

# Coiste Chontae na Gaillimhe 2026 BYE-LAWS

(Approved by Coiste Bainistíochta, 23 Eanáir 2026)

To be Read in Conjunction with the GAA Official Guide and the Official Codes 2025

## 1. COUNTY COMMITTEE

1.1 The County Committee shall be the governing and controlling body of all the affairs of the Association in the County of Galway, excepting those functions reserved to Provincial Council and Central Council under the Official Guide. It shall consist of the following Officers/Representatives:

1.1.1. Elected by County Convention in accordance with Rule 3.9 (a) T.O.

- Chairperson
- Vice-Chairperson
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Coaching Officer
- Officer for the Irish Language and Culture
- Communications Officer

1.1.2. Appointed by County Convention in accordance with Rule 3.9 (a) T.O.

- Planning and Training Officer
- Demographics Officer
- Health & Well Being Officer
- Children's Officer

1.1.3. Elected by County Convention in accordance with Rule 3.9 (d) T.O.

- Two Representatives on Provincial Council.
- One Representative on Central Council

1.1.4. Representatives of Clubs and Committees

- One named Representative of each separately affiliated Club.
- The Chairperson and Secretary of the Hurling Sub-Committee.
- The Chairperson and Secretary of the Football Sub-Committee.
- The Chairpersons of Coiste Peil na nÓg and Coiste Iomána na nÓg.
- The Chairperson of Health & Wellbeing & Games for All.
- One named Representative of the County Handball Sub-Committee.
- One named Representative of the Primary Schools Sub-Committee.
- One named Representative of the Post Primary Schools Sub-Committee.
- One named Representative of the Rounders' Association.
- Referee's Administrator.
- County IT Officer.
- Safety and Facilities Officer

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- Digital Communications Lead
- Two members of the Association nominated by the Chairperson and Secretary and approved by the County Committee.

1.1.5. A County Secretary employed by Galway County Committee or designated alternative.

1.2 All Members shall have voting rights, with the exception of a County Secretary employed by Galway County Committee.

1.3 The Quorum for Meetings shall be twenty-five (25) Members, entitled to attend.

1.4 The County Treasurer is subject to a maximum period of office of seven years (7).

1.5 The position of County Children's Officer is not subject to a maximum number of years in office and the provision of Rule 3.9 (b) T.O. does not apply.

### 2. SUB-COMMITTEES (3.18 T.O. 2025)

In accordance with Rule 3.18 T.O. of the Official Guide the County Committee, at its first Meeting after the Annual County Convention, shall appoint the following Sub-Committees, whose powers, functions and duties, shall be as set out in Rule 3.18 T.O. and in these Bye Laws.

All members of Sub Committees shall be named

Where a quorum for meetings is not stated in these Bye-Laws, Rule 4.2 T.O. shall apply.

- Management Committee
- Competitions Control Committee
- Fixture Analysts
- Hearings Committee
- Safety and Facilities Committee
- Planning and Training Committee
- Referees Administration Committee
- Coaching and Games Development Committee
- Cultural Committee
- Communications/Marketing Committee
- Youth Committee
- Finance sub-Committee
- Information Technology Committee
- County Team Management & Panels Committee
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Demographics Committee
- Health & Wellbeing Committee

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## 2.1. Management Committee

The County Management Committee shall consist of the following Members:

- The County Chairperson
- The County Vice-Chairperson
- The County Secretary or designated appointee as per Bye Law 1.2 above.
- The County Assistant Secretary
- The County Treasurer
- The County Assistant Treasurer
- The County Coaching Officer
- The County Irish Language and Cultural Officer
- The County Communications Officer
- The County Central Council Representative
- The County's Provincial Council Representatives (2) as per Bye Law 1.1.3.
- The County Planning and Training Officer
- The County Children's Officer
- Chairperson and Secretary of the Football Sub-Committee, appointed by the County Committee.
- Chairperson and Secretary of the Hurling Sub-Committee, appointed by the County Committee.
- The County IT Officer.
- Two members to be elected annually, from the current County Committee/ Club Delegates at the first meeting of the new County Committee. A member who has served two years in this position shall be ineligible to hold this position for the ensuing five years.

A recommendation of the County Management Committee on a matter of Finance may not be upset, save by two-thirds majority of Members of the County Committee present, entitled to vote and voting.

## 2.2. Competitions Control Committee (CCC)

2.2.1. The County Competitions Control Committee shall consist of the following members:

- The Chairperson (County Chairperson)
- The Secretary (County Secretary)
- Assistant County Secretary.
- The County Treasurer
- The Chairperson, Secretary and Fixture Analyst of the Football Sub-Committee
- The Chairperson, Secretary and Fixture Analyst of the Hurling Sub-Committee

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- The Chairperson and Secretary of Coiste Peil na nÓg, appointed by the County Committee
- The Chairperson and Secretary of Coiste Iomána na nÓg, appointed by the County Committee
- The Chairperson or Secretary of the Post-Primary Schools as nominated by the Post-Primary Schools Sub-Committee
- The County Referees Administrator, who shall be entitled to vote on the Appointment of Referees only

Note: **Fixtures Analysts:** In accordance with Rule 3.18 T.O. the County Management Committee shall nominate two County Fixture Analysts (one for Football and one for Hurling) for appointment by County Committee.

2.2.2. The CCC may appoint sub-Groups from within its Membership to carry out some of its functions, from time to time.

### 2.3. **Plenary Powers**

2.3.1 The following plenary powers and functions have been specifically delegated to the Galway Competitions Control Committee CCC as per Rules 3.17 & 3.18 T.O.:

- a) Competition scheduling and arrangements for and control of all games under the jurisdiction of Galway GAA.
- b) The appointments of referees and all match officials for all games under the jurisdiction of Galway GAA
- c) The CCC shall process and make decisions on all applications to avail of a provision of Rule 6.7, Exception (1) (a) or (b) and Rule 3.17 (o) T.O. 2025.
- d) To allow players of Junior and Intermediate Clubs, including players of Clubs that are unable to field Junior and/or Intermediate Teams, to play for Divisional or Group Senior Teams. Arrangements shall be subject to annual review by the Competitions Control Committee. Players by so playing in these Divisional or Group teams shall not lose their Championship status.
- e) To allow players of Junior Clubs, and the players of Intermediate Clubs that are unable to field in that grade, to play for Group Intermediate Teams. Arrangements shall be subject to annual review by the Competitions Control Committee. Players by so playing in these Divisional or Group teams shall not lose their Championship status.

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### 2.4. Hearings Committee

2.4.1. The County Hearings Committee shall consist of a minimum of five members, Chairperson, Secretary and three others in compliance with 3.18 (iv) T.O. A quorum of three shall apply.

2.4.2. In addition to its functions as outlined in Rule 3.18 (iv) T.O. it shall adjudicate on Appeals that may arise from decisions of the Competitions Control Committee, on Applications for Permission to Play, in compliance with Rule 6.7, T.O.

2.5. **Safety and Facilities Committee...** shall have six members including County Safety and Facilities Officer who shall be Chairperson, a Qualified Event Controller. The remaining members, nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee, should be suitably qualified in areas relevant to the terms of reference of the Committee as outlined in Rule 3.18 T.O.

2.6. **Planning and Training Committee** shall consist of five members, the Chairperson of which shall be the County Planning and Training Officer. All members shall, upon appointment, complete the necessary training as prescribed by Central Council, the relevant Provincial Council or any of their sub-committees.

2.7. **Referees' Administration Committee:** It shall consist of ten Members to be appointed by the County Committee and shall include the County Referees' Administrator, who shall be the Committee Chairperson and County Referees' Tutors (2).

Each of the following Sub-Committees shall nominate a Representative for appointment by the County Committee, as Members of the County Referees Administration Committee:

Football, Hurling, Coiste Peil na nÓg, Coiste Iomána na nÓg, Primary Schools (Cumann na mBunscol), Post Primary Schools.

The Committee shall appoint one of its Members to act as the Committee Secretary.

2.8. **Coaching and Games Development Committee:** It shall consist of the County Coaching Officer, who shall be Chairperson; the County Games Manager, who shall be Secretary, the Finance Operations manager, and one representative each from the Football Committee, Hurling Committee, Coiste Iomána na nÓg, Coiste Peil na nÓg with a maximum of 6 more members appointed by county committee.

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- 2.9. **Cultural Committee:** It shall consist of the County Officer for the Irish Language and Culture, who shall be the Chairperson and five (5) other Members, appointed by the County Committee. The Committee shall appoint one of its Members to act as the Committee Secretary.
- 2.10. **Communications/Marketing Committee:** It shall consist of the County Communications Officer, who shall be the Chairperson, the Football and Hurling Communication Officers, the Coiste Peil na nÓg and Coiste Iomána na nÓg Communication Officers and one (1) other Member who shall be appointed by the County Committee. The Committee shall appoint one of its Members to act as the Committee Secretary.
- 2.11. **Youth Committee:** It shall consist of the County Children's Officer, who shall be the Chairperson, the Chairpersons of Coiste Peil na nÓg and Coiste Iomána na nÓg, the County Games Manager and one (1) other member who shall be appointed by the County Committee. The Committee shall appoint one of its Members to act as the Committee Secretary.
- 2.12. **Finance Sub-Committee:** It shall consist of the Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant---Treasurer of the County Committee, a Representative of the Football Sub---Committee and the Hurling Sub-Committee, along with three other suitable personnel, appointed by the County Committee.
- 2.13. **Information Technology Committee:**  
It shall consist of the County IT Officer, who shall be the Chairperson, and at least four other members, all of whom shall be appointed by the County Committee. The Committee shall appoint one of its Members to act as the Committee Secretary.
- 2.14. **County Teams Management & Panels Committees:** It shall consist of the County Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, the County Team Managers (Football and Hurling), four Player Representatives (2 Senior Football and 2 Senior Hurling) plus two Team Liaison Officers appointed by the County Management Committee. (Football and Hurling).

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

2.16. **Demographics Committee**

It shall be responsible for monitoring the impact of population changes and advising the County on the formation of policies to deal with those changes. It shall liaise with the relevant committees within the Association and with relevant bodies outside the Association in carrying out its functions. It shall consist of at least five members to include the Demographics Officer, who shall act as Chairperson. All other members shall be suitably qualified in areas relevant to the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

2.17. **Health & Wellbeing Sub-Committee:** It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, the County Children's Officer, the County Health and Wellbeing Officer, the County Coaching Officer, and two Counsellors all of whom shall be appointed by the County Committee. The Committee shall appoint one of its Members to act as the Committee Secretary.

3. **OTHER SUB-COMMITTEES appointed in accordance with Rule 3.17 (m) T.O.**

- Football
- Hurling
- Coiste Peil na nÓg
- Coiste Iomána na nÓg
- Post-Primary
- County Inclusion and Integration Committee
- County GAA Supporters Committee
- County Grounds Committees (5)

3.1. **Football Sub-Committee**

3.1.1 The Football Committee shall consist of the following Members, appointed by the County Committee:

- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary

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- Assistant Secretary
  - Communications Officer
  - Chairperson of Coiste Peil na nÓg
  - One Connacht Council Delegate (elected at Convention)
  - One named Representative from each separately affiliated Football and Dual Clubs
- 3.1.2 The County Management Committee shall nominate - for appointment by the County Committee - the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Communications Officer. The Football Sub-Committee shall be entitled to make recommendations for these positions to the County Management Committee which shall not be binding on either the Management or County Committees.
- 3.1.3 The primary role and function of the Football Sub-Committee is the development and promotion of Gaelic Football countywide and to increase participation in the game throughout the County. It shall be responsible for making match day arrangements for inter-Club Competitions and to organise gate collections, under the direction and control of the County Treasurer.
- 3.1.4 It may appoint Regional and other Workgroups to carry out its designated functions, along with any functions assigned to it by the County Committee.
- 3.1.5 It may make proposals to the CCC and/or the County Coaching & Games Development Committee on the format and structures of Football in the County.
- 3.1.6 It shall hold an end of year review Meeting and submit a report on its activities for the Annual County Convention.
- 3.1.7 It shall nominate one of its Members for consideration by the County Committee for appointment to the Finance Sub-Committee.
- 3.2. Hurling Sub-Committee**
- 3.2.1 The Hurling Sub-Committee shall consist of the following Members, appointed by the County Committee:
- Chairperson
  - Vice Chairperson
  - Secretary
  - Assistant Secretary.
  - Communications Officer
  - Chairperson of Coiste Iomána na nÓg
  - One Connacht Council Delegate (elected at Convention)
  - One named Representative from each separately affiliated Hurling and Dual Clubs
- 3.2.2 The County Management Committee shall nominate- for appointment by the County Committee - the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant

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Secretary and Communications Officer. The Hurling Sub-Committee shall be entitled to make recommendations for these positions to the County Management Committee, which shall not be binding on either the Management or County Committees.

- 3.2.3 The primary role and function of the Hurling Sub-Committee is the development and promotion of hurling countywide and to increase participation in the game throughout the County. It shall be responsible for making match day arrangements for inter- Club Competitions and to organise gate collections under the direction of the County Committee.
- 3.2.4 It may appoint Regional and other Workgroups to carry out its functions, along with and any functions assigned to it by the County Committee.
- 3.2.5. It may make proposals to the CCC and/or the County Coaching & Games Development Committee on the format and structures of Hurling in the County.
- 3.2.6 It shall hold an end of year review Meeting and submit a report on its activities for the Annual County Convention.
- 3.2.7 It shall nominate one of its Members for consideration by the County Committee for appointment to the Finance Sub-Committee.

### **3.3. Coiste Peil na Óg**

- 3.3.1 Coiste Peil na nÓg shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary, Communications Officer, the County Games Manager and nine other Members, all of whom shall be appointed by the County Committee.
- 3.3.2. The County Management Committee shall nominate - for appointment by the County Committee - the Chairperson, Secretary, Juvenile PRO and all other Members. Coiste Peil na nÓg shall be entitled to make recommendations for these positions to the County Management Committee, which shall not be binding on either the Management or County Committees.
- 3.3.3 Coiste Peil na nÓg shall meet as often as required.
- 3.3.4 The functions, authority and responsibilities of Coiste Peil na nÓg shall be to:
  - (i) Promote and develop the game of Football in the County at Juvenile level.
  - (ii) Organise all Club Football Competitions in all Age Groups, up to and including Under-16 level, which shall be fixed by the Competitions Control Committee.
  - (iii) Furnish written and oral Reports on its activities at the Meetings of the Football Sub-Committee and present quarterly Reports to the County Committee, as requested.

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- (iv) Organise gate collections under the direction and supervision of the County Treasurer.
- 3.3.5. It shall hold an end of year review Meeting, which shall consist of the Members plus one Representative from each separately affiliated Football or Dual Club, participating in Competitions, organised by Coiste Peil na nÓg and shall submit a report on its activities, for the Annual County Convention.
- 3.3.6. It shall nominate one of its Members to the Youth Committee for appointment by the County Committee.
- 3.4. Coiste Iomána na nÓg**
- 3.4.1 Coiste Iomána na nÓg shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary, Communications Officer, County Games Manager or Director of Hurling Coaching and nine other Members, all of whom shall be appointed by the County Committee.
- 3.4.2. The County Management Committee shall nominate - for appointment by the County Committee - the Chairperson, Secretary, Communications Officer and all other Members. Coiste Iomána na nÓg shall be entitled to make recommendations for these positions to the County Management Committee, which shall not be binding on either the Management or County Committees.
- 3.4.3 Coiste Iomána na nÓg shall meet as often as required.
- 3.4.4 The functions, authority and responsibilities of Coiste Iomána na nÓg shall be to:
- (i) Promote and develop the game of Hurling in the County at Juvenile level.
  - (ii) Organise all Club Hurling Competitions in all Age Groups, up to and including Under-16 level, which shall be fixed by the Competitions Control Committee.
  - (iii) Furnish written and oral Reports on its activities at the Meetings of the Hurling Sub-Committee and present quarterly Reports to the County Committee, as requested.
  - (iv) Organise gate collections under the direction and supervision of the County Treasurer.
- 3.4.5 It shall hold an end of year review Meeting, which shall consist of the Members plus one Representative from each separately affiliated Hurling or Dual Club, participating in Competitions, organised by Coiste Iomána na nÓg and shall submit a report on its activities for the Annual County Convention.
- 3.4.6 It shall nominate one of its Members for consideration by the County Committee for appointment to the Youth Committee.

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### **3.5. Post Primary Schools Sub-Committee.**

3.5.1. It shall consist of eleven Members, all appointed by the County Committee. The Committee shall appoint one of its Members to act as the Committee Secretary. The Chairperson of this Committee shall be nominated by the County Committee and shall be a Member of the County Committee. The functions, authority and responsibilities of the Post Primary Schools Committee shall, subject to the control of the County Committee, be:

- (i) The promotion and development of Gaelic Games in all Post-Primary Schools in the County.
- (ii) To encourage as wide a participation in Gaelic games as is feasible, in line with National Policy and Structures. It may also allow access to some Second--Level Schools outside of the County, for some of its Competitions.
- (iii) To organise, all Post Primary School Competitions and Games in the County, under the jurisdiction of both the Provincial and County Competitions Control Committees.
- (iv) To forward motions to the Provincial School's Committee for consideration.

3.5.2 All Disciplinary Matters arising from Post Primary School Competitions and Games shall be processed by the relevant County or Provincial Competitions Control Committee.

### **3.6. County Inclusion and Integration Sub-Committee.**

It shall consist of twelve (12) Members including a Chairperson, Secretary, one Provincial Council Representative and one Representative from each of the GAA family of Games, including Scór and shall promote the County Committee's relationship with other Gaelic Games and the wider community also.

### **3.7. County GAA Supporters Club (Tribesmen GAA)**

It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Assistant Secretary, all appointed by the County Committee. It shall also consist of the County Committee Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and the County Public Relations Officer.

This Committee which shall govern the activities of the Supporters Clubs shall also include Five (5) other Members, appointed by the County Committee.

The County GAA Supporters Committee shall, under the jurisdiction and control of the County Treasurer, identify, coordinate and organise fundraising initiatives,

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to attract financial support from outside the GAA Community, to specifically fund the preparation of all Inter-County Teams, both our Flagship Senior Teams and all County underage Teams and Development Squads.

### **3.8. County Grounds Sub-Committees:**

#### **3.8.1 Pearse Stadium Committee, Salthill**

It shall consist of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson appointed by the County Committee, the County Safety Officer, Safety and Facilities Officer, the Pearse Stadium Events Controller and Assistant Events Controller, the Chief Steward, the Grounds Manager, the Central Council Representative, the two Connacht Council Representatives, the County Treasurer, who shall be Treasurer of the Committee, the Assistant County Secretary or designate who shall be Secretary, the County Committee Chairperson, Assistant Treasurer and Five (5) other Members all of whom shall be appointed by the County Committee.

The Pearse Stadium Committee shall have responsibility for identifying and prioritising ongoing maintenance and new development works to be carried out at the venue, to ensure that all Health and Safety requirements are complied with, that the venue provides the best facilities for all Players and Officials and that the safety and comfort of Patrons and Supporters is paramount.

#### **3.8.2. Duggan Park Committee, Ballinasloe**

It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary, all appointed by the County Committee. It shall also consist of the County Safety Officer, Safety and Facilities Officer the Duggan Park Events Controller and Assistant Events Controller, a Chief Steward and the Grounds Officer, along with the Treasurer of the County Committee, the Assistant Treasurer of the County Committee, the Central Council Representative, one Provincial Council Representative, the County Committee Chairperson and seven other Members appointed by the County Committee.

The Duggan Park Committee shall have responsibility for identifying and prioritising ongoing maintenance and new development works to be carried out at the venue to ensure that all Health and Safety requirements are complied with, that the venue provides the best facilities for all Players and Officials and that the safety and comfort of Patrons and Supporters is paramount.

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### **3.8.3. Kenny Park Committee, Athenry**

It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary, all appointed by the County Committee. It shall also consist of the County Safety Officer, Safety and Facilities Officer the Kenny Park Events Controller, a Chief Steward and the Grounds Officer, along with the Treasurer of the County Committee, Assistant Treasurer of the County Committee, the Central Council Representative, one Provincial Council Representative, the County Committee Chairperson and seven other Members appointed by the County Committee.

The Kenny Park Committee shall have responsibility for identifying and prioritising ongoing maintenance and new development works to be carried out at the venue to ensure that all Health and Safety requirements are complied with, that the venue provides the best facilities for all Players and Officials and that the safety and comfort of Patrons and Supporters is paramount.

### **3.8.4. St. Jarlath's Stadium Committee, Tuam**

It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary, all appointed by the County Committee. It shall also consist of the County Safety Officer, Safety and Facilities Officer the Tuam Stadium Events Controller, a Chief Steward and the Grounds Officer, along with the Treasurer of the County Committee, the Assistant Treasurer of the County Committee, the Central Council Representative, one Provincial Council Representative, the County Committee Chairperson and seven other Members appointed by the County Committee.

The Tuam Stadium Committee shall have responsibility for identifying and prioritising ongoing maintenance and new development works to be carried out at the venue to ensure that all Health and Safety requirements are complied with, that the venue provides the best facilities for all Players and Officials and that the safety and comfort of Patrons and Supporters is paramount.

### **3.8.5. Lár Ionad CLG na Gaillimhe Loughgeorge**

The Management Committee of Lár Ionad CLG na Gaillimhe shall consist of the County Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety and Facilities Officer, the Chairperson of the Football Sub-Committee and the Chairperson of the Hurling sub-Committee. This Committee shall control and determine all matters relating to the day to day running and operation of the all the facilities of Lár Ionad CLG na Gaillimhe, including maintenance and upkeep of the facility.

3.8.6. The Trustees of each County Ground shall be notified of all Committee Meetings in relation to the grounds, of which they are Trustees.

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4. The County Committee Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer shall be notified of and entitled to attend all meetings of all Committees and Sub-Committees, as ex-officio Members, with the exception of the County Hearings Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee

### 5. **PERMANENT RESIDENCE**

- 5.1. For the purposes of these Bye-Laws a place of permanent residence of a member shall be defined as the domestic property where (by reference to actual overnight presence, his own or his family's ownership of, or tenancy in, the property, his place of non-temporary employment, and such other factors as may be considered appropriate) the Committee assessing the question considers his permanent residence to have been for at least the previous twelve consecutive weeks and is likely to remain so for at least the ensuing 12 months.

- 5.2. In considering the authenticity of the identity of a claim to permanent residence in a specific area the Committee may require the submission by the member of documentary proof of such permanent residence in the form of the following.

- (i). A signed letter by An Garda Síochána stating the applicants permanent address

or

- (ii). A signed letter by a Peace Commissioner or commissioner of oaths (non-practicing Solicitor) stating the applicant's permanent address

- (iii). And if still at either primary or secondary school a signed letter from the School Principal stating the applicants permanent address from their records.

These letters from An Garda Síochána, Peace Commissioners, Commissioner of Oaths or School Principals must specifically state their belief that the address quoted is the one "at which the person has been resident for at least the previous month and likely for at least the ensuing year"

Any data contained in the documents considered to be of a personal nature by the member may be redacted without interfering with the evidence supporting the claim

- 5.3. Residence for the purposes of attending a Primary or Post Primary School or a Higher Education College shall not qualify as a permanent residence, for the purposes of these Bye-Laws.

- 5.4. For the purposes of these bye laws the permanent residence of a Child or Youth Member shall be the permanent residence/s of either of his parents.

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### **6. OTHER RELEVANT CONNECTIONS**

For the purposes of these Bye-Laws, a member shall be considered to have a relevant connection with a particular Club if:

- (i) The Members parents were, at the time of the member's birth, permanently resident in the present Catchment Area of that Club
- (ii) In the case of a player whose parents were resident in Co. Dublin at the time of his birth, that Club was the First Club of either of his parents

### **7. ATTACHMENT TO FIRST CLUB**

7.1. A person seeking to become a member of the Association shall be restricted to joining:

- (i) A Club in the Catchment Area of his Permanent Residence.
- (ii) A Club with which the member has other relevant connections as defined in Bye-Law No. 6.

7.2. Further to 7.1, if no such Club exists, a Player may with the permission of the Competitions Control Committee, play with the nearest appropriate Club to his place of permanent residence, or in exceptional circumstances, as directed by the County Committee.

7.3. Where a club has combined with another club or clubs to form an independent team, players from the clubs involved may play only with the independent team at that age grade and code.

7.4. A Player whose First Club is exclusively either a Football or Hurling Club may play only for a club of the other code, within whose catchment they reside. There is no requirement in such an instance to seek a permission to play. Examples of such clubs include Abbeyknockmoy and Monivea Abbeyknockmoy, Tuam Stars and Tuam Hurling, and Bearna na Forbacha and Bearna. Where a player resides within an area which is not within the catchment of a club of the other code, they may avail of a provision of Rule 6.7, Exception (1) (a) or (b), T.O.

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### 8. TRANSFERS

- 8.1 (a) The closing date for receipt of Applications for a Transfer, at all ages and levels shall be 5pm on the first Friday of March, each year.

Exceptions:

- (i) Where a Player changes permanent residence from the catchment area of one Club to that of another, an Application for Transfer may be submitted to the County Committee for consideration, without reference to the opening and closing dates stated above.
- (ii) Inter-County transfers may transfer into the County at any time subject to the jurisdiction of the Central Competitions Control Committee.

- 8.1 (b). Only one application for an internal transfer may be made by a member in a calendar year

- 8.2. All Applications for Transfer shall be processed in accordance with Rule 6.4, T.O.2025 and these Bye-Laws.
- 8.3. Transfer Applications shall be submitted and accepted only on the official forms, as currently approved by the Competitions Control Committee. The Application shall be completed in the prescribed manner as indicated on the form and submitted directly to the Secretary of the County Committee.
- 8.4. In the case of underage Players (up to and including under-18 grade) an Application for Transfer shall be accompanied by an Authorisation, signed by the Player's Parent(s) or Guardian(s).
- 8.5. The Club of the Member seeking a Transfer shall be notified and its observations shall be considered if received within seven (7) days of notification. A Club failing to so reply in writing, within seven (7) days will be deemed to have consented to the relevant Application.
- 8.6. Unless exempted by the County Committee, a child or youth member living within the Galway City Catchment area shall continue as a Member of his first Club in the Galway City Catchment Area, until he becomes an adult member
- Exception** – A Child or youth member who has changed permanent address may apply for a transfer in accordance with the Official Guide and these Bye Laws.
- The Galway City catchment area is defined as the Galway City Council boundaries which applied on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and are detailed on the map contained in appendix 1 of these byelaws.
- 8.7. The County Competitions Control Committee (CCC), when adjudicating and making its decision on a Transfer Application shall, in addition to the requirements of Rule 6.4, T.O:

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- (i) Be cognisant of the role played by his current Club, in nurturing and developing the individual Player.
- (ii) Be cognisant of the Association's Ethos as recited in Rule 6.1, T.O.
- (iii) Be cognisant of the potential impact of a decision to grant the Application on his current Club.
- (iv) Be cognisant of any observations and submissions put forward by the member, in support or against his application.
- (v) A player may only be granted a transfer if he permanently resides. within the catchment of the club to which he is seeking a transfer.

### **9. PERMISSION TO PLAY**

- 9.1. The County Committee shall delegate consideration of "Permission to Play" Applications to the Competitions Control Committee (CCC).
- 9.2. The closing date for receipt of Applications for "Permission to Play", at all ages and levels shall be 5.00pm on the first Friday of March, each year.  
  
Exception: Where a Player changes permanent residence from the catchment area of one Club to that of another, an application for "Permission to Play" may be submitted to the County Committee for consideration, without reference to the opening and closing dates stated above.
- 9.3. Applications shall be submitted and accepted only on the official form, as currently approved Competitions Control Committee. The Application shall be completed in the prescribed manner as indicated on the form and submitted directly to the Secretary of the County Committee.
- 9.4. In the case of underage Players (up to and including under-18 grade) an Application for "Permission to Play" shall be accompanied by an Authorisation, signed by the Player's Parent(s) or Guardian(s).
- 9.5. The Club of the Member seeking "Permission to Play" shall be notified and its observations shall be considered if received within seven (7) days of notification. A Club failing to so reply in writing, within seven (7) days shall be deemed to have consented to the relevant Application.
- 9.6. The County Competitions Control Committee (CCC), when adjudicating and reaching its determination on a "Permission to Play" Application shall give consideration to the response of his current Club and shall make its decision in accordance with Rule and these Bye---Laws.
- 9.7. If requested by any party involved, the CCC shall give the Applicant and the Clubs concerned the opportunity of attending a convened hearing, to outline their respective positions on the Application.

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- 9.8. An appeal against a decision on a “Permission to Play” may be made in writing by an aggrieved party to the County Hearings Committee. It shall be made within three days (72 hours) of the receipt of notification of the decision and shall be signed by the appellant Player or in the case of a Club, by its Secretary. Other formalities regarding submission of Appeal (e.g. provision of duplicate copy, fee,) outlined in Rule 7.5 (f) to (i), T.O 2023 are not applicable in this case
- 9.9. A “Permission to Play” sanction becomes effective on the expiry of the period allowed for an Appeal against the decision on the Application, or if an Appeal is submitted, on the making of a decision on the Appeal.

### 10. ELIGIBILITY FOR PERMISSION TO PLAY

- 10.1. A player who received permission to play with another Club must give first allegiance to his home club in the event of a clash of fixtures.
- 10.2. Further to Rule 6.7 T.O. a Player from an exclusive Football Club may be granted Permission to play Hurling with a Dual Club and a Player from an exclusive Hurling Club may be granted permission to play Football with a Dual club.

### 11. GRADING OF CLUBS AND PLAYERS

- 11.1 Further to Code 10.8, all Applications for Player Re-Grades shall be lodged with the County Secretary on the prescribed form, on or before 1st March each year, or at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the relevant Competitions, whichever is earliest.
- 11.2 The Competitions Control Committee (CCC) may at its discretion extend this date referred to in 11.1 where it considers that the circumstances warrant an extension
- 11.3 **Regrading Process for football**
- (i) Senior Football
    - (a) All clubs with senior teams shall provide a full list of players who played in the previous year’s senior Football championship. This list shall be provided by the date notified by the CCC.
    - (b) That list shall clearly indicate the 18 players who are to be graded as senior. These players are ineligible to play at a lower grade.
    - (c) All other players on the list are only eligible to play for the next highest graded team in the club.
  - (ii) Intermediate Football
    - (a) All clubs with Intermediate teams shall provide a full list of players who played in the previous year’s Intermediate Football

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championship. This list shall be provided by the date notified by the CCC.

- (b) That list shall clearly indicate the 18 players who are to be graded as Intermediate. These players are ineligible to play at a lower grade.
- (c) All other players on the list are only eligible to play for the next highest graded team in the club.

### (iii) Junior Football

- (a) Clubs shall provide a full list of players who played in the previous year's Junior Football championship. Where a club has had more than one junior team a separate list shall be provided for each team. This list shall be provided by the date notified by the CCC. Exception: Where a club has only entered one team in junior championships in the current year
- (b) Each list shall clearly indicate the 15 players who are to be graded at that level of junior. All other players on a list are only eligible to play for the next highest graded team in the club.

## 11.4 Regrading Process for Hurling

### (i) Highest graded team of club or independent team.

- (a) All clubs shall provide a full list of players who played in the previous year's Hurling championship for their highest graded team. This list shall be provided by the date notified by the CCC.
- (b) That list shall clearly indicate the 15 players who are to be graded at the highest level for the club. These players are ineligible to play at a lower grade.
- (c) All other players on the list are only eligible to play for the next highest graded team in the club.

### (ii) All other adult teams excluding the highest graded team

- a. Each separately Affiliated Club or independent team shall be allowed to apply for the re-grading of up to six (6) players maximum, per affiliated Championship Level team, in any year. The applications shall be made in compliance with Bye Law 11.1

## 11.5 New Junior Team

When a Club affiliates a Junior E or Junior F team for the first time or after a lapse of five (5) years, it may seek the permission of the Competitions

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Control Committee (CCC) to regrade more than six (6) players. The applications shall be made in compliance with Bye Law 11.1

- 11.6 Players are graded by the highest grade of Championship in which they play in any given year and cannot play in a lower graded Championship subsequently unless they are regraded. A year or more out of competition does not automatically regrade a player. A player who has not played Championship for one or more years and wishes to resume playing at a level lower than that of their last Championship game must apply individually by exception to the Competitions Control Committee to be regraded to the next lower club level.
- 11.7 Any player who has changed club by transfer this year is graded at the level of their last Championship game with their previous Club. If they wish to play at a lower level, they must apply individually by exception to the Competitions Control Committee to be regraded to the next lower Club level.
- 11.8 County Intermediate and all junior Championships level winners shall move into the next applicable higher Championship Level for the following year, unless the Club concerned already has a team in that Championship Level, or in exceptional circumstances the County Committee on Application from the Club, allows the winning Team to remain in the same Grade, as a special concession.

### **12. AFFILIATIONS**

Before a Club may take part in any competition, an Affiliation Fee of €20.00 (as per Code (4.3) (c)) shall be paid to the County Committee. Entry Fee for Championship shall be €300.00 per Adult Team, and €200.00 per team for all underage teams from Under 20 to Under 12 inclusive.

### **13. NOTICE FOR FIXTURES**

Notice for Club Championship games shall be as follows:

Adult Championships, including Under 20 - five days (120 hours);

Other grades of Championship - four days (96 hours)

All other competitions (unless otherwise noted in competition regulations) - four days (96 hours)

Replays and refixtures - four days (96 hours)

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### **14. CUPS AND TROPHIES**

- a. Clubs are responsible for the safekeeping, inscription and maintenance of trophies and cups
- b. Trophies and cups must be returned inscribed and in good condition at least eight weeks prior to the date designated in the fixtures calendar for the final. Penalties for non-compliance: A €200 fine plus the cost of repair and inscription.

### **15. ST. CROANS/GLINSK AGREEMENT**

Galway GAA notes the agreement of the 5th of March 2025 between the Galway and Roscommon County Boards and the St. Croans and Glinsk clubs. The terms of the agreement shall be honoured unless revoked with the consent of all parties to the agreement.

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## Appendix 1

### Map of Galway City Catchment Outlined in Red

