



Proposed Motions/Bye-Changes for Annual Convention (Version 1 - 24-11-25)

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GAA Official Guide Part I Rule 3.9

That GAA Official Guide Part I Rule **3.9** Elections

(b) A member who has served five years either consecutively or cumulatively, in a specific Officership, shall be ineligible to hold that Officership for the five year period following immediately after serving the fifth year in that Office.

That Rule 3.9(b) of the GAA Official Guide (Part I) be deleted and replaced with the following:

(b)

(i) A member who has served five years, either consecutively or cumulatively, in a specific Officership shall be ineligible to hold that Officership for the five-year period immediately following the serving of the fifth such year in that Office.

(ii) For the purposes of sub-section (i), service in an Officership shall be calculated on a cumulative basis, with one (1) year of service credited for each year in which the member holds that Officership and one (1) year deducted for each year in which the member does not hold that Officership, provided that the cumulative total shall not be reduced below zero.

(iii) Where a member is elected as an Officer of the County Committee “in term”, twenty-six weeks or less before Convention, that time served shall not be considered as a year of service for the purposes of sub-sections (i) and (ii).

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

The purpose of this amendment is to retain the existing five-year limit on holding a specific Officership, while introducing a more flexible and fair way of counting service.

Under the current Rule 3.9(b), any member who has built up five years' service in an Officership even where those years are spread over a long period is automatically barred for a full five years. This can permanently penalise members who served earlier in their careers and then step away from roles for an extended period. It also reduces the pool of experienced volunteers available to the County Committee, particularly where there are difficulties in filling key positions.



The proposed “credited years” system maintains the five-year cap but recognises that time away from an office should gradually restore eligibility. Each year served still counts as one year towards the five-year limit, but each full year not in the position removes one credited year (without ever going below zero). This encourages rotation and succession planning, while avoiding the situation where a capable officer is treated as if they have just completed five consecutive years after a long break.

Retaining the existing twenty-six-week “in term” provision ensures that short mid-year appointments do not distort the calculation. Overall, the amendment strikes a better balance between continuity and renewal, supports volunteer retention, and gives County Committees greater flexibility in filling essential officer roles without weakening term limits.



Bye-Law 1- Annual Convention

The Annual County Convention shall elect the following officers of the County Committee:

Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Coaching Officer, Officer for Irish Language and Culture, **Communications Officer**, One Central Council Representative, Two Provincial Council Representatives and shall appoint a Planning and Training Officer, Demographics Officer, **Health & Wellbeing Officer** and a Children's Officer recommended by the outgoing County Committee.

A member shall not hold more than one of the above officer positions at any given time. The officers elected/appointed shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Meath Annual Convention.

That Bye-law 1, be amended to allow for the appointment of a full-time secretary, subject to permission from Central Council, as per Rule 3.9 (b) (1) T.O. 2025.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This is to change the bye-law to be aligned to the GAA Official Guide.



Bye-Law 2 – County Committee

The Meath GAA County Committee (Coiste Contae CLG na Mí) shall consist of:

- (a) The officers/representatives that are elected/appointed in Bye-law One **(16)**
- (b) Hurling Development Committee Chairperson
- ~~(c) Minor Committee Chairperson~~
- (d) Football Development Committee Chairperson
- (e) Meath GAA Competitions Control Committee Chairperson
- (f) Development Competitions Control Committee Chairperson**
- (g) One named representative from each affiliated Club **(60)**
- (h) One named representative from the Meath Primary Schools' Committee
- (i) One named representative from the Meath Post-Primary Schools' Committee
- (j) One named representative from the Meath Handball Committee (where applicable)
- (k) County Referees' Administrator
- (l) Safety and Facilities Officer

In the event of the appointment of a full-time secretary, there shall be ex-officio members of all Sub-Committees (except for the Hearings Committee).

As per Rule 3.16 (c) T.O. 2025 the number of voting members of the Meath County Committee shall be **85**.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This change replaces the standalone **Minor Committee Chairperson** with a **Development Competitions Control Committee (Development CCC) Chairperson** on the County Committee to reflect the proposed amalgamation of our three underage committees (Minor, Youth, and Go Games) into a single, fit-for-purpose Youth/Development structure. It aligns Meath with the nationally approved **Youth Games Programme Review** (CB14, 18/12/2020), which recommends that every county establish a **Development CCC** to organise and manage all underage games and to integrate youth fixtures planning across the season.

The amendment also mirrors the Association's governance model at national level, where a **Development CCC** is specifically provided for, and implements the Official Guide requirement



that any sub-committee making fixtures must maintain its own **Competitions Control Committee** with CCC-equivalent functions in its jurisdiction.

Practically, this streamlines decision-making, reduces duplication between separate underage committees, and delivers a single strategic and operational forum for youth games that is consistent with best practice and modern governance objectives across the Association.



Bye-Law 4 – Sub-Committees

- (a) All members of sub-committees shall be named.
- (b) A member who has served five years consecutively or cumulatively, as the Chairperson, Secretary, or other named position on a specific sub-committee, shall be ineligible to hold that named officership/position for the five-year period following immediately after serving the fifth year in that position.
- (c) A member without a defined officership/position who has served five years consecutively or cumulatively on a committee shall be ineligible to be on that specific sub-committee without a defined officership/position for the five-year period following immediately after serving the fifth year in that position.
- (d) For the purposes of the above, service in an officership/position shall be calculated on a cumulative basis, with one (1) year of service credited for each year in which the member holds that officership/position and one (1) year deducted for each year in which the member does not hold that officership/position, provided that the cumulative total shall not be reduced below zero.

Where a member is appointed on a sub-committee “in term”, twenty-six weeks or less before Convention, that time served shall not be considered as a year of service.

- (e) The Meath County Committee shall appoint the following Sub-Committees whose powers and functions shall be as outlined Rule 3.18 T.O. 2025 and in these Bye Laws:

- (i) **Meath GAA Management Committee (Coiste Bainistíochta CLG na Mí)** which shall consist of the elected officers of the County Committee, Central and Provincial Council Representatives, Meath Hurling Development Chairperson, ~~Meath Minor Committee Chairperson~~, Safety and Facilities Officer, Planning and Training Officer, Football Development Committee Chairperson, County Competitions Control Committee Chairperson, **Development Competitions Control Committee Chairperson**, and Children’s Officer.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This replicates the proposed changes in Bye-Law 2.



(ii) Meath GAA Competitions Control Committee (Coiste Rialaithe Comórtais CLG na Mí)

(a) It shall be responsible for all arrangements, including the appointment of Referees, for and control of any matters arising from Games under the jurisdiction of the County Committee including disciplinary matters other than those functions reserved to the County Hearings Committee **(except at the Under-18 and younger age grades).**

(b) It shall be responsible for the hearing of Objections and Counter-Objections for which it shall have Plenary Powers.

(c) It shall prepare Match Regulations and a Fixture Planner for the consideration and decision of the Management Committee and County Committee.

(d) It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Fixtures Administrator, Disciplinary Administrator, one member of the Fixtures Analysts Sub-Committee, County Referees' Administrator (who may only vote on the appointment of Referees), **Development Competitions Control Committee Chairperson**, and a minimum of one other member appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.

(e) The following plenary powers and functions have been specifically delegated to the Meath C.C.C. as per Rule 3.18 T.O. 2025:

(i) Competition scheduling and arrangements for and control of all games under their jurisdiction.

(ii) The appointments of referees and all match officials for all games under their jurisdiction.

~~**(iii)**——To allow Under 21/20/19, Minor or Younger Grade players of Clubs that are unable to field Under 21/20/19, Minor or Younger Grade teams to avail of a provision of Rule 6.7 T.O. 2025, Exception (1) (a) or (b).~~

~~**(iv)**——To allow the formation of Independent Teams to play in competitions as per Rules 3.17 (c); 6.2; 6.7 T.O. 2025.~~

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This replicates the proposed changes in Bye-Law 2. Also, the removal of points 3 and 4 to allow the County Committee to delegate this as appropriate to the Development or the County CCC without plenary powers.



(iii) Meath GAA Development Competitions Control Committee (Coiste Rialaithe na gComórtas Forbartha CLG na Mí)

(a) It shall act as the Youth Committee as per Rule 3.18 (xi) T.O. 2025 and it shall be responsible for the initiation and co-ordination of all Youth Activities within the County.

(b) It shall be responsible for Competition Scheduling and Arrangements (including the appointment of Referees) for, and Control of, Tournaments and Games under the jurisdiction of the County Committee at **Under 18 and younger age grades.**

(c) It shall have responsibility for the processing and enforcement of the provisions of Codes 14.1 and 14.2 in respect of Blitzes/Tournaments and Challenge Games under the jurisdiction of the County Committee at **Under 18 and younger age grades.**

(d) It shall investigate and process matters relating to the enforcement of Rules and Codes (including hearing Objections and Counter Objections) and Match Regulations arising from Competitions and Games under the jurisdiction of the County Committee at **Under 18 and younger age grades.**

(e) It shall prepare **Match Regulations, a Fixture Planner, and Competitions Regulations** for the consideration and decision of the Meath GAA Competitions Control Committee, Management Committee, and County Committee **at the Under-18 and younger age grades.**

(f) It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Head of Games Development (and/or representative with them acting as the servicing officer), Coaching Officer, Fixtures Administrator, Disciplinary Administrator, one member of the Fixtures Analysts Sub-Committee, the Youth Referees' Administrator (who may only vote on the appointment of Referees), County Competitions Control Committee Chairperson, Post-Primary Schools' Chairperson or representative, Primary Schools' Chairperson or representative, and a minimum of one other member appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.

(g) The following plenary powers and functions have been specifically delegated to the Meath C.C.C. as per Rule 3.18 T.O. 2025:

(i) Competition scheduling and arrangements for and control of all games under their jurisdiction.

(ii) The appointments of referees and all match officials for all games under their jurisdiction.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí



Rationale:

This replicates the proposed changes in Bye-Law 2.

(ix) Meath GAA Coaching and Games Development Committee (Coiste Traenála agus Forbartha na gCluichí CLG na Mí) which shall consist of the Coaching Officer who shall act as the Chairperson, the Head of Games Development who shall act as the Secretary, Football Academy Head Coach, Hurling Academy Lead, Hurling Development Committee Chairperson, Football Development Committee Chairperson, **Development Competitions Control Committee Chairperson**, and a minimum of one other member by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This replicates the proposed changes in Bye-Law 2.

~~**(xii) Meath GAA Youth Planning Committee (Coiste Pleanála Óige an Mhí)** which shall consist of the County Vice-Chairperson who shall act as the Chairperson, County Assistant Secretary who shall act as the Secretary, the Children's Officer, Head of Games Development, two members of the Meath County Competitions Control Committee two members of the Meath Minor Committee, two members of the Meath Youth Committee, and two members of the Meath Go Games Committee, and a minimum of one other member appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.~~

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This replicates the proposed changes in Bye-Law 2.



Bye-Law 5 - Sub-Committees formed by Rule 3.17 T.O. 2025

Per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2025, the County Committee shall appoint the following Sub-Committees whose powers and functions shall be as outlined in these Bye-Laws. (These committees shall meet at least once every three months).

(b) There shall be a Meath GAA Hurling Development Committee (**Coiste Forbartha Iomána CLG na Mí**) with appointed officers appointed as per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2025.

The Hurling Development Committee shall convene a forum of all clubs participating in Meath GAA Hurling Competitions annually.

The Hurling Development-Committee shall (a) Liaise with the County Committee (b) Advise the County Committee in relation to all hurling matters.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This gives the Hurling and Football Development Committees the same remit and authority.

(c) There shall be a Meath GAA Football Development Committee (**Coiste Forbartha Peile CLG na Mí**) with appointed officers appointed as per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2025.

The Football Development Committee shall convene a forum of all clubs participating in Meath GAA Football Competitions annually.

The Football Development Committee shall (a) Liaise with the County Committee (b) Advise the County Committee in relation to all football matters.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This gives the Hurling and Football Development Committees the same remit and authority.



(d) There shall be a Meath Minor Committee (**Coiste Mionúir an Mhí**) consisting of one named representative from each affiliated club that participates in football and/or hurling competitions at U-15, U-16, and U-17 level, together with appointed officers appointed as per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2025.

The Meath Minor Committee shall (a) Liaise with the County Committee (b) Advise the County Committee in relation to all U-15, U-16, and U-17 football and hurling matters. All committees must meet at least once a quarter.

(e) There shall be a Meath Youth Committee (**Coiste na nÓg an Mhí**) consisting of one named representative from each affiliated club that participates in football and/or hurling competitions at U-12, U-13, and U-14 level, together with appointed officers appointed as per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2025.

The Meath Youth Committee shall (a) Liaise with the County Committee (b) Advise the County Committee in relation to all U-12, U13, and U-14 football and hurling matters.

(f) There shall be a Meath Go Games Committee (**Coiste Go Games an Mhí**) consisting of one named representative from each affiliated club that participates in football and/or hurling competitions at U-7, U-8, U-9, U-10, and U-11 level, together with appointed officers appointed as per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2025

The Go Games Committee shall (a) Liaise with the County Committee (b) Advise the County Committee in relation to all U-7, U-8, U-9, U-10, and U-11 football and hurling matters.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This replicates the proposed changes in Bye-Law 2.



Bye-Law 6 - Transfers

- (a) The Meath GAA County Committee shall delegate consideration of **transfers** to play applications to the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee.
- (b) All transfers shall be referred to the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee by the Meath GAA County Committee as per Rule 6.4 T.O. 2025.
- (c) The Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee will process all signed and unsigned transfer, applications per Rule 6.4 T.O. 2025 and this Bye-Law.
- (d) All transfer applications must be presented by the applicant to their current club for approval prior to submitting the fully completed form to the Secretary of the Meath GAA County Committee between 1st and 31st January annually.
- (e) A player who has not played with a club for 48 weeks may submit one transfer application per year at any time during the year using the process outlined above.

(f) In exceptional circumstances, the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee can waive the requirement that an application must be submitted between 1st and 31st January annually.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This adds a clause that allows the County Committee to deal with an exceptional application such as children moving house etc.



Bye-Law 7 – Permission to Play/Approvals

(a)

As per Rule 6.7 (c) T.O. 2025, The County Committee shall delegate consideration of **permission to play** and **approval** applications to the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee.

(i) A player from a GAA Club that participates only in Gaelic football competitions may request approval to play hurling with another GAA Club, provided that a fully completed **approval form** is signed by the player and the Secretary of both Clubs.

(ii) A player from a GAA Club that participates only in hurling competitions may request approval to play Gaelic football with another GAA Club, provided that a fully completed **approval form** is signed by the player and the Secretary of both Clubs.

(b)

(i) An **approval form** must be submitted to the Secretary of the Meath GAA County Committee between 1st and 31st January annually. The Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee will process approval applications per Rule 6.7 (c) T.O. 2025 and this Bye-Law.

If granted it shall not be necessary to renew permission annually. An appeal against the decision of the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee may be made in writing by the aggrieved party to the Meath GAA County Hearings Committee within three days of receipt of the notification of the decision.

In exceptional circumstances, the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee can waive the requirement that an application must be submitted between 1st and 31st January annually.

(c)

Players of a GAA Club without an affiliated Under 21/20/19, Minor, or younger age grade team, may apply to play with another GAA Club or Independent Team subject to Rule 6.7 (c) T.O. 2025.



- (i) This **application** must be submitted to the Secretary of the Meath GAA County Committee. The Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee will process applications per Rule 6.7 (c) T.O. 2025 and this Bye-Law.
- (ii) Applications will not be approved where competition grading is already completed.
- (iii) If granted, permission will be for one year only.
- (iv) An appeal against the decision of the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee may be made in writing by the aggrieved party to the Meath GAA County Hearings Committee within three days of receipt of the notification of the decision.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This adds a clause that allows the County Committee to deal with an exceptional application such as children moving house etc.



Bye-Law 8 – First Club /Catchment Area

A person seeking to become a member of the Association shall be restricted to joining a club in the **Catchment area** of their permanent residence, except as outlined in these Bye-Laws and the Official Guide.

The catchment area for each club is defined by the Meath GAA County Committee as the area within the Roman Catholic Church parish boundaries as of January 1st, 2000.

All previous and subsequent agreements made by the Leinster and Central Council shall not be altered by this Byelaw and shall take precedence.

Applications must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Meath GAA County Committee to become a member of a club outside the Catchment area between 1st and 31st January annually.

In exceptional circumstances, the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee can waive the requirement that an application must be submitted between 1st and 31st January annually.

The Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee may grant permission to become a member of a club outside the catchment area in:

- (a) rare or exceptional circumstances after requesting submissions from all club(s) within the catchment area,

Or

- (b) where the application includes written approval from all club secretaries in the catchment area.

An appeal against the decision of the Meath GAA County Competitions Control Committee may be made in writing by the aggrieved party to the Meath GAA County Hearings Committee within three days of receipt of the notification of the decision.

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For the purposes of this Bye-Law:

(a) The Parish of Donore and Rosnaree plus that part of Ballsgrove Parish in Drogheda which is southwest of Matthew's Lane and Marley's Lane shall be recognised as one parish for G.A.A. purposes in Meath.

(b) 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 GAA County Committee, to Meath GAA County Committee as sanctioned in Leinster Council Agreement of 1979, shall be recognised as one Parish unit for G.A.A. purposes in Meath GAA as and from Sunday 7th September 1986.

Proposed by Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Rationale:

This adds a clause that allows the County Committee to deal with an exceptional application such as children moving house etc.