



## 2019 U12 Football League Rules



**Pitch Size:** Reduced Pitch = **Length** 70m (min) – 105m (max)  
**Width** 35m (min) – 52m (max)



### **Number of Players:**

#### **Two Team Groups: Grúpa A, B, C, D**

1. All games to be played to **maximum of 22-a-side (11 v 11)** and all members of the team panel are to participate in the game.
2. Games can be played at a **minimum 18-a-side (9 v 9) in Grúpa A and B.**
3. Teams with less than 18 players in Grúpa A will play the game at the numbers they have but will forfeit the game.
4. Grúpa C & D games can be played at **minimum 14-a-side (7 v 7).**
5. Teams with less than 14 players in Grúpa B & C will play the game at the numbers they have but will forfeit the game.
6. Two referees shall be appointed by Coiste na nÓg.
7. The combined score of both matches will determine the winner.
8. Teams **must** spread their players out evenly.
9. Teams must contact their opponent prior to day of match to state how many players they will have for game(s).
10. One coin toss shall be done. Teams shall lineout the same for both games.

#### **One Team Groups:**

1. All games to be played to **maximum of 13-a-side** and all members of the team panel are to participate in the game. Games can be played at a **minimum 7-a-side.**
2. Teams with less than 7 players will play the game at the numbers they have but will forfeit the game. Teams must contact their opponent prior to day of match to state how many players they will have for game(s).

## Rules

1. Games of **11-a-side** or more shall be **25 minutes** per half while games of **10-a-side** or less shall be **20 minutes** per half.
2. **SILENT SIDELINES** are enforced.
3. If extra time is necessary, 5 minutes per half will be played. If still level after extra time, a best of 5 free kicks competition will decide the winner. All knockout games must finish on the day.
4. **Smart Touch (Size 3) footballs shall be used. Any game played without the correct sliotar will be deemed null and void.**
5. Small rectangle should be marked on Reduced Pitch.
6. Pitches must be flagged and marked appropriately.
7. Flags are needed at 13m, 20m, 45m, & halfway lines on Reduced pitch.
8. **Coiste na nÓg shall appoint all referees.**
9. Clubs with more than **1** team shall forward a list of **22 players** to Rúnaí Coiste na nÓg an Mhí one week before the commencement of league. Players named on this list shall not be eligible to play with **2nd** or subsequent teams. Failure to have list in on time will result in games being awarded to opposition.  
This list must include Dates of Birth and GAA ID Numbers for all players.
10. Players should not play with two teams on the same day.
11. **All members of the team panel are to participate in the game.**  
Coiste na nÓg recommends that all players play at least half of each match.  
All clubs should be encouraged to promote an equal playing time ethos where younger players are not playing above their grade unless necessary due to a lack of numbers within a catchment area.
12. **Substitutions shall be unlimited.** All substitutions must be made in a break of play.  
**All** players are to be on the team list. This list must be presented to the referee in **Irish**, in **BLOCK CAPITALS**, and **in duplicate** before the commencement of the game(s).  
Teams must use the official team list supplied by Coiste na nÓg. All players must have their unique GAA ID registration number on this form. 2 team lists must be used for 2 team groups with each referee receiving the list of players in their game.
13. Where a club fails to observe the rules regarding the use of all substitutes, that club shall forfeit the match and may be disqualified from the competition.
14. Where both clubs in the same match fail to observe the rules regarding substitutes the match shall be deemed void and both clubs may be disqualified from the competition.
15. There shall be **no** penalty kicks or square ball.
16. In all instances where the referee moves the ball forward, the ball shall be moved **30m not 13m.**
17. **All scores count as 1.** Every score (points and goals) is counted as a singular point.
18. The goalkeeper may advance **20m** for a kick out.



19. The shoulder-to-shoulder charge is permitted.
20. Play shall be limited to **2 touches** (i.e. one hop and one solo or two solos).
21. The ball may be carried for a maximum four consecutive steps or held in the hand(s) for no longer, than the time needed to take four steps.
22. Free kicks may be taken from the ground or from the hand.
23. The player who is fouled **must** take the free kick.
24. When an opponent commits a technical foul i.e. fouls the ball, the player nearest the ball **must** take the free kick.
25. The player nearest to where the ball crosses the sideline, **must** take the sideline kick.
26. When a defender/goalkeeper plays the ball over his/her end line, the other team are awarded a free kick from the centre of the field opposite to where the ball crossed the end line.
27. Opposing players must be at least 5m from the player taking a free kick, sideline kick, or kick out.
28. Free kicks cannot be taken closer than 13m from the opposing end line.
29. **Mentor(s) must identify themselves to the referee.** All mentors must wear a distinctive coloured bib. If a person is not wearing a bib, then they will not be considered a mentor by the referee.

**Failure for mentors to wear distinctive coloured bibs will mean they will not be allowed inside the playing enclosure.**

Only Team Officials can enter the pitch enclosure to a maximum of **8**. This includes all water/hurley carriers, medical personnel and the Club Secretary/Chairperson.

All Team Officials must be 18 years old. Clubs must ensure that this is implemented.

**No mentor can be on the pitch.** Only medical personnel can enter the pitch area when permitted by the referee. **SILENT SIDELINES are enforced.**

**A club that does not adhere to Rule 29 listed above may be fined €200 minimum per game and mentors will be dealt by Rule 7.2 of the Official Guide.**

**Any mentor that continually encroaches on the field will not be allowed to be on the sideline for the remainder of the U12 Hurling and Football Leagues.**

30. The travel expenses for all certified Referees shall be as follows:
  - U12 - €15 per team per game
  - U13/U14 - €20 per team per game
31. Referees' expenses shall be split between teams playing on the day. Each club is to responsible for paying the Referee directly before the game starts. A team's official team list must be presented to Referee at least 5 mins before the throw in alongside the Referees' expenses
32. Any team that refusing to pay Referees' expenses/or does not present their team list correctly will be fined minimum €200. The club must also pay the travel expenses that were initially not paid.
33. If no neutral referee present, visiting team has choice of an **official** referee.

**34. If no official referee present, then game is not to be played under any circumstance.**

**35.** Check opponent's colours in case of clash, **home team must change**. If in a neutral venue, then **both teams change**.

**36.** Detailed Regulations governing the organisation and presentation of all Inter-Club Games at U12, U13, and U14 level in Meath GAA will be sent to clubs. These must be followed in all games. There will be an emphasis on these at finals and they must be strictly adhered to and they will be monitored by Coiste na nÓg.

**Coiste na nÓg an Mhí 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.**

N.B. **All scores count as 1.** Every score (points and goals) is counted as a singular point.