideration by the AGM. Paid up members aged 18 and over have voting rights.

b. a County Board Annual Convention, two delegates from each affiliated Club and where applicable, two delegates from each Divisional/ Subsidiary Board; one delegate from Cumann na mBunscol and one delegate from Comhairle Chamógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna. Where there are 4 or fewer affiliated clubs within the County, each Club will have an additional voting delegate.

c. a Provincial Council Annual Convention, two delegates from each affiliated County Board within the Province and where applicable, one delegate from Cumann na mBunscol, one delegate from Comhairle Chamógaíochta na hIarbhunscoileanna, and one delegate from Comhairle Chamógaíochta um Ard-Oideachas each of whom will have the right to vote. Where there are 4 or fewer affiliated County Boards within the Province, each County Board will have an additional voting delegate.

d. An International Camogie Board, two delegates from each affiliated Club and where applicable, two delegates from each Divisional/Subsidiary Board.

e. National Education Councils: As outlined in Unit bye laws.

18.4. At least five weeks prior to the date of the AGM/Annual Convention the Unit Secretary will forward to all eligible persons/Units:

a. a nomination form on which to return the proposals for Officers and other elected personnel, motions and bye-laws. For Provincial Council Executives the nominating bodies are County Boards. For County Board Executives the nominating bodies are Clubs. For Club Executives the nominators are paid up Club members subject to Rule 18.3.a. For Comhairle Chamógaíochta um ArdOideachas the nominating bodies are affiliated colleges. For Comhairle na nIarbhunscoileanna the nominating bodies are provincial councils and for international camogie boards the nomination bodies are clubs.

Each Unit Executive may propose a motion to its own AGM/Annual Convention only.

The name, and Unit name if applicable, of each outgoing office-holder will be shown on the form, together with the latest date for the receipt of nominations, motions and bye-laws which will be at least three weeks prior to the date of the AGM/ Annual Convention.

b. Nomination forms will be acceptable only if:

- lodged with the Unit Secretary by the stated date
- signed by the Unit Secretary, or if applicable by the Club member in the case of a Club AGM

18.5. At least 7 days (1 week) prior to the date of the AGM/ Annual Convention, the Unit Secretary will forward to the Unit's Executive Committee and to those relevant parties as listed in Rule 18.3.

a. an Agenda for the AGM/Annual Convention, showing date, venue and time of same;

b. minutes of previous year's AGM/Annual Convention;

c. Unit Secretary's Report for year;

d. Unit accounts compliant with Rule 22.3 and prepared by a member of a Professional Accountancy Body (PAB), except for the following, who must provide audited accounts:

(i) Units that are in receipt of funding where an audited statement of accounts is a condition of funding

(ii) Units that have employees

(iii) Any other circumstances determined by Ard Chomhairle or funding bodies

e. All Clubs, except those whose accounts are included with the GAA Club accounts, all Education Councils and County Boards will prepare accounts to year end date as specified by Ard Chomhairle Provincial Councils will prepare accounts to year end date as specified by Ard Chomhairle. Should any Unit executive committee deem an audit necessary; They are empowered to make that decision on an individual basis.

f. nominations for the Executive Committee and other elected personnel as relevant, indicating proposer; Only persons nominated on the nomination paper as per 18.4 may be considered for election on the date of the AGM/ Annual Convention.

g. notices of motions and byelaws, indicating proposer.

18.6. The Unit AGM/Annual Convention will

a. consider the Minutes of the previous AGM/Annual Convention;

b. consider and approve reports and accounts for the previous year;

c. elect and appoint the Officers who will hold office until the next AGM/Annual Convention subject to compliance with Rule 3.6. and 3.7. In the event of a county chair intending to and succeeding in serving a fifth consecutive year a Cathaoirleach Tofa must be elected at county convention.

The Cathaoirleach of the Provincial Council is an exception to Rule 3.6. S/he will be elected for a term of three years, preceded by a year as Cathaoirleach Tofa. The Cathaoirleach will be a Leas Uachtarán of the Association. The outgoing Cathaoirleach will not be eligible for immediate re-election and

d. approve or disapprove motions and byelaws. Byelaws will not be contrary to Rule and will not become binding until ratified by Ard Chomhairle

18.7. Only those motions, bye-laws or recommendations which have been approved at an Annual Convention may be submitted to the appropriate higher body, as appropriate.

18.8. Immediately after the Unit Annual Convention, the Unit Secretary will forward to the Secretary of the appropriate higher body and in all cases except a Club Annual Convention, to the Ard Stiúrthóir:

a. a copy of Unit Secretary's Report;

b. a copy of the Unit Accounts compliant with Rule 18.5. At Club level Accounts are not required to be audited but must be presented in accordance with financial procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle;

c. the names of the elected and appointed Officers and of the delegate(s) to the higher body.

d. a copy of approved motions and bye-laws.

18.9. In the event of a Unit AGM/Convention failing to elect an Executive Officer or Officers as outlined in Rule 3.4, the AGM/Convention shall be suspended temporarily and shall nominate a person or persons to call a reconvened AGM for the purpose of these elections.

The issuing of a nomination form for proposals for officers to be elected at a reconvened AGM is required to issue to all eligible persons/Units, no less than two weeks and no later than three weeks, prior to the date of the reconvened AGM.

Nomination forms must be lodged with a person appointed at the original AGM and by a date set at the original AGM. Seven days' notice is required for a reconvened AGM and the notice must include nominations received for the Executive Committee vacant positions.

The reconvened AGM can consider and nominate positions to the higher authority. They may also nominate attendees on behalf of the unit to attend and vote at the higher authority's AGM.

Only persons who are nominated on the nomination paper as per 18.4 may be considered for election on the date of the reconvened AGM.

18.10. Sub committees will be appointed by the executive as required, and ratified by the unit at either a unit meeting/ AGM or EGM.

19. Notice of Ard Chomhairle Meetings

19.1. Members will be electronically notified by the Ard Stiúrthóir of the date, time, venue and agenda of meetings at least seven days beforehand. In cases of emergency, shorter notice will be sufficient.

20. Notice of Annual Congress

20.1. At least eight weeks prior to the date of Congress, the Ard Stiúrthóir will send to the Secretary of each Unit (excluding Clubs) a Nomination form on which to return each Unit's nominations and motions for Congress and bye-laws for ratification by Ard Chomhairle. The latest date for receipt of nominations, motions and bye-laws from all nominating Units will be at least six weeks prior to the date of Annual Congress.

20.2. Nomination forms will be acceptable only if -

a. lodged with the Ard Stiúrthóir by the stated date;

b. signed by the Secretary of the nominating Unit.

20.3. Proposals to enact new or to amend existing, Rules will give the full text of the proposed addition or amendment, and also quote the number of any Rules affected thereby.

20.4. Motions to revise the Playing Rules will only be tabled every three years. However, Ard Chomhairle can, upon recommendations received from the relevant working group, introduce trial playing rules in between Playing Rule Congresses.

Ard Chomhairle can outside the three-year cycle bring playing rules motions to Congress in exceptional circumstances.

20.5. Four weeks prior to Annual Congress the Ard Stiúrthóir will send to the members of Ard Chomhairle and to the Secretary of each Unit (excluding Clubs):

a. Agenda for Congress, showing date, venue and time of same;

b. Annual Report from the Ard Stiúrthóir;

c. Audited Accounts;

d. Annual Report from all Provincial Councils, National Education Councils and International Boards;

e. Annual Report from all Ard Chomhairle Subcommittees;

f. Nominations for Uachtarán, indicating Unit (excluding Club) of proposer and proposed;

g. Nominations for Ard Chomhairle members as per Rule 10.2.g.as appropriate;

h. Proposals for motions, indicating Counties/Council/ Board of proposer.

21. Fees and Charges

21.1. Every club affiliated to An Cumann Camógaíochta is required to purchase tickets for the All-Ireland Inter County Championship Camogie Finals in Croke Park, to the value of two full priced adult tickets.

21.2. Fees for objections and appeals are set out in Official Guide Part IV Disciplinary Code and THDC Mandatory Procedures.

22. Code of Conduct and Accountability

22.1. That all Officers of the Association shall comply with the Code of Practice for all Officers of the Camogie Association. Any alleged breach of the Code must be investigated according to the procedure outlined in the Code. This procedure only applies to non-games related Breaches.

22.2. Ard Chomhairle shall adopt a Code of Conduct, defining appropriate behaviour and practices. All Officers, Members, Players, Teams, Match Officials, Parents/Guardians, Supporters, Officials, Units, and professionals engaged by units are required to comply with this code. The Code shall specify the disciplinary procedures to be applied for breaches of the Code. This Rule shall give and constitute authority for the carrying out of all functions and actions in accordance with the Code. Ard Chomhairle may amend the code of conduct as required where such amendments are not contrary to rule.

22.3. Each Unit within the Association is responsible for its finances. Financial management practices must be compliant with all legal requirements. All Units will have power to acquire, hold and develop, sell, lease, mortgage charge, exchange or sell Real and Personal Property, and to borrow or raise money in promotion of the objects of the Club, subject to the overall authority of Ard Chomhairle. The property shall not be leased, mortgaged, charged, exchanged, sold, conveyed, transferred or otherwise dealt with without the consent of Ard Chomhairle, or as may be set out in any separate Declaration of Trust.

22.4. All county boards and national education councils must comply with financial procedures as agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle. Sanction for failure to comply is withdrawal of voting rights for the Unit concerned at Annual Congress. For Provincial Councils see Rule 12.1.b.

22.5. The funds of any Unit of the Association must be lodged in a bank or other financial institution approved by the Unit. All payments issued on behalf of the Unit must be authorised by at least two members of the core Executive Committee of the Unit concerned. All payments are required to have at least two signatories from the core Executive Committee of the Unit concerned one of which must be the treasurer. Decisions on signatories and payment procedures must be formally agreed and recorded at Executive Committee meeting(s) of the relevant Unit.

22.6. A Unit failing and refusing to comply with Rules 22.2 to 22.4 will be suspended until compliance is agreed and implemented.

23. Insurance

23.1. All persons who train with teams, Female Liaison Officer's (FLO's) and all persons who coach teams are required to be registered members of the Camogie Association. Each Unit must ensure and be satisfied that its playing members, members who referee/officiate at games and members involved in training/managing/ coaching teams are covered by insurance. Any member not insured may not play, referee/officiate at games or manage/coach teams.

23.2. Executive Committees at all levels within the Association must indemnify its Executive members.

23.3. In order that all fixtures other than official fixtures are recognised for insurance purposes notification must be given on the following basis:

- To the County Board when both teams are within the County;
- To the relevant County Boards and Provincial Council when teams are from different Counties;
- To the relevant County Boards, Provincial Council and designated Camogie Association staff member when teams are from different Provinces or International.

Notification to hold or participate in fixtures other than official fixtures must be sent by email by the relevant Secretaries prior to the date of the proposed fixture.

Approval to host inter-county underage blitzes will be provided by a designated Camogie Association staff member.

Permission must be requested by a date specified by the Ard Stiúrthóir each year.

24. Sponsorship

24.1. Sponsorship may only be accepted by Units within the Association when the sponsorship meets the criteria set down in the Mandatory Code for Sponsorship, Official Guide Part V.

25. Safeguarding of Children/Young People (under 18 years) and Adults

25.1. The Association will safeguard and promote the interests and well being of members under 18 years of age.

25.2. The Association will take all practical steps to protect them from all discernable forms of abuse, harm, discrimination or degrading treatment and will respect their rights, wishes and feelings.

25.3. Members of the Association must comply with the binding Child Safeguarding Policy (including the disciplinary and other procedures to be applied in the event of a breach of that Code). Ard Chomhairle is entitled to amend or revoke any provisions of that Code from time to time.

That Code will provide for the manner in which it is determined whether the procedures under the Code, or the Association's mandatory investigative and disciplinary procedures are invoked in any particular case. The Code will specify the disciplinary procedures to be applied for breaches of the Code. This Rule constitutes authority for carrying out all functions and actions in accordance with the Code.

25.4. Ard Chomhairle must have in place guidelines and procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse. Complaints and allegations will be dealt with exclusively in accordance with the binding Child Safeguarding Policy and not under any other provision of these Rules or Club Constitution.

25.5. (a) The Association shall safeguard and promote the interests and wellbeing of all Adults (Over 18 years of age) who are involved in its games and related activities.

(b) The Association shall take all practical steps to protect them from all discernible forms of abuse, from harm, discrimination or degrading treatment, and shall respect their rights, wishes and feelings.

(c) Ard Chomhairle shall have in place a Code of Conduct/ Behaviour for the protection and safeguarding of adults (including the disciplinary and other procedures to be applied in the event of the breach of the Code) and shall be entitled to amend or revoke any provision of the Code from time to time. The Code shall provide for the manner in which it is determined whether the procedures under the Code or the provisions of an Treoir Oifigiúil shall be invoked in any particular case.

(d) The Code shall specify the disciplinary procedures to be applied for breaches of the Code. This Rule shall give and constitute authority for the carrying out of all functions and actions in accordance with the Code and Guidelines.

(e) Ard Chomhairle shall have in place the Camogie Association (Gaelic Games Family) Guidance for Dealing with and Reporting Allegations or Concerns of Abuse. Allegations and complaints of abuse shall be dealt with exclusively in accordance with the provisions of these Guidelines and not under any other provision of these Rules or under the Club Constitution.

26. Anti-Doping Compliance

26.1. The Association forbids the use of prohibited substances or methods, generally known as doping in sport.

26.2. The Anti-Doping Rules and application of them to our playing membership as agreed with the relevant statutory sports authorities will have effect and be construed as Rules of the Association in those statutory jurisdictions.

26.3. The ordinary disciplinary and appeals procedures, as set out in an Treoir Oifigiúil will not apply in cases of alleged violations of the Anti-Doping Rules. The anti-doping Rules of the Camogie Association are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as amended from time to time. Any Anti-Doping Rule violation will be dealt with under the Irish Anti-Doping Rules.

26.4 (a) The Association forbids the use of prohibited substances methods, a practice generally known as doping in sport. The Rules of the Association regarding doping are the Irish Anti-doping Rules as adopted by Sport Ireland and as amended from time-to-time ("theADR"). The latest version can be downloaded from http://sportireland.ie/anti-doping The Rules contained in the said ADR shall have effect and be construed as Rules of the Association. International Units shall comply with the Anti-Doping legislation in their respective Countries of operation.

(b) Adult Inter-County Championship: A player, member of management or any other specified person by Ard Chomhairle who wishes to participate in an Adult Inter-County Championship game must have completed the relevant online anti-doping education course in that Championship year.

Penalty: A One Match Suspension in the same Level applicable to the next game in the combination of the National League/Inter-County Adult Championship, even if the game occurs in the following year. The person in question is also deemed "not eligible" to return after the suspension, until the course has been completed.

(c) National Leagues: A player, member of management or any other specified person by Ard Chomhairle who wishes to participate in a game in the National League must have completed the relevant online anti-doping education in the same year.

Penalty: A One Match Suspension in the same Level applicable to the next game in the combination of the National League/Inter-County Adult Championship, even if the game occurs in the following year. The person in question is also deemed "not eligible" to return after the suspension, until the course has been completed.

27. Rules and Disciplinary Enforcement Powers

27.1. Ard Chomhairle and all Units in the Association have within their respective jurisdictions the power:

a. to enforce Codes, Rules and Byelaws

b. investigate breaches of Codes, Rules and Byelaws

c. investigate misconduct considered to discredit the Association

d. impose upon Members, Teams, Officials, Units and supporters such penalties as may be prescribed

e. where no penalty is prescribed impose proportionate and reasonable penalties, for such breaches.

27.2. Ard Chomhairle will have authority to debar individuals from privileges of the Association pending the conclusion of an investigation into breaches of the Rules or Codes of the Association or any byelaws made thereunder, provided that authority is exercised pursuant to the procedures and conditions imposed on that power under section 16.1(c) of the Code of Conduct.

27.3. The National Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee will hear and adjudicate on transfers, objections and appeals and independently investigate irregularities and will have autonomy to suspend, fine or disqualify clubs or individuals for breaches of the Rules or Codes of the Association or any bye-laws made thereunder in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The committee will act in accordance with the procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle. It will be the final appeal on decisions from Provincial Council Transfers, Hearings, and Disciplinary Committees. Ard Chomhairle has the power to expel clubs or individuals for breaches of the Rules.

27.4. The National Final Appeals Committee will only hear and decide on cases submitted to the National Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee and the Hearings and Disciplinary Committees of the National Education Councils.

27.5. The Clemency Committee will hear appeals from members/ Units only in the event of a period of suspension being of more than twelve months duration.

27.6. Any penalty imposed will apply throughout the Association. Members, Teams, Officials and Units subject to investigation by a Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee must attend those meetings when requested. Failure to comply will result in automatic suspension until they appear.

27.7. The secretary of the committee in charge of a hearing, investigation or appeal must inform the parents or guardians of players under 18 of the allegation and investigative procedure. Children must be accompanied by an adult at investigations, hearings and appeals. Such adults are not required to be members of the Association.

27.8. ***Arbitration***

(a) In the event of any dispute or difference between any member or Unit of the Camogie Association with any other member or Unit of the Camogie Association, as to the legality of any decision made or procedure used by any Unit of the Camogie Association in pursuance of the Rules and Bye Laws of the Association, which cannot be settled by amicable means within the Rules of the Camogie Association, such dispute may be referred by either party to Arbitration under the GAA Disputes Resolution Code (see www.sportsdra.ie), as initially approved by GAA Congress and from time to time amended by the GAA Disputes Resolution Authority with the approval of GAA Central Council.

(b) Such Dispute Resolution shall be conducted in accordance with that Code and the Arbitration Act 2010 or any statutory modification or reenactment thereof. The Rules of the Camogie Association, the GAA Disputes Resolution Code and the Laws of Ireland shall govern such Disputes Resolution.

(c) No member or Unit of the Camogie Association may issue proceedings relating to any such Dispute in any Court of Law in any jurisdiction.

(d) No member or Unit of the Camogie Association shall refer such Dispute to the Dispute Resolution Authority (DRA) until all available avenues of appeal under the Rules of the Camogie Association have been exhausted.

(e) Disputes arising from or concerning doping control under the Rules of the Camogie Association, any rules of the Irish Sports Council or under general law shall not be the subject of any Arbitration under this Rule.

(f) Arbitration shall only apply to Disputes raised by members/Units from Ireland or Britain.

27.9. ***Disciplinary Hearing Timeframes***

Disciplinary hearing timeframes are outlined in the Official Guide Part IV Disciplinary Code and THDC Mandatory Procedures.

28. Player Eligibility

28.1. Before taking part in competition, a player must be registered with the Committee in charge of the competition.

For a player to play in inter-county competitions, she must be registered through a club.

A player may play in a competition 48 hours after receipt of her registration by the Committee in charge or by the person nominated by the Committee in charge to accept registrations.

28.2. In Inter-County Competition a player is automatically eligible to represent her native County as defined. If the County in which a player is registered is not her native County, she may declare for her adopted County in Inter-County competition.

Such declaration must be made on Official Form CC3, properly completed in duplicate, and lodged with the Ard Stiúrthóir by 31st January. However, where the adopted County is outside of Ireland then a player may still declare for her adopted County in Inter-County competition after this date.

This declaration will become effective three days after acknowledgement by the Ard Stiúrthóir.

A player will not represent more than one County in the same season. Once permission to declare for an adopted county is granted to a player, it is not necessary to repeat application, unless the player wishes to declare back to her native county.

28.3. A member will not register or play with two Clubs except in the following instance:

a. A full time student of one of the affiliated Institutes of Higher Education may play for both her College Club and her home Club in the same season's competitions. She will not represent both Clubs in the same competition. Where a Club in an Institute of Higher Education participates in competition under the auspices of the County Board, a student will not represent both her College Club and another Club in that County in the same season's competitions in any grade. In the event of both her College Club and her home Club being County Champions in their respective Counties in the same season, a student must, prior to participation at the next level, notify the Ard Stiúrthóir by the last day in February in writing with which Club she intends to play in the All-Ireland Club Championship competition.

b. A player may play with her home Club in Ireland and a Club in her European Country of study and vice versa, provided she is participating in a recognised programme of study in another European Country, or Ireland, for at least three months duration and she obtains permission from Central Council. These players may play with their home Club or County in their respective championships or other competitions. This does not apply to Irish home Club players studying in Ireland or Britain.

c. Where a CC6/ CC6a sanction has been granted in accordance with Rule 32.1

28.4. Age Criteria

28.4.1 A player must meet the following age criteria in order to be eligible to participate in club competitions

U12 - Be Under 12 and Over 9

U14 - Be Under 14 and Over 10

U16 - Be Under 16 and Over 12

U18 - Be Under 18 and Over 14

U23 - Be under 23 and Over 15

Adult - Be Over 15

'Under' means that a player must be under the age limit by midnight on the 31st December of the year prior to the Championship year e.g. to play U16 a player must be aged 15 years or under on the 31st December prior to the Championship year.

'Over' means a player must be over the age limit by midnight 31st December of the year prior to the Championship (e.g. to play under 14 a player must be 10 years of age on the 31st December prior to the Championship year).

In the event of competitions, and their qualifying rounds, running over two calendar years, a player who was ineligible based on the age criteria in the first of the calendar years remains ineligible to play in games that run on to the next calendar year.

For breaches of the above Rule, the penalty is the awarding of the game to the opposing team where applicable and a suspension of up to six months to the person(s) in charge of the team in which the breach is committed (Also see Rule 44 for player playing illegally).

28.4.2 A player must meet the following age criteria in order to be eligible to participate in Inter County competitions:

U16 – Be Under 16 and Over 14

'Under' means that a player must be under the age limit by midnight on the 31st of December of the year prior to the Championship year e.g. to play U16 a player must be aged 15 years or under on the 31st December prior to the Championship year.

'Over' means a player must be over the age limit by midnight 31st December of the year prior to the Championship (e.g. to play under 16 a player must be 14 years of age on the 31st December prior to the Championship year).

In the event of competitions, and their qualifying rounds, running over two calendar years, a player who was ineligible based on the age criteria in the first of the calendar years remains ineligible to play in games that run on to the next calendar year.

For breaches of the above Rule, the penalty is the awarding of the game to the opposing team where applicable and a suspension of up to six months to the person(s) in charge of the team in which the breach is committed (Also see Rule 44 for player playing illegally).

Note: This rule will be introduced in phases. Starting with Tier 1 counties in 2025, Tier 2 counties in 2026 and Tier 3 counties and below in 2027. This will ensure ample time for counties to ensure they have sufficient players within their squads.

28.4.3 A player must meet the following age criteria in order to be eligible to participate in Inter County competitions: U18 – Be Under 18 and Over 16 'Under' means that a player must be under the age limit by midnight on the 31st of December of the year prior to the Championship year e.g. to play U18 a player must be aged 17 years or under on the 31st of December prior to the Championship year. 'Over' means a player must be over the age limit by midnight 31st December of the year prior to the Championship (e.g. to play under 18 a player must be 16 years of age on the 31st of December prior to the Championship year). In the event of competitions, and their qualifying rounds, running over two calendar years, a player who was ineligible based on the age criteria in the first of the calendar years remains ineligible to play in games that run on to the next calendar year. For breaches of the above Rule, the penalty is the awarding of the game to the opposing team where applicable and a suspension of up to six months to the person(s) in charge of the team in which the breach is committed (Also see Rule 44 for player playing illegally).

Note: The implementation of this rule will be introduced in phases. Starting with Tier 1 counties in 2025, Tier 2 counties in 2026 and Tier 3 counties and below in 2027. This will ensure ample time for counties to ensure they have sufficient players within their squads.

28.4.4 A player must meet the following age criteria in order to be eligible to participate in Adult Inter County competitions:

Adult - Be Over 18

'Over' means a player must be over the age limit by midnight 31st December of the year prior to the Championship.

In the event of competitions, and their qualifying rounds, running over two calendar years, a player who was ineligible based on the age criteria in the first of the calendar years remains ineligible to play in games that run on to the next calendar year.

For breaches of the above Rule, the penalty is the awarding of the game to the opposing team where applicable and a suspension of up to six months to the person(s) in charge of the team in which the breach is committed (Also see Rule 44 for player playing illegally).

Note: The implementation of this rule will be introduced in phases. Starting with Tier 1 counties in 2025, Tier 2 counties in 2026 and Tier 3 counties and below in 2027.
This will ensure ample time for counties to ensure they have sufficient players within their squads.

28.4.5 A player must meet the following age criteria in order to be eligible to participate in Inter County competitions:

U23 – Be Under 23 and Over 18
'Under' means that a player must be under the age limit by midnight on the 31st of December of the year prior to the Championship year e.g. to play U23 a player must be aged 22 years or under on the 31st of December prior to the Championship year.

'Over' means a player must be over the age limit by midnight 31st December of the year prior to the Championship (e.g. to play under 23 a player must be 18 years of age on the 31st of December prior to the Championship year). In the event of competitions, and their qualifying rounds, running over two calendar years, a player who was ineligible based on the age criteria in the first of the calendar years remains ineligible to play in games that run on to the next calendar year.

For breaches of the above Rule, the penalty is the awarding of the game to the opposing team where applicable and a suspension of up to six months to the person(s) in charge of the team in which the breach is committed (Also see Rule 44 for player playing illegally).

Note: Tier 3 counties rule will be Over 17 for 2026 and Over 18 in 2027. This will align with phasing of implementation of current rules.

28.5. Where Clubs have insufficient numbers of players to compete in underage competitions, they may combine with a team from only one other specific club to participate in underage competitions, subject to prior approval from the Unit in charge. A team is deemed to be a combined team if it comprises three or more players from a different club(s). Players from no more than three clubs may combine to compete as a single team.

28.5.1 Where a Club has fewer than 15 eligible players to play in adult competition, they may request approval from the unit in charge for all of their eligible players to be permitted to participate with a team from one other specified club in adult competition for that year's competition(s). Where the unit in charge approves such a combination it will be for that year's competition only and any further combination will be subject to a new application to the unit in charge. Any revised grading level for the combined team will be determined by the unit in charge taking into account the changed composition. Should the number of eligible players in the Club applying to combine exceed 15 during the course of the year the combination will terminate for any subsequent adult competitions in that year unless that competition had already commenced, and the combined team have already participated in that competition.

A team is deemed to be a combined team if it comprises three or more players from a different club(s). Players from no more than three clubs may combine to play as a single team.

28.6. Adult club teams from lower grades may only combine to participate in higher grade competitions e.g. two intermediate teams combine to play Senior Championship/ League. The Unit in charge of the competition must approve this in advance. Where a Club already has a team participating in the higher competition it may not avail of this provision. Where teams combine under Rules 28.5 and 28.6 players' registrations and player grading will remain with their home club (Also see Rule 28.3).

28.7. Combination or divisional teams may not enter the provincial and All-Ireland Club Championship competitions. In the case where a combination/ divisional team being county champions, the beaten finalists will represent the county. In the event of the finalists being two divisional/ combined teams the beaten semi-finalists will play-off to represent their county.

29. Player Grading for Club Competitions

29.1. Any player who plays a higher graded Championship is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower graded league or championship in the same year. This applies to all graded competitions e.g. adult and under-age A, B and C competitions.

29.2. In the case of teams participating in Club Championships in accordance with Rule 28.5 and 28.6 their grading status with their registered Club is not affected by participating in a higher grade competition.

29.3. A player may apply to the County Board, by a date specified by the Board, to be re-graded in the following year. A player's application must specify the reason for her grading request. The County Board may delegate responsibility for dealing with applications for re-grading to a Sub-Committee. The Re-Grading Sub Committee must make a recommendation to the County Board for ratification. If a re-grading application is unsuccessful, within five days, the player must be personally notified in writing of the reasons.

When club competitions involve relegation, or where a team is regraded by the Unit in charge, there is automatic regrading to the lower grade of players on the relegated/ regraded panel at the end of the competition from which they are being relegated or regraded. In these instances, a submission for individual player regrading is not required.

29.4. A player who transfers to a lower graded club is automatically re-graded to the highest grade in that club.

29.5. In the event of two or more transfers from a higher graded club to a lower graded club being granted in one year, the grading of that team may be considered by the committee in charge.

29.6. A player who has not taken part in any league or championship match with a club, for a period of 24 months from the date of her last game, will be automatically re-graded to the next immediate grade down in that club.

30. Player Grading for Inter-County Competitions

30.1. Any player who plays a higher graded Championship is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower grade championship or national league except when inter-county competitions involve relegation, or where a team is re-graded by the Unit in charge.

When an inter-county competition involves relegation or where a team is regraded by the Unit in charge, there is automatic regrading to the lower grade of players on the relegated/regraded panel at the end of the competition from which they are being relegated or regraded. In these instances, a submission for individual player regrading is not required.

Otherwise, grading of players for Inter-County competitions will be defined as follows:

Senior

a. Any player who plays senior championship is only eligible thereafter to play Division 1 national league and senior championship. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

b. An All-Ireland senior medal winner who has played senior championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading for a year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

c. An All-Ireland senior medal winner who has not played senior championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

Intermediate

a. Any player who plays intermediate championship is only eligible thereafter to play Divisions 1 and 2 national league and intermediate championship. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

b. An All-Ireland intermediate medal winner who has played intermediate championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading for a year. For regrading see Rule 30.2.

c. An All-Ireland intermediate medal winner who has not played intermediate championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

Junior

a. Any player who plays at a higher level in the All-Ireland junior championship is only eligible thereafter to play higher level junior championship or higher level national leagues. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

b. An All-Ireland junior medal winner who has played junior championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading to a lower junior grade for a further two years. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

c. An All-Ireland junior medal winner who has not played junior championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

Under 23

An Under 23 player will be eligible to represent her County in the All-Ireland U23 Championship. She may participate in adult competitions, including the All-Ireland Championship, without prejudice to her eligibility for U23 competition. Subject to rule 28.4.5.

Minor (Under 18)

An Under 18 player will be eligible to represent her County in the All-Ireland Minor Championship. She may participate in adult competitions, including the All-Ireland U23 and adult Championship, without prejudice to her eligibility for Minor competition. Subject to rule 28.4.4.

Under 16

An Under 16 player will be eligible to represent her County in the All-Ireland Under 16 Championship and Minor Championship.

30.2. A player must apply to Ard Chomhairle to be regraded in the following year by a date specified by Ard Chomhairle. Ard Chomhairle must delegate responsibility for dealing with applications for re-grading to a Sub-Committee.

The Re-Grading Sub Committee must make a recommendation to Ard Chomhairle for ratification. If a re-grading application is unsuccessful the player must be personally notified in writing within five days of the reasons.

31. Transfers

31.1. Clubs are prohibited from approaching players to transfer from their home club. See Rule 4.1 for designation of a player's home club.

All transfers are subject to approval once the correct process has been followed and application is filled out on the official designated transfer system.

31.2. A player who wishes to transfer from one Club to another must:

Fully complete the transfer form on the official designated transfer system and submit the application. The player's ID number must be on the system.

Must specify the reasons for her transfer request and ensure all details on the official designated transfer system are correct.

31.3. A transfer must not be refused to a player already registered with a Camogie club who wishes to transfer to a newly established camogie club in the locality where she is ordinarily resident.

31.3.1. A transfer may be refused on one or several of the following grounds:

- If a player or a player's immediate family or guardian are not ordinarily resident within the area of the club to which she wishes to be transferred;
- Where the county board has objective evidence that a player has been approached by the club she wishes to transfer to;
- Where the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee has adjudged that the receiving club has sufficient playing members
- Where the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee has adjudged that the player's current club would be negatively affected by her transfer
- Where the relevant Transfers, Hearing and Disciplinary Committee has adjudged that the transfer would not be in the best interests of Camogie.

31.4. Where a Club/County Board/Provincial Council agrees to a transfer the following procedures apply:

(i) On submission of a CC4 Transfer Form from a player, the Club Executive Committee must consider the application within seven days.

(ii) On agreement of the transfer the club secretary approves the transfer on the official designated transfer system no later than the seventh day, the transfer will be submitted to the County Board Secretary when approved.

Note: Day one is the day after the transfer submitted.

(iii) The County Board Secretary must immediately on notification of transfer application refer it to the Transfers, Disciplinary and Hearings Committee for decision.

The Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee will confer and inform the County Board Secretary of their decision within three days. The county board secretary must approve the transfer on the official designated transfer system. The player and affiliated units will be notified via the official designated transfer system.

(iv) Where the club transfer request is to a club outside the County but within the Province the County Board Secretary must approve the CC4 form on the official designated transfer system within three days of the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee's decision. The Provincial Council Secretary must immediately on notification of transfer application refer it to the Transfers, Disciplinary and Hearings Committee. The player and affiliated units will be notified via the official designated transfer system.

The Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee will confer and inform the Provincial Secretary of their decision within three days. In the case of a positive decision the Provincial Council secretary must approve the transfer on the official designated transfer system.

(v) Where the club transfer is from a club in one Province to a club in another Province, following completion of the transfer at provincial level, the Provincial Council Secretary must approve the transfer on the official designated transfer system. The Ard Stiúrthóir or delegated person must immediately on notification of transfer application refer it to the National Transfers, Disciplinary and Hearings Committee for notification. Once approved, Ard Stiúrthóir or delegated person will approve the final stage of the transfer on the official designated transfer system.

(vi) On completion of the transfer, the player and joining club will be notified via the official designated transfer system. Rules governing her eligibility then apply.

31.5. When a club, county or province does not agree to the transfer the following procedures apply:

(i) On submission of a CC4 Transfer Form from a player, the Club Executive Committee must consider the application within seven days.

If the club does not agree to the transfer the Club Secretary rejects the transfer on the official designated transfer system within two days of consideration of the transfer. The club secretary must give the reasons for the non-agreement. The player seeking the transfer may then submit the CC4 transfer form to the County Secretary on the official designated transfer system for the County Board's consideration.

(ii) The County Board Secretary must immediately on notification of a transfer request refer it to the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee. The Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee must consider the application within seven days and decide to approve or reject the transfer.

(iii) If the transfer is rejected by the County Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee, the County Board Secretary, must set out the reasons why the transfer was rejected, and immediately reject the transfer application on the official designated transfer system.

The player may appeal this decision to the Provincial Council's Transfers, Hearings, and Disciplinary Committee within seven days of notification.

(iv) If the transfer is first rejected by the Provincial Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee, the Provincial Council Secretary, must set out the reasons why the transfer was rejected and immediately reject the transfer application on the official designated transfer system.

The player may appeal this decision to the National Transfers, Hearings, and Disciplinary Committee within seven days of notification.

(v) If the transfer is rejected by the National Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee, the Ard Stiúrthóir or delegated person, must set out the reasons why the transfer was rejected and immediately reject the transfer on the official designated transfer system.

31.6. Transfers are not necessary in the following instances:

- From one club to another in another country if the player has not taken part in any competitive match with a club for a period of twenty-four months.
- From a club which has disbanded.
- Where a player has not played competitive Camogie at club or county level for a period of twenty four months or more.
- Where a player is Under 14 e.g. a player must be aged 13 or under on the 31st of December in the prior Championship year.

In all cases above the CC4 transfer form on the official designated transfer system must be filled out to keep membership history and ID number.

31.7. A player who has commenced a competition in a county will not be eligible to complete that competition with her club or county, if she has legally transferred and is playing with another club or county except in instances where the player is playing on a CC6/CC6a when Rule 32.5 will apply. She will not represent both clubs or counties in the same competition.

32. Permission to Play Internationally

32.1. Any player who is temporarily domiciled outside of the country in which she is registered and who wishes to play with a club in another country for the duration of such domicile, must notify her club secretary of her intention to seek permission to so do.

32.2. Applications for permission to play on a temporary basis for a club in another country will only be accepted on the official designated transfer system by filling in the CC6/CC6a Sanction Form and submitting the application for approval. All such applications require the approval of the current club executive, the County Board Secretary and the Ard Stiúrthóir or designated person.

32.3. The Ard Stiúrthóir or designated person must notify the relevant International Board about the CC6/CC6a sanction approval. That Board will reserve the right to grant or refuse the applicant permission to play with a club on a temporary basis.

32.4. Official sanction to play on a temporary basis with a club abroad will be valid for the period specified on the CC6/CC6a Sanction Form and on the official designated transfer system. The sanction will not exceed a period of six months in the calendar year. A transfer will be required for a longer period.

Exception: In the case of requests for sanctions to the Middle East and Asia the sanction will not exceed a period of 9 months in the calendar year. A transfer will be required for a longer period. All sanction applications must be completed on the official designated transfer system.

32.5. A player who avails of these Rules will remain a registered member of her current club during the period specified on the Official Sanction Form CC6/CC6a. A player may only play for the club to which she is temporarily transferred for the duration of the period outlined on the CC6/CC6a form. A player who returns to play with her home club before the end of this period automatically rescinds her CC6/CC6a.

32.6 Middle East Championships and Asia Championships are small sided games. These two competitions are not recognised as championship competitions for the purposes of player eligibility, enabling players to return to play club championships with their home club. Players must still register/ apply for transfer or sanction on the designated registration system to confirm their playing location as per sanctions. This position will be reviewed in co-operation with World GAA annually.

SECTION E

Competitions Management and Administration, Control of Matches and Penalties

33. Competitions Management and Administration

33.1. Ard Chomhairle, Provincial Councils and county boards must prepare a draft fixtures schedule for all competitions for the following year under their control as follows:

a. Ard Chomhairle by end of October of preceding year

b. Provincial Council by end of November of preceding year

c. County Board by end of January of current year.

Eligibility to participate in competition will be on the following basis:

d. County competitions will be open to all affiliated clubs within the county and as otherwise agreed at the county convention (Ref 6.4 (b)).

e. Provincial competitions will be open to all affiliated counties within the province (Ref 7.4 (b)).

f. All-Ireland competitions will be open to all affiliated counties (Ref 10.5 (p)).

33.2. For all competitions, participating Units will be notified of the date of a fixture by the Unit Secretary or by a Fixtures Sub-Committee delegated this task in accordance with the following timeframes:

- at least five days email notice for competitions run by County Boards unless otherwise provided for in County bye-laws;
- at least five days e-mail notice for all InterCounty and All-Ireland competitions. E-mail notification of venue and time must be given no later than 48 hours prior to the fixture.

33.3. Where a team has been notified in accordance with Rule 33.2 of a fixture and fails to fulfil that fixture, the committee in charge of the competition must impose the following penalties:

- in all cases the match will be awarded to that team's opponents in the fixture;
- in the case of leagues or championships run on a league basis the defaulting team(s) will be deducted the equivalent to the points awarded for a win in that competition.
- In the case of national inter-county, club or inter-provincial competitions under Ard Chomhairle's auspices, any team who concedes a game cannot progress to the knock-out stages of a competition, i.e. quarter-final, semi-final or final.

33.4. The committee in charge may also impose one or several of the following penalties should it consider that the situation warrants such:

- defaulting team lose home advantage for fixtures in competition(s) in the following year; and/or
- a fine on the Committee responsible for the defaulting team;
- any vouched expenses incurred in connection with the fixture will be paid by the Committee responsible for the defaulting team except where at least 72 hours notice has been confirmed with the committee in charge

33.5. The following exemptions apply to Rules 33.3 and 33.4:

- an independent decision by the Referee and the host club/ground that the pitch is unplayable
- a death which is deemed by the Unit in charge to warrant postponement of the fixture
- Games cancelled where, a weather warning in affect in County at the time of the game that come with the advisory not to drive.

33.6. Should a team withdraw or be disqualified during the course of a competition, the results of its played games will be null and void and no points will be awarded for un-played matches.

33.7. For fixtures other than official competitions see Rule 23.

33.8. All games activities organised for all players aged U12 by all Units of the Association must be:

- Child centred
- Small sided games
- Developmentally appropriate
- Provide all players with meaningful playing time.

33.9 Streaming and broadcasting of games at all levels must adhere to the Association ratified policies, including media, broadcasting and child protection.

34. All-Ireland Inter-County Competitions

34.1. All-Ireland inter-county competitions, club competitions and inter-provincial competitions will be run in a manner decided by Ard Chomhairle.

34.2. Should Provincial, County or Club teams from other countries enter any All-Ireland competition, the manner of their participation will be decided by Ard Chomhairle.

34.3. Venues for All-Ireland quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals of competitions under the auspices of Ard Chomhairle will be decided by the National Competitions Management Sub-Committee.

34.4. Unless notified by Ard Chomhairle the home County Board/ Provincial Council will make arrangements to scan tickets and collect gate receipts at all fixtures under the auspices of Ard Chomhairle, gate collectors must be 15 or older. Additional gate receipts must be forwarded by the County/ Provincial Secretary to the Ard Stiúrthóir within fourteen days of the date of the fixture. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed by Ard Chomhairle on the County/ Council. Gate receipts from National League games run under the auspices of Ard Chomhairle excluding the semifinals and finals will be shared on a 50/50 basis with the host county.

35. All-Ireland Club Championships

35.1. County Champions will be eligible to play in the All-Ireland Club Championship(s), except where the winners are comprised of a representative or divisional team. In this event, the County Board must nominate the Club team which advanced furthest in the County Championship to represent the County.

35.1.1. The winners of the Provincial club championships will contest the All-Ireland semi-finals, except where Ard Chomhairle decides that the competition should be run on an open draw or other basis.

35.2. The grading of Counties for the All-Ireland Club Championship(s) will be decided by Ard Chomhairle.

35.3. Where a County Board does not exist, the Provincial Council will have the power to permit properly affiliated Clubs to represent the County in Provincial and All-Ireland competitions.

35.4. In the event of a draw in Semi-Finals, extra-time must be played.

35.5. Each Provincial Council Secretary must notify the Ard Stiúrthóir of the winners of Senior and Intermediate Provincial Club Championship Finals by the 30th of November, winners of Junior Provincial Club Championship Final by the 31st of October.

35.6. Unless notified by Ard Chomhairle the home County Board/ Provincial Council will make arrangements to scan tickets and collect gate receipts at all fixtures under the auspices of Ard Chomhairle, gate collectors must be 15 or older. Additional gate receipts must be forwarded by the County/ Provincial Secretary to the Ard Stiúrthóir within fourteen days of the date of the fixture. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed by Ard Chomhairle on the County/Council.

36. Inter-Provincial Championships

36.1. In the event of a draw in Semi-Finals and Finals, extra-time must be played.

37. Trophies

37.1. Ard Chomhairle will each year present:

a. An All-Ireland Perpetual Cup/Trophy and up to thirty medals to the winning team in each All-Ireland competition under its auspices. As the design of All-Ireland and National League medals is the property of Ard Chomhairle, the awarding of more than thirty such medals will not be permitted.

b. Runners-up medals to the losing teams in every All-Ireland minor competition under its auspices

37.2. Provincial Councils will each year present up to thirty medals or trophies to the winning team in each competition under its auspices.

37.3. County Boards will decide on the nature of awards to be made to the winners in competitions under their auspices.

37.4. All official medals and trophies should be of Irish manufacture where possible. Inscriptions, if any, will be in Irish.

37.5. It will be the responsibility of the Committee in charge of a competition to have the winners' names inscribed on cups/ trophies.

37.6. All Perpetual Cups/Trophies must be returned in good condition by the holders to the relevant Committee at least one month prior to the conclusion of the following season's competition. The committee in charge of the cup or trophy holder is liable for the cost of any damages and cleaning to perpetual cups or trophies.

38. Catering Arrangements for Competing Teams

38.1. Catering arrangements and costs for competing teams (30 each) will be the responsibility of the relevant Unit in charge of the team.

38.2. Catering arrangements and costs for match officials will be the responsibility of the relevant Unit in charge of the competition.

39. Control of Matches

39.1. Matches will be under the control of the Referee, four Goal Umpires and two Line Umpires. All matters affecting play will be decided on the field of play by these officials.

39.2. Matches must begin at the appointed time. Referees are required to report late starts in the official Referee's report and the reasons for same. For club games an automatic fixed penalty of €50/Stg£45 will apply for reported late starts. For inter-county games an automatic fixed penalty of €100/Stg£90 will apply to the relevant parties for reported late starts. These penalties are subject to review by Ard Chomhairle.

39.3. The Committee in charge of a team participating in any officially sanctioned league or championship competition must:

- have the players and substitutes clearly numbered, such numbers must correspond with those in the official match programme and official team list;
- in the case of All-Ireland semi-finals and finals, submit to the Ard Stiúrthóir at least six days prior to the fixture the names of its panel of players up to a maximum of 30 panel members. The numbered team line out must also be submitted.

39.4. Should the competing Inter-County teams in any fixture have similar team colours, both teams must change if requested to do so by the Unit in charge of the fixture (Ref Rule 5.6. re similar colours).

39.4.1 Should the competing teams in the Provincial and All-Ireland Club competitions have similar team colours, both teams must change if requested to do so by the Unit in charge of the fixture.

39.5. Should a competitive match end in a draw it must be replayed except where:

- the competition is run on a league basis and a point will be awarded to each team
- the Unit in charge of the fixture has made a prior decision to play extra-time and has advised the participating teams in advance of same; or
- both teams agree, with the approval of the Unit in charge of the fixture, to play extra-time.

39.6. In the case of competitions run on a home and away basis the team which travelled in the first instance will have a home venue for the replay. Should a replay finish in a draw, extra-time must be played. Should the teams finish level again after extra-time, the match must be replayed.

39.7. All All-Ireland under 16, minor and junior A and B Inter-County championship games must be played at a venue which is approximately half way between competing teams when the distance between competing teams is greater than 320 kilometres (200 miles).

40. Appointment of Match Officials

40.1. The Committee in charge of a competition or a sub-committee with the appropriate delegated powers will appoint Referees for all fixtures under its auspices or decide other methods for the appointment of Referees.

40.2. Appointed Referees are required to be knowledgeable of the official playing rules of Camogie and are required to attend a recognised Camogie Referee course. Referees must co-operate with assessment procedures as required.

40.3. All Referees who officiate Camogie fixtures must be registered members of the Camogie Association on the designated registration system with appropriate insurance in place.

40.4. Referees must wear regulation uniform or a tracksuit while officiating at matches.

40.5. Ard Chomhairle will ratify the appointment of all match officials for All-Ireland Semi-Finals and Finals. Ard Chomhairle will be responsible for the authorised expenses for match officials acting on its behalf.

40.6. All officials including line and goal umpires must be 18 years of age or over to officiate at inter-county matches.

41. Duties and Powers of the Referee

41.1. The Referee must fairly enforce the playing Rules. During the match, her/his decision on all matters connected with play will be final.

41.2. The Referee will:

- Decide whether ground or other conditions are suitable for play; (Also see Rule 33.5.)
- Inform players, through the team captains, of their obligations under Official Guide, Part 2 Playing Rules
- Deal with the intrusion of unauthorised persons on to the playing pitch;
- Record and report the names of players or officials interfering immediately before, during or after a match;
- Take the name of the offender and request him/ her to go outside the pitch area, when a team mentor or known team partisan is adjudged by the Referee to have been abusive or behaving in a threatening manner to any Match Official. The nature of the abuse must be included in the Referee's Report;
- Ensure the game starts on time and report teams that fail to comply (Also see Rule 39.2);
- Temporarily suspend play for a serious injury to a player, sudden deterioration in the weather, broken goalposts, pitch invasion or for any other matter/

incident that s/he feels warrants such a decision.

Play should be temporarily suspended for an initial 15-minute period to allow matter/incident to be rectified.

The Referee, having decided to temporarily suspend play, should inform team officials from both teams that play is being suspended.

After the initial 15-minute suspension the Referee can choose to suspend play for a second 15-minute period using information and expert knowledge to hand.

The Referee can choose to further suspend play for a third 15-minute period using information and expert knowledge up to a maximum duration of 45 minutes from stoppage of play.

In exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of both management teams and the Referee the suspension of the game can be extended to a maximum period of 1 hour. After a 45 minutes stoppage or if it becomes apparent that the issue cannot be resolved during any time in this period, then the match should be abandoned.

41.3. The Referee must keep a record of the match and must lodge with the Committee in Charge a report of the match including the score and commencing and finishing time of each half. Such report must be submitted on Official Form CC5, together with signed Team Lists, on or before the sixth calendar day after the date of the match, unless a player is dismissed from the field of play with a straight red card. The referee report in this case must be submitted on Official Form CC5, together with signed Team Lists, on or before the fourth calendar day after the date of the match. The Referee's report must be considered as final except where the Committee in charge is satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that the match was not Refereed in accordance with the Rules. Failure of a Referee to submit a report does not render the game null and void.

A Referee or Goal Umpire may seek and/or obtain a clarification, from the officially sanctioned Score Detection System where operable, that a sliotar has gone between the posts for a point or outside the posts for a wide. The protocols for the operation and use of the system must be in accordance with the specific provisions determined and authorised by Ard Chomhairle.

41.4. The Referee must, in the event of one team failing to field, count the players of the team present and obtain a Team List for submission with her/his report. In the event of both teams failing to field, the Referee should record this fact on his/her report for submission to the Unit in charge of the competition.

41.5. The Referee must:

- Give a final decision on scores or wides and may over-rule the decision of a Goal Umpire(s);
- Give a final decision on side-line pucks and may over-rule the decision of a Line Umpire. In the absence of a Line Umpire, the Referee's decision must be final.

The Referee may:

- Consult the Goal and Line Umpires on any matter during the course of the match;
- Apply the appropriate penalty when his/her attention is drawn to a Rule infringement by a Goal/Line Umpire. (See Rules 42.2 and 42.3).

41.6. The Referee must extend time in each half:

- For delay, deliberate or incidental, in that half. In the case of injury to a player, play may be stopped at the discretion of the Referee. Such stoppages must not exceed two minutes at which time the player will be required to leave the field for treatment. The exception to the two minute Rule above is when an injury is so serious as to require treatment in place or where a stretcher is required to remove player from the field of play.
- To allow for a free to be taken. A score will result from such a free only when no player from the attacking team other than the freetaker touches the sliotar. Should the defending team commit a further foul before the Referee whistles for the end of the half, she/he must further extend the time to allow for an additional free to be taken.

41.7. The Referee may terminate a match because of:

- persistent outside interference;
- failing light;
- the refusal of a player to leave the field of play when dismissed by the Referee, the team captain or official having been given a three minute warning by the Referee;
- a team or player(s) leaving the field without the Referee's permission, or refusing to continue to play, the team captain or official having been given a three minute warning by the Referee;
- any other reason deemed by the Referee to be sufficient.

41.8. The Referee must specify in his/her report the reason(s) for terminating a match and, where applicable, include the names of offending players and officials and known partisans. If a match is terminated because of failing light, it will be re-fixed for full-time by the Committee in charge, except where there was a deliberate delay on the part of

one team, in which case the match may be awarded to its opponents. If terminated for any other reason, the decision will rest with the Committee in charge.

41.9. The Referee must dismiss a player from the field of play in the following instances:

a. by showing a red card when a player is adjudged by the Referee to have committed any of the aggressive fouls/dangerous play and abusive language outlined in Official Playing Rules 10.3 (a) to (m);

b. where a player who, having already been warned once by the Referee in connection with rough play and dissent (Official Playing Rules 10.2 (a) to (m)), and the Referee has indicated this by showing the player a Yellow Card, commits a second offence of this nature, and the Referee has indicated this by showing the player a second Yellow Card and has also indicated her dismissal by showing the player a Red Card;

c. for a first offence should she/he deem that the player's conduct warrants such. Such player shall be dealt with by the committee in charge in accordance with Rule 44;

d. in all instances, substitution of a dismissed player will not be permitted. In the event of extra time teams revert to fifteen players. Any player dismissed from play in normal time cannot play in extra time. All yellow cards issued in normal time are carried forward into extra time

41.10. The Referee must:

- at the time of dismissal, ascertain and record the player's name and jersey number.
- in her/his report, give the name of any player dismissed and jersey number, state the reason.

41.11. The Secretary of the Committee in charge of a competition must retain a permanent record of the names of players dismissed from the field of play. The Secretary of a Provincial Council must immediately notify the Ard Stiúrthóir of dismissals in Provincial competition, and the Ard Stiúrthóir will inform the relevant Provincial County Secretary of dismissals in All-Ireland competition.

41.12. Should the appointed Referee be unable to officiate at a match, a substitute must be appointed by any Officer of the Committee in charge present at the match. In the absence of an Officer, a Referee may be agreed upon by the Officials of both teams.

41.13. A referee shall not be held liable for: any kind of injury suffered by a player, official or spectator, any damage to property of any kind or any other loss suffered by any individual, club, company, association or other body, which is due or which may be due to any decision that s/he may take specifically under Rule 39 (in respect of the normal procedures required to hold, play and control a match) and Rule 41 (Duties and Powers of Referees) of the Official Guide of the Camogie Association. Such decisions may include but not be limited to:

- a decision that the condition of the field of play or its surrounds or that the weather conditions are such as to allow or not to allow a match to take place;
- a decision to abandon a match for whatever reason;
- a decision to allow or not to allow a player to use and or wear certain gear or equipment (as per Official Guide Part 2 Playing Rules 6, 7);
- a decision as to the suitability of the sliotar used during a match (as per Official Guide Part 2 Rule 7.3) and or the equipment or pitch (as per Official Guide Playing Rules 7 and 8);
- a decision to stop or not to stop a match due to spectator interference or any problem in spectator areas;
- a decision to stop or not to stop play to allow an injured player to be removed from the field of play for treatment;
- a decision to require an injured player to be removed from the field of play for treatment;
- any other decision that the Referee may take in accordance with Official Guide of the Camogie Association (Part 1 and 2).

42. Duties and Powers of Goal Umpires

42.1. There must be four Goal Umpires, two at each goal, one at each goalpost. They must not change ends during the match.

42.2. The Goal Umpire must:

- make decisions on scores, wides, forty-five metre frees and parallelogram infringements.
- indicate decisions to the Referee with the following signals: a goal by raising a green flag; a point by raising a white flag; a wide by outstretched arms; a forty-five-metre free by standing where the Sliotar crossed the end-line and raising one arm; a parallelogram infringement by crossing arms in the sign of an "X";
- give the Referee any assistance she/he may seek in relation to play in the area; and
- draw the Referee's attention to any Rule infringements.

Where possible, Goal Umpires should wear an umpire's coat unless otherwise agreed by the unit in charge of the competition.

43. Duties and Powers of Line Umpires

43.1. There must be one Line Umpire on either side of the field of play. They must change sides at half-time.

43.2. The Line Umpire must:

- make a decision on where the sliotar crosses the side-line and which team is entitled to the consequent side-line puck;
- indicate decisions to the Referee with the following signals:
- raise a flag and point it in the direction in which the side-line puck is to be taken; point to the spot from which the side-line puck is to be taken;
- raise the flag upright in the event of a clashed sliotar, or if unable to decide which team put the sliotar out of play; point to the spot at which the Referee should throw in the sliotar;
- give the Referee any assistance she/he may seek in relation to play;
- draw the Referee's attention to any Rule infringements.

43.3. Where possible, Line Umpires should wear regulation uniform or a tracksuit.

43.4. Where appropriate the committee in charge will appoint a Fourth and Fifth Official. The fourth official administers full substitutions and blood substitutions from both teams. On behalf of the Referee s/he indicates time added on. The Fifth Official announces the substitutions entering the field of play and time added on.

44. Penalties

44.1. Player/official/mentor dismissal

44.1.1. A player dismissed from the field of play during a match by the Referee will stand suspended until the decision of the Transfers Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee is advised to her per Rule 27. Subject to the decision of the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee, the player may be further suspended at their discretion and where applicable in accordance with Rule 44.1.2 below.

If a player is reported by a Referee as being dismissed for the duration of a game more than once in any one playing season in a competition under the same Committee in Charge, she stands suspended until she appears before the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee.

44.1.1.a There are five exceptions to Rule 44.1.1

(i) Where the player waives her right to a hearing and accepts the mandatory penalty. The player must notify in writing, no later than seven days, of her dismissal from the field of play the secretary of the committee in charge of the competition of her decision to waive her right to a hearing and accept the mandatory penalty set out in 44.1.2.

(ii) Where an official/mentor waives her/his right to a hearing and accepts the mandatory penalty. The official/mentor must notify in writing within 7 days of her/his incident/dismissal from the field of play the secretary of the committee in charge of the competition of her/his decision to waive her/his right to a hearing and accept the mandatory penalty set out in 44.1.2.

(iii) Where two yellow cards followed by a red card are issued, such dismissals are for the duration of the game, except for breaches reported of playing Rules 10.2 (h) and (i).

(iv) In (i) and (ii) where the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee accepts the request to waive the right to a hearing the mandatory penalty set out in 44.1.2. shall be reduced by one match in each case.

(v) Where the individual has previously in the same championship year breached or waived their right to a hearing in relation to the same rule the mandatory sanction will not be reduced and the individual must appear before the relevant THDC.

44.1.2. The following mandatory penalties apply in the following circumstances:

a. Persistent dissent by a player or team official towards a Referee's decision An automatic two match ban for the player or official in the competition that the offence took place.

b. To use abusive or threatening language, gestures or behaviour, (including but not limited to anything which could be construed as sectarian, racist or homophobic), towards a Referee, match official, unit officer, any player or team official.

- An automatic two match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in. For the purposes of a match ban tournaments and challenge/friendly games are not considered official competitions.
- The Unit which the player/official was representing in competition will be fined an amount which will be imposed by the relevant THDC under their discretion, depending on the severity of the incident noted in the referee report. The fine will increase by 50% for each subsequent guilty offence within the calendar year. The initial fine should be no less than €200.

- Should the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee adjudge the offence sufficiently serious, it may disqualify the offender's team from the competition in question.

c. Punching, hitting (without a hurley) or kicking a player in a manner that the Referee deems non-accidental

An automatic three match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in.

d. Kicking, hitting or striking of a match official by a player or team mentor or known partisan in a manner that the Referee deems non-accidental.

An automatic 48 weeks suspension from all Camogie membership and activity.

e. Striking a player with a hurley in a manner that the Referee deems non-accidental.

An automatic three match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in.

In the case of a. to e. above, all penalties will carry over from one season to the next until the ban is fully served.

In the case of an offence undertaken in games under Ard Chomhairle auspices, an automatic match ban refers to all official competitions (e.g. championships, league, other competitions) sanctioned by Ard Chomhairle as the Committee in Charge.

In the case of an offence undertaken in games under Provincial Council auspices, an automatic match ban refers to all official competitions (e.g. championships, league, other competitions) sanctioned by Provincial Council as the Committee in Charge.

In the case of an offence undertaken in games under County Board auspices, an automatic match ban refers to all official competitions (e.g. championships, league, other competitions) sanctioned by County Board as the Committee in Charge.

44.2. Player playing illegally (also see Rule 28.4 for breaches of underage eligibility)

44.2.1 A player adjudged guilty of the offence of knowingly playing illegally with a Club or team in any of the following circumstances will be suspended by the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee for a period of 3 months. An investigation must be undertaken to ascertain whether the player knowingly played illegally. The team with which the player played illegally must forfeit the match to its opponents.

44.2.2. The following penalties will be imposed by the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (THDC) on a Unit adjudged guilty of fielding an illegal or suspended player, players or team:

- The team must forfeit the match to its opponents and may be disqualified from the remainder of the competition in question;
- Team Officials responsible will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least three months;
- Unit Officers will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least three months.

44.2.3. Where a competition is confined to a specific underage group, the following penalties will be imposed by the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (THDC) on a Unit adjudged guilty of fielding an illegal player, players or team:

- The team must forfeit the match to its opponents and may be disqualified from the remainder of the competition in question;
- Team Officials responsible will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least six months;
- Unit Officers will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least six months.

44.3. Player leaving field without Referee's permission

44.3.1. A player who leaves the field before the end of a match without the Referee's permission will stand suspended until the decision of the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee is advised to her as per Rule 27.1. Subject to the decision of the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee, the player may be further suspended at their discretion.

44.3.2. A team which leaves the field before the end of a match without the Referee's permission, or which refuses to continue with the match, will stand suspended until the decision of the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee is advised to the team per Rule 27.1. Subject to the decision of the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee, further suspensions may be issued at their discretion.

45. Power to impose penalties when not stated

Where a definite penalty is not stated under the foregoing or any other Rules, the power to impose penalties is vested in the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committees.

NOTES


THE
CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION



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An Cumann Camógaíochta

info@camogie.ie

camogie.ie

twitter.com/officialcamogie

facebook.com/officialcamogieassociation

youtube.com/officialcamogie

instagram.com/officialcamogie

The Camogie Association, Croke Park, Jones Road, Dublin 3. T: 01 865 8651