



# 2024, COISTE NA NÓG, U13 FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

## Pitch Size:

### Reduced Pitch

Length: Juvenile Goals on 20m line

Width: Adult Width (80m (min) – 90m (max))

### 7-a-side Pitch

Length: 60m (min) – 90m (max)

Width: 40m (min) – 52m (max)

All games played at 11-a-side or 12-a-side or 13-a-side shall be played on the Reduced Pitch.

All games played at 10-a-side or less shall be played on the 7-a-side Pitch.

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## Number of Players:

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 9-a-side.
2. Any game played at 14 or 15-a-side and/or on a Full Adult Pitch will be deemed null and void.
3. Teams with less than 9 players will play the game at the numbers they have but will forfeit the game.
4. Teams must contact their opponent prior to day of match to state how many players they will have for game(s).
5. A team(s) that does not field correctly as per rules may be fined €200 minimum and may be disqualified from the competition.
6. Games are to be played at the highest number available for selection. If 13 eligible players are present, then clubs are to play 13 players. If a player receives a genuine injury, clubs are to reduce their playing numbers to match. Clubs are not to reduce numbers for disciplinary reasons i.e. Black or Red cards. 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 9-a-side.



## Rules

1. The duration of the game will be 60 mins. An interval, not exceeding ten minutes, shall be allowed at half-time, following which the teams shall change ends.
2. SILENT SIDELINES are enforced.
3. The initial matches in the spring will serve as an assessment period for team placement, with the possibility of reassessment after three rounds. Division adjustments will be made as needed. Since the spring league's primary goal is to determine the most suitable division arrangement for the season's second half, no winners will be declared.
4. During the second half of the season or for the summer league specifically, all games will proceed on a league basis without finals. If clubs are tied on points, their league positions will be determined by head-to-head results, followed by total points scored, and then by scoring average. Wins will grant teams 2 points, and draws will provide 1 point each. Extra time will not be required.
5. All games will be played as fixed by Coiste na nÓg. No requested changes will be considered unless there are exceptional circumstances. All games will be played as fixed, or a club(s) will concede the fixture. Any club(s) that does not fulfill a fixture will be dealt with as per the Official Guide.
6. Size 4 footballs must be used. A team(s) using any incorrect equipment will be fined €50 for each game that incorrect equipment is used.
7. Pitches must be flagged and marked appropriately.
8. There shall be NO penalty kicks or square ball. There shall be NO marks (Kickout or Advanced).
9. Flags are needed at 13m, 20m, 45m, & halfway lines on *reduced pitch*.
10. Coiste na nÓg will assign referees for all Under-13 games, where possible.
11. For U12 games, a neutral official Youth Referee shall be appointed by the home team. If no neutral official Youth Referee, then the visiting team has the choice of an official Youth Referee or Referee.
12. A club fielding a second team in these competitions must name its top 13 players. A club fielding a third team must name the next top 13 players that are eligible to play for the second team. A club fielding a fourth team must name their next top 13 players that are eligible for the third team. These top 26 players cannot play on the third team. These top 39 players cannot play on the fourth team. Failure to abide by this will mean that all games will be awarded to the opposition, the club may be fined €200 minimum and the persons involved will be sanctioned in accordance with the Official Guide.
13. Players are recommended not to play with two teams on the same day.
14. All members of the team panel should participate in the game. 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.
15. Substitutions shall be unlimited. All substitutions must be made in a break of play. A break in play shall be when the play is stopped after a score or wide or for a free, sideline kick/kick or when the Referee has stopped play for medical attention to an injured player. Teams must use the official team list supplied by Coiste na nÓg. No need for sub slips. All players must have their unique GAA registration number on this form. 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).



16. Where a club fails to observe the rule that all members of the team panel should participate in the game; that club shall forfeit the match and may be disqualified from the competition.
17. Where both clubs in the same match fail to observe the rule that all members of the team panel should participate in the game; the game shall be deemed void and both clubs may be disqualified from the competition.
18. Play shall be limited to 2 touches (i.e. one hop and one solo or two solos).
19. No dribbling on ground permitted. Referee to award free kick to opposition.
20. In all instances where the referee moves the ball forward, the ball shall be moved 30m not 13m.
21. Normal scoring applies. A goal equals 3 points and a point equals 1 singular point.
22. The goalkeeper may advance 13m for a kick out.
23. The shoulder-to-shoulder charge is permitted.
24. 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.
25. Free kicks and kick outs may be taken from the ground or from the hands.
26. The player who is fouled MUST take the free kick. (Aggressive fouls by the opponent only)
27. When the ball is played over the endline and outside the goalposts by the team defending that end, a free kick from the hands or off the ground shall be awarded to the opposing team 45m from the endline opposite where the ball crossed the endline.
28. Opposing players must be at least 13m from the player taking a free kick, sideline kick, or kick out.
29. Free kicks cannot be taken closer than 13m from the opposing end line.
30. 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 5. This includes all team management, 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 or one designated person can enter the pitch area when permitted by the referee. SILENT SIDELINES are enforced. A club that does not adhere to these rules 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/U13 Hurling/Football Competitions.
31. The travel expenses for all certified Referees shall be as follows: U13 - €20 per team per game
32. Referees' expenses shall be split between teams playing on the day. Each club is responsible for paying the Referee directly before the game starts. A team's official team list must be presented to the Referee at least 5 mins before the throw-in alongside the Referees' expenses.
33. Any team that refuses to pay Referees' expenses/or does not present their team list correctly will be fined a minimum €200. The club must also pay the travel expenses that were initially not paid.
34. If no neutral official referee is present, the visiting team has the choice of an official referee.
35. Check the opponent's colours in case of a clash, the home team must change. If in a neutral venue, then both teams change.



36. Detailed Regulations governing the organization and presentation of all Inter-Club Games at the U12/ U13 level in Meath GAA will be sent to clubs. These must be followed in all games.

**37. 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.**

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