



## Coiste na nÓg an Mhí Regulations 2018



Coiste na nÓg an Mhí C.L.G. is mindful of the GAA Give Respect Get Respect campaign and has drawn up these Regulations for the benefit of all stakeholders – players, referees, team management, officials, media, members and spectators.

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### Games and Competitions

1. Coiste na nÓg shall organise and promote football & hurling competitions for all players at the following grades U12, U13 & U14.
2. The officers of Coiste na nÓg shall fix dates and venues for all matches in all competitions under its jurisdiction and shall appoint referees for all matches at U12, U13 and U14 level.
3. All games will be played using the Coiste na nÓg an Mhí Game Regulations. Any team(s) that refuses to follow these regulations will be dealt with as per those regulations and the Official Guide.
4. Coiste na nÓg shall notify the relevant club secretaries of all U12, U13 and U14 fixtures by way of the Coiste na nÓg official fixture booklet, official gaa.ie email and [www.meath.gaa.ie](http://www.meath.gaa.ie). It shall be the responsibility of clubs to check their email for fixtures and if their venue is needed for games. Time of delivery where fixtures are sent by email will be deemed as the time of the transmission, as per T.O. 2017 Rule 4.6.
5. Official fixtures will not be called off for school trips, communions, confirmations, holidays, managers being away, graduations, challenge matches/tournaments outside the county etc. All games are to be played as fixed or conceded with the following exception – Coiste na nÓg may alter or postpone a fixture if they feel that the circumstances are truly exceptional. Clubs that refuse to play fixtures shall forfeit the game, may be removed from the competition and shall be fined €50 minimum by the Meath C.C.C.C..
6. No challenge match or tournament can interfere with any official fixtures.
7. Clubs will be given permission to organise or participate in tournaments **ONLY** if they have played their scheduled game(s) in advance. The penalties for unauthorised organisation and/or participation in a tournament or challenge game will be imposed on clubs who do not adhere to this regulation as T.O. 2017 Rule 6.40

- 8.** Any requested changes as agreed by both clubs must be e-mailed to Coiste na nÓg for consideration at least 7 days (168 hours) before the official throw in time. (Correct protocol as follows: [secretarybng.clubname.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:secretarybng.clubname.meath@gaa.ie) to [secretary.youth.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:secretary.youth.meath@gaa.ie) & CC the opposition and the Meath C.C.C.C.)
- 9.** Clubs who cancel or postpone or move any fixture without first notifying Coiste na nÓg shall be subject to the forfeiture of the game and/or a fine of €50 minimum. This will be applicable to both clubs. If Coiste na nÓg decides to re-arrange a fixture, that fixture must not interfere with any other fixture.
- 10.** Four days (96 hours) official notice is sufficient for all matches organised by Coiste na nÓg but one-day (24 hours) notice shall be sufficient in the case of a refixture.  
Notice for all fixtures shall be in writing.
- 11.** A team obtaining a postponement of any fixture shall lose the points of the game to their opponents if they fail to play as refixed by Coiste na nÓg. The team agreeing to the postponement must play the game or also lose points. This also applies to games postponed by Coiste na nÓg because of weather/pitch conditions. Teams must email in a refixture date before a game can be postponed. Coiste na nÓg has the authority to make a refixture or deny a refixture. Clubs who fail to fulfil fixtures will face sanctions as per Rule 6.24 T.O. 2017. A club not fulfilling a fixture may be fined as per Rule 7.7 T.O. 2017.
- 12.** No Development Squad, Coaching and Games or club activities shall interfere with any official fixtures under any circumstance.
- 13.** Only official referees who are certified for that year are eligible to officiate for all Coiste na nÓg competitions.
- 14.** Any club without an active registered referee will forfeit their home advantage for all games. Coiste na nÓg will enforce this after the 1<sup>st</sup> April each year. The list of the active registered referees will be supplied by the County Referee's Administrator.
- 15.** An Cathaoirleach and An Rúnaí Coiste na nÓg may deal with urgent matters between meetings of Coiste na nÓg. This applies to matters which cannot be deferred to the next Coiste na nÓg meeting.
- 16.** All correspondence regarding fixtures must be sent to An Rúnaí Coiste na nÓg in official gaa.ie email. Once decisions have been made no further correspondence will be dealt with. All contact with non-secretaries and non-chairpersons will be deemed null and void by Coiste na nÓg.
- 17.** Coiste na nÓg shall have the discretion to organise competitions of less than 15-a-side where appropriate.

**18.** Coiste na nÓg request that at all games under its auspice have the person in charge wear a distinctive Bainisteoir bib and make themselves known as such to the referee prior to the commencement of the game. Fines will be issued as per Game Regulations if not complied with.

**19.** The age limit for all competitions organised by Coiste na nÓg shall be by reference to the age of any player on the 1st January in the year in which the relevant competition commences. To be eligible for the grades listed hereunder, a player shall meet the respective stated age criteria:

- **Under 14:** A Player shall have celebrated his 10th birthday prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> and his 14th birthday on or after January 1st of the Championship Year.
- **Under 13:** A Player shall have celebrated his 9th birthday prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> and his 13th birthday on or after January 1st of the Championship Year.
- **Under 12:** A Player shall have celebrated his 9th birthday prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> and his 12th birthday on or after January 1st of the Championship Year.

Girls may participate only up to and including the Under 12 Grade.

**Note:** In the interests of the avoidance of any doubt regarding Age Grade eligibility, Championship Year shall mean the Calendar Year in which the Competition is commenced. If the Competition is completed in a subsequent Calendar Year, such circumstances shall not be construed so as to allow a player who was ineligible, by reason of age, at the date of the commencement of the Competition to play in the Competition at any time up to and including the date of its conclusion.

**20.** At Coiste na nÓg level all kick-outs and 45s may be taken from the hands or the ground.

**21.** In Coiste na nÓg competitions teams deemed to have finished in the Top 2 places shall have home advantage in competitions where Semi-Finals are played. Coiste na nÓg has the authority to go straight to Finals if necessary, but only after notifying clubs of this fact before the competition starts.

**22.** Any club wishing to enter a second team or subsequent teams in any competition must make an official gaa.ie email application prior to each competition to Coiste na nÓg.

**23.** Where a club enters 2 or more teams at any level they shall supply a list of their top 15 players to An Rúnaí Coiste na nÓg before the competition starts (or the appropriate number if higher or lower). This list should also include Dates of Birth and GAA ID Numbers. The list of top players of the club will then be circulated (without DOBs or GAA IDs) to all participating clubs in the competition in which the second or subsequent team(s) are competing prior to start of competition.

Penalty: Non-inclusion in competition.

24. These listed players shall not be eligible to play on the club's second or subsequent teams in any competition at that age level for the entire year. Listed players can be altered with the approval of Coiste na nÓg.  
Penalty: Removal from competition, suspension of involved persons and €50 minimum fine.
25. Clubs fielding teams in more than one division of any competition shall be compelled to play in the highest grade first. Teams shall forfeit any game in a lower division if highest division game is not played, and the club in question are found to be at fault.
26. Coiste na nÓg fixtures may be fixed to be played under lights and/or on all-weather/astro-turf surfaces.
27. If the home team's pitch is unplayable then the fixture venue is changed to that of the away team. If a team refuses to change when pitch is unplayable then the points are conceded to the away team. Any refixture of a game that was called off by a referee, club or committee-in-charge may be changed to the away team venue. Coiste na nÓg has the authority to decide the venue for all fixtures.
28. When a team finishes on level points and must play each other in a Playoff, Quarter-Final or Semi-Final the venue shall be decided as follows: Coiste na nÓg has the authority to decide all venues for all games but will use the reverse venue from the previous meeting in that competition in that competition year if feasible.
29. All Playoffs, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals or Finals will have Extra Time if necessary. Coiste na nÓg will have Finish Games on the Day for all these games (Phase 1, Phase 2, Phase 3). This process is an approved part of the playing rules for all Coiste na nÓg competitions. Details are in a separate document called '2018 Extra Time and Finishing Games on the day'.
30. All competitions will be reviewed on an annual basis. If necessary, or where it may be beneficial, conditioned games will be organised. Coiste na nÓg has the authority to organise football and hurling competitions and Coiste na nÓg can use conditioned rules for any of its league or cup competitions. Coiste na nÓg has the authority to modify all playing rules for all competitions.
31. Any team not fulfilling a league game shall forfeit the match, and the points will be awarded to the opposition. They may continue in the league. A team that fails to fulfil a fixture on the appointed date shall forfeit the points of that match and shall incur a fine of €50 minimum. Rule 6.24 T.O. 2017.
32. Any team not fulfilling a second league game shall forfeit the match, and the points shall be awarded to the opposition. The team may not be allowed to enter the shield competition. The team may be stricken from the league and fined an additional €50 minimum by the Meath C.C.C.C.

**33.** A team failing to give 24 hours clear notice, in writing, of its intention not to fulfil a game shall be liable to a minimum €50 fine and forfeiture of the game.

**34.** Any team that fails to fulfil a game in a competition may lose the right to compete in the shield of that competition.

**35.** Should a club's first team withdraw from a competition it shall automatically follow that their second and subsequent teams are also removed from their respective competition(s).

**36.** Coiste na nÓg will produce a rules document for every competition under its jurisdiction. Coiste na nÓg has the authority to change the playing rules and competition format of every competition as necessary, informing clubs of the changes before the competition commences.

**37.** Clubs that have sufficient numbers to make up an U12 team independent of their players eligible for U11, must enter U11 Go Games. These teams will not be allowed enter a second or subsequent team at U12 level.

**38.** Team lists are required for all Coiste na nÓg games. An official team list format is provided by Coiste na nÓg and this must be used. Team lists must include a player's name in both Irish and English along with their GAA ID registration number. All team mentors' names must also be listed. Failure to use official team lists with required information, may lead to a €50 minimum fine and the forfeiture of game.

**39.** The travel expenses for all underage (U12-U17) referees shall be as follows:

Single Journey - with no umpires . . . . . €25

Single Journey - with at least two neutral umpires . . . . . €30

€20 extra to be paid where referee officiates at a second game.

Any team that does not fulfil their fixture will be liable for the payment of the referee for that fixture plus the €50 minimum fine.

## General

- 40.** Coiste na nÓg an Mhí, in conjunction with the Meath Youth Committee shall be responsible for the initiation and coordination of all juvenile activities within the County.
- 41.** Coiste na nÓg shall have the responsibility for the organisation of Féile na nGael and Féile Peile na nÓg in Meath and the nomination process as detailed in Féile an Mhí Regulations.
- 42.** Clubs must follow the G.A.A. Code of Behaviour always.
- All participating teams shall adhere to the Respect initiative, Give Respect – Get Respect. This Respect initiative seeks to ensure that at a very minimum our Gaelic Games are promoted and played in a positive, fair and enjoyable manner where players, coaches, spectators and referees Give Respect and Get Respect from each other.
- 43.** Clubs must follow rules of ‘Silent Sidelines’ when they are in force. Anyone failing to follow these guidelines may face disciplinary action.
- Penalty: Premature Termination of a Game(s); Club(s) may be removed from the competition or Go Games; Members will be dealt with under Rule 7.2 T.O. 2017.
- 44.** All cups/trophies/shields shall be returned to Coiste na nÓg on/before 1st March annually or earlier if Coiste na nÓg sends notice to clubs. Failure to do so will entail a fine of €50 minimum. Clubs will be liable for any damage caused to trophies or cups and will replace any trophy or cup that is not repairable.
- 45.** When juvenile goals are required for U12, U13 or U14 they shall be the following dimensions:
- 4.5m wide  
2.1m tall
- Coiste na nÓg will advise teams before a competition starts if these dimensions are different. Dimensions of goals will be stated for Go Games in rules sent by Coiste Go Games.
- 46.** All clubs should have goalposts, nets, and flags suitable for all competitions.
- Penalty: Fine - €50 minimum
- 47.** Within one calendar month after the conclusion of each competition, An Rúnaí Coiste na nÓg or person in control of competition results must send all results to Rúnaí Coiste na Mí. In addition, any member of the Grading Committee of Coiste na nÓg who makes a request in writing for such documents must also be supplied within the same time frame. Failure to do so shall be dealt with by C.C.C.C. under appropriate rules.
- 48.** In all other matters the General Rules of the G.A.A. will apply.

## Grading & Parish Rule

- 49.** Coiste na nÓg shall appoint a Grading Committee, if desired. It shall consist of the officers of Coiste na nÓg, one representative from each of the 4 areas (North, South, East, and Central) and a hurling representative if necessary. The functions of the Grading Committee shall include:
- a) Grading of teams into appropriate leagues and other competitions.
  - b) Deciding on the number of teams to qualify for the knockout stages of competitions. In coming to their decisions on grading, the Grading Committee shall use the following criteria:
    - i) the performance of the team being graded when that group of players played in their relevant league, cup or other competition in previous years.
    - ii) submissions received by the Grading Committee, either in writing or at area grading meetings.
    - iii) the number of players at the relevant age in the clubs.
    - iv) any other relevant information.
- 50.** Clubs shall have the right to make written submissions in writing to the Grading Committee, which shall be submitted to An Rúnaí Coiste na nÓg. The decision of the Grading Committee and Coiste na nÓg is sent to the C.C.C.C. for ratification as per Rule 6.20 TO 2017.
- 51.** Competitions shall be on a strict parish basis. No team can play any boy/girl who lives outside the parish. If a boy/girl is attending a school outside the parish but returning home, he/she can assist his/her parish team. If no team exists in a parish, boys or girls from the parish cannot assist any team even though they may be attending school in a parish where a team exists. Players must play U12 games for a club in the parish they reside in as per T.O. 2017 6.4(d).
- 52.** Where a parish is situated partly in Meath and partly in another County and where the Meath portion of that parish has no juvenile team, boys/girls residing in the Meath portion of that parish shall be eligible to play with the juvenile team of a neighbouring parish to be determined by Meath C.C.C.C. from year to year as per Fó Dlíghte 2017 Rule 14.
- 53.** Any player that seeks permission to play must apply to the Meath C.C.C.C.. Permission to play to be granted to players to play for clubs in neighbouring adjoining parishes only. Deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> March of each year.
- 54.** Only one affiliation shall be accepted from each parish, but a second team may be accepted on agreement of the existing club.

- 55.** The players residing in County Meath part of the Clonmellon Parish (Killallon) are permitted to play with Ballinlough. Players residing in the County Meath part of Kingscourt Parish (Carrickleck) are allowed play with Drumconrath/Meath Hill, Kilmainhamwood or Nobber. The parishes of Ballivor and Kildalkey are classed as one parish at underage level.
- 56.** A player who has not played with a club within his own parish who wishes to play with a neighbouring adjoining parish must present a permission to play letter signed by all adult secretaries in his parish to the Meath C.C.C.C..
- 57.** Players from the portion of Collon Parish in County Meath shall be eligible to play with Rathkenny.
- 58.** The parish of Donore and Rosnaree plus that part of Ballsgrove Parish in Drogheda that is southwest of Matthew's Lane and Marley's Lane shall be recognised as one parish for GAA purposes in Meath.
- 59.** The Parish of Laytown-Mornington, together with the part of St. Mary's Parish, Drogheda, which lies in county Meath, plus the area in St. Mary's Parish, Drogheda which was ceded by Louth County Committee C.L.G., to Meath County Committee C.L.G. as sanctioned in Leinster Council Agreement of 1979, shall be recognised as one Parish unit for G.A.A. purposes in Meath C.L.G., as and from Sunday 7th September 1986.
- 60.** Players from the portion of Mount Nugent Parish in County Meath (Ballinacree) and from the Moylagh Club along with players from the Ballinlough Parish (including the players from the Clonmellon Parish that is in County Meath (Killallon)) shall be eligible to play with Inny Gaels and/or St. Oliver's.
- 61.** The Meath C.C.C.C. has the power to allow or disallow any independent teams to form to play in any competition or Go Games.
- 62.** Once a competition has commenced no permission to play applications will be permitted. If a permission to play application(s) is granted after a competition is graded, then the Grading Committee shall consider this and move the team up at least one division up.