

2022 Laois GAA Rules and Regulations:

The following Rules and Regulations were ratified by Laois County Committee on 24/01/22, in accordance with Rule 3.19, T.O. 2021:

a) Laois GAA Club's Catchment Area shall be defined as within the Parish and within the County boundary. (List of 24 Parishes based on the boundary of the Roman Catholic Parish - Clonaslee, Rosenallis, Mountmellick, Emo, Portarlinton, Stradbally, Portlaoise, Ballyfin, Camross, Castletown, Mountrath, Raheen, Abbeyleix, Ballinakill, Ballyadams, Barrowhouse / Athy, Arles, Doonane, Graiguecullen / Killeslin, Durrow, Aghaboe, Rathdowney, Borris in Ossory, Kyle / Roscrea).

b) Affiliations & Entry Fees: In accordance with Riail 3.2 (b), T.O. 2021 - A Club shall affiliate annually with the County Committee on a standard affiliation form, which shall include the names of the Club Executive Committee, the Club colours and alternative colours and shall confirm that it has adopted the appropriate form of the Official Club Constitution and Rules. The closing date for submission of such affiliation form shall be 14 January each year, and in accordance with Riail 3.2 (c), T.O. 2021 - Before a Club may take part in any competition, an affiliation fee of €20 shall be paid for the year to the County Committee. Entry fee for Championships shall be €20 for each adult team and €8 for each under-age team. The closing date for entry into championship and league competitions shall be 14 January each year.

c) In Football and Hurling, the team which win the Senior, Premier Intermediate, Intermediate, Junior, Junior "B" and Junior "C" Championship must play in the higher grade of respective Championship the following year. The exception being where the club has a team competing in the higher grade, whereby they must apply to CCC for regrading or at the discretion of the CCC. In the event of a team winning their respective Championship and who have a team already competing in the higher grade, promotion to the higher grade for the following year will be determined by means of a playoff between the team to be relegated from the higher grade and the team which was beaten in the final of that respective Championship;

d) In Hurling, Relegation will take place in Senior, Premier Intermediate, Intermediate, Junior and Junior "B" Championships with one team being relegated via the Relegation process as outlined in the agreed Championship format. The relegation process will proceed regardless of whether Clubs have teams in the lower grade or it being a Group or Divisional team

e) In Football, Relegation will take place in Senior, Intermediate and Junior Championships with one team being relegated via the Relegation process as outlined in the agreed Championship format. The relegation process will proceed regardless of whether Clubs have teams in the lower grade or it being a Group or Divisional team;

f) Group Senior or Intermediate team applications will only be considered provided they are in accordance with Rule 3.19 (m), TO 2021 and where the team is confined to within Catchment areas or historical Independent teams or where Clubs cannot justifiably field teams on their own. Group Senior or Intermediate team relegated in Senior or Intermediate Championships will not be allowed participate in that grade the following year.

g) In Hurling Leagues – where full division is played, the Top 4 Teams qualify for the Semi-finals (Top Team v Fourth Team & Second Team v Third Team, with first named Home Venue in Semi-final); where division is divided into two groups, Top 2 Teams in each group qualify for semi-finals (Top Team Group A v Second Team Group B and Top Team Group B v Second Team Group A, with first named Home Venue in Semi-final). In the event of a draw in Semi Finals and Final, “Winner on the Day regulations” to be applied. The team which wins the League Final is promoted, the team bottom of the League is relegated. In the event of the Club having a team already in that Division, where promotion is concerned the beaten finalist will be promoted, where relegation is concerned the team will still be relegated, with the team of that Club in the lower Division being automatically relegated to the next lower Division. (Note in the event of any Fixture Review Committee proposal for realignment of Leagues for following year – 2022 placings will determine any such realignment)

h) In Football Leagues - Division 1A, 1B & 2 will consist of Groups x 8 teams, whereby on conclusion of the seven Round Robin games, the Top 4 teams and Bottom 4 teams in each Division play an additional four team Round Robin competition, giving each team a further three games (Nb points accrued in initial round robin series will not be carried forward). The top 2 teams from the “Top 4” in each Division will then play the respective league finals and the bottom 2 teams in the “Bottom 4” will be relegated. The top 2 teams (league finalists) to be promoted to Division 1A and Bottom team to be relegated; In remaining Divisions, the Top 4 Teams qualify for the Semi-finals (Top Team v Fourth Team & Second Team v Third Team, with first named Home Venue in Semi-final); where division is divided into two groups, Top 2 Teams in each group qualify for semi-finals (Top Team Group A v Second Team Group B and Top Team Group B v Second Team Group A, with first named Home Venue in Semi-final). In the event of a draw in Semi Finals and Final, “Winner on the Day regulations” to be applied. In Division 3A, the two finalists are promoted and in all other lower Divisions, the team which wins the League Final is promoted and the team bottom of the League is relegated. In the event of the Club having a team already in that Division, where promotion is concerned the beaten finalist will be promoted, where relegation is concerned the team will still be relegated, with the team of that Club in the lower Division being automatically relegated to the next lower Division. (Note in the event of any Fixture Review Committee proposal for realignment of Leagues for following year – 2022 placings will determine any such realignment).

i) Ceding in Championships – In the event of a Draw in a Championship, where ceding applies, and if CCC deem necessary that the draw for the next round should proceed prior to replay, CCC shall treat the two teams involved in replay as same for ceding purposes (i.e. if Team “A” cannot play Team “B”, then the team meeting Team “A” in replay game, cannot play Team “B” either);

j) Home Clubs pitch unplayable – In all competitions played on a Home and Away basis, where the Home Clubs pitch is deemed unplayable either by the Referee or the Home Club, the re-fixture will be fixed for the opposing Clubs grounds.

k) 13-a-side with unlimited substitutions will be allowed in all Junior “B”, Junior “C” Competitions, ACFL Div. 3, 4 & 5 and ACHL Div. 3, 4 & 5. In the interests of sportsmanship where Clubs have sufficient players at these grades, it is recommended that 15-a-side be played. This is permissible once there has been agreement between both Clubs and the Referee has been notified.

l) All Under Age “B” or “C” Competitions (U13 to 20 Grades) are proposed to be 15 –a-side, should teams be unable to field 15-a-side, Clubs can agree on a number suitable for both teams (minimum of 13), but the Referee has final decision”.

m) Unlimited substitutions will be allowed in all Underage Competitions.

n) In the event of teams finishing on equal points in the League or League stages of Championship, the tie shall be decided as per Rule 6.21 (5) and 6.38, Official Guide 2021. In Under 16 grade or younger age grade competitions, where two teams only involved are tied on same points, the outcome of the meeting of the two teams in the previous game in the competition will determine the team that advances, in other circumstances a playoff as determined by CCC will be required.

o) In the event of a Draw, “Winner on the Day” Regulation to apply as per Rules of Specification 3.4 & 3.6, T.O. Part 2 2021, whereby Extra time shall consist of two periods of ten minutes each way and in Under 14 or younger grades shall consist of two periods of seven minutes each way), to apply in all “knockout” competition games, with the exception of Senior, Intermediate & Junior Football Championship and Finals and Senior, Premier Intermediate & Intermediate Hurling Championship and Final, which shall go to a Replay, and in the event of a Draw in the Replay, “Winner on the Day” Regulation shall apply.

p) Home and Away venue basis to be played in all Under 13, Under 14, Under 15, Minor “B” (Under 17) and Under 20 Championships (or at discretion of CCC) and Junior, Junior “B” and “C” Competitions, Football and Hurling, (First named team out at home) up until and including quarter final stage of Competition or Championship. The First named team has Home venue in all League Competitions. In the event of the Home Venue being deemed unsuitable by the Committee in Charge, the Home Club may be allowed by the Committee in Charge to nominate an alternative venue or will be decided by the Committee in Charge. The Home Club is responsible for payment of Referee expenses. Home Clubs are allowed charge a gate admittance fee to a maximum of €5, exception being Under 13 and 15 Competitions.

q) Team competing in Under 20 or Minor (Under 17) championship as part of an area team is discouraged from competing in respective “B” competition. Entry to Under 20 and Minor “B” competitions confined to weaker or rural Clubs and at discretion of C.C.C., who may in exceptional circumstances allow amalgamations in respective “B” competitions.

- r) CCC reserve the right to fix any Championship or Competition games under Floodlights, regardless of any earlier Home or Away arrangements in place.
- s) All County Football & Hurling Leagues to be played and concluded without County players if they are in training or playing with the County. CCC in agreement with County Managers to designate a number of rounds in respective Leagues whereby County players will be available to Club. Clubs who play their County players in these competitions, including Leinster Hurling League, without the consent of respective Team Managements shall be liable to a sanction being imposed for deduction of points where appropriate.
- t) The penalties for a Club /Unit failing to fulfil a Championship game, including "League Stage" of Championship and All County Hurling and Football Leagues (including Minor) will be determined as per Rule 6.21, 6.24 and 6.38, Official Guide 2021. In Championship and "League Stage" of Championship, the penalty for a first unfulfilled fixture shall be award of game to opposing team and a minimum fine of €500; in All County Hurling and Football Leagues, for a second unfulfilled fixture shall be award of game to opposing team, disqualification from the League, a minimum fine of €100 and automatic relegation to lower League Division for the following year (final penalty will be determined and at the discretion of the CCC).
- u) In an instance whereby a Club wishes to or withdraws a team from a League Competition or Championship, after the Draw for this League Competition (as approved by County Committee) or Championship has been made, it shall apply to the lowest ranked team from that club. In effect a Club withdrawing a team from either League or Championship, it shall be the lowest ranked team from that club will be eliminated. Forfeiture penalty shall be a minimum fine of €500.
- v) Requests for postponements will only be entertained in the event of a death in a player's or official's immediate family or at the discretion of the CCC and only whereby the re-fixture will be played within three days of the postponed fixture or prior to the next game in that competition. All such requests must be communicated through the CCC Secretary;
- w) In the event of a postponement being agreed by the two Clubs and with the permission of the CCC, the re-fixture must take place by agreement with the two Clubs within three days of the postponement or prior to the next game in that competition. Failure to do this will result in forfeiture of points for the two teams.
- x) In the event of a clash of colours both teams must change jerseys for championship games, for league games home team must change.

y) Games will not be changed after 10.30am on a Monday, prior to the Fixture.

z) Referees remuneration of €50 expenses per game is the responsibility of the Home Club for League, Championship and Competition games (including Minor & U20) played on Home and Away basis. In all Juvenile Competitions (U15 grade down), the two Clubs involved are equally responsible for remuneration of €40 Referee expenses (i.e. €20 from each Club). In the event of the opposing Club failing to turn up and where the Referee has not been notified, the Home Club will be responsible for reimbursing the Referee his expenses in full. Where a Gate Collection has been organised by the Committee in Charge, the Host Club is responsible for payment of Referee expenses. Payment must be paid to Referee by Club prior to game.

aa) League games – Host club and Travelling Club, each to be responsible for providing two umpires and one linesman in the event of the referee having none.

bb) Videoing / Streaming Games – Permission must be sought in writing from Laois CCC Secretary for the videoing / streaming of all games under the jurisdiction of Laois GAA. Such application shall include the name of the person videoing the game. An unedited copy of dvd of the game shall be made available to the Laois CCC Secretary, on request, within 12 hours of the game. Only unedited video evidence supplied of the full game on dvd and submitted 24 hours prior to the meeting for all or any Hearing application requests wishing to use video as evidence will be accepted and provided permission has been sanctioned by Laois CCC (through its Secretary) for videoing of game. Fine €500 may be imposed for failing to submit dvd of game on request or unauthorised videoing / steaming of games.

cc) Underage Football Competitions up to and including Under 15 grade, when a player is in possession of the ball, he shall be only permitted a maximum of two plays (i.e. One Hop / One Solo or Two Solos). Penalty - Free Kick (indirect) from where the foul occurred.

dd) Under 13 Competition Regulations – Juvenile Goals to be used from 13metre line to opposite 13 metre line, full width. 25 Minutes a side. Size 4 Football and Sliothar to be used. Unlimited substitutions. No Square Ball or Penalties. In Under 13 Football Competitions, all kick-outs from the Hand and Sin Bin Rule does not apply.