



Fo Dhlíthe 2024 – C.L.G. Coiste Contae na Mí

Bye Laws 2024 - Meath GAA County Committee

1. Bye-Law 1

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, Public Relations Officer, One Central Council representative, Two Provincial Council representatives and shall appoint a Planning and Training Officer, Demographics 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. 2023.

2. Bye-Law 2

The Meath G.A.A. County Committee (C.L.G. Coiste Contae na Mí) shall consist of:

- (a) The officers elected/appointed in Bye-law One
- (b) Hurling Development Committee Chairperson
- (c) Minor Committee Chairperson
- (d) Football Development Committee Chairperson
- (e) County Competitions Control Committee Chairperson
- (f) One named representative from each affiliated Club
- (g) One named representative from the Meath Primary Schools' Committee



- (h) One named representative from the Meath Post-Primary Schools' Committee
- (i) One named representative from the Meath Handball Committee
- (j) County Referees' Administrator
- (k) 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. 2023 the number of voting members of the Meath County Committee shall be 84.

3. Bye-Law 3

- (i) As permitted by Rule 3.9 (b) Exception (2) T.O. 2023 the County Treasurer and County Children's Officer are not subject to the maximum period of five years in office.
- (ii) As per Rule 3.10 T.O. 2023 the County Convention shall authorise the County Management Committee to select the following:
 - (a) Delegates to attend the Annual Congress, who shall include the Chairperson and County Secretary, when available.
 - (b) Delegates to attend the Provincial Convention.



4. Bye-Law 4

County Sub-Committees: (These committees shall meet at least once every three months).

The Meath County Committee shall appoint the following Sub-Committees whose powers and functions shall be as outlined Rule 3.17 T.O. 2023 and in these Bye Laws:

All members of sub-committees shall be named. 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.

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.

- (i) **Meath Management Committee (Coiste Bainistíochta an Mhí)** 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, and the Children's Officer.



- (ii) **Meath Competitions Control Committee (Coiste Rialaithe Comórtas an Mhí)** shall be designated as the Competitions Control Committee for the Meath County Committee. It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Fixtures Administrator, Disciplinary Administrator, one member of the Fixtures Analysts Sub-Committee, Referees' Administrator (who may only vote on the appointment of Referees) and a minimum of one other member appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.

The following plenary powers and functions have been specifically delegated to the Meath C.C.C. as per Rule 3.18 T.O. 2023:

1. Competition scheduling and arrangements for and control of all games under their jurisdiction.
2. The appointments of referees and all match officials for all games under their jurisdiction.
3. 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. 2023, Exception(1)(a) or (b).
4. To allow the formation of Independent Teams to play in competitions as per Rules 3.17 (o); 6.2; 6.7 T.O. 2023.

- (iii) **Meath Fixtures Analysts (Anailísithe Cluichí an Mhí)** At least one Fixtures Analyst shall be appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.



(iv) **Meath Hearings Committee (Coiste Éisteachtaí an Mhí)** shall be designated as the Hearings Committee for the Meath County Committee. It shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary, and a minimum of three other members appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.

The powers of the County Hearings Committee shall be plenary powers.

(v) **Safety and Facilities Committee (Coiste Sábháilteachta agus Saoráidí an Mhí)** which shall have six members including a Qualified Event Controller, and the County Safety and Facilities Officer who shall be the Chairperson. 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 3.19 (iv) T.O. 2023.

(vi) **Meath Referees' Administration Committee (Coiste Riaracháin na Réiteoirí an Mhí)** which shall consist of the County Referees' Administrator who shall act as Chairperson and a minimum of four other members appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.

(vii) **Meath Coaching and Games Development Committee (Coiste Cóitseála agus Forbartha Cluichí an Mhí)** 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, and a minimum of one other member by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.



- (viii) **Meath Cultural Committee (Coiste Cultúrtha an Mhí)** which shall consist of the County Officer for Irish Language and Culture who shall act as the Chairperson and a minimum of four other members appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.
- (ix) **Meath Public Relations/Marketing Committee (Coiste um Chaidreamh Poiblí/Margaíochta an Mhí)** which shall consist of the County PRO who shall act as the Chairperson and a minimum of four other members appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.
- (x) **Meath 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.
- (xi) **Meath Finance Sub-Committee (Fochoiste Airgeadais an Mhí)** which shall consist of the County Treasurer who shall act as the Chairperson, County Assistant Treasurer who shall act as the Secretary, County Chairperson, County Secretary, County Vice-Chairperson, County Assistant Secretary, the Central Council Representative, and a minimum of one other member appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.



- (xii) **Meath Information Technology Committee (Coiste Teicneolaíochta Faisnéise)** shall consist of the County I.T. Officer who shall act as the Chairperson and a minimum of four other members appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.
- (xiii) **Meath Teams Management and Panels Sub-Committee (Fochoiste Bainistíochta agus Phainéil na bhFoirne an Mhí)** Membership of this sub-committee shall be detailed in the Players'/Manager's Charter which shall be submitted to the Central Council by January 31st each year Rule 3.18 T.O. 2023.
- (xiv) **Meath Health and Well-Being Committee (Coiste Sláinte agus Folláine)** which shall consist of a minimum of five members appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee.
- (xv) **Planning and Training Committee (Coiste Pleanála agus Oiliúna)** 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 the Central Council, the relevant Provincial Council, or any of their sub-committees.
- (xvi) **Audit and Risk Committee (Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca)** shall support the Treasurer, the Management Committee and the Finance Sub-Committee in all financial and risk-related matters. It shall be responsible for the promotion and monitoring of good governance standards and risk management practices by the County Committee and all its subsidiaries (including any person or entity that raises funds in the name of the GAA). It shall consist of no more than five members including a Chairperson nominated by the Management Committee and approved by the Provincial Audit and Risk Committee; and up to four other members nominated by the Management Committee. The Treasurer shall not be a member.



The Committee shall provide reports to the Provincial Audit and Risk Committee and the Central Audit and Risk Committee when requested and at least once per year.

(xvii) **Demographics Committee (Coiste na Daonáireachta)**

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 including 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.

5. Bye-Law 5 (Sub-Committees formed by Rule 3.17 T.O. 2023)

Per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2023, 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).

- (a) There shall be a Meath Post-Primary Schools' Committee (**Coiste Iarbhunscoileanna an Mhi**) which shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary and a minimum of three other members appointed by the County Committee on the recommendation of the Meath Management Committee, and one representative of each affiliated Post-Primary School in County Meath. The Meath Post-Primary Schools' Committee shall (a) Liaise with the County Committee (b) Advise the County Committee in relation to all Post-Primary GAA matters.



- (b) There shall be a Meath Hurling Development Committee (**Coiste na Mí Forbairt na hIománaíochta**) consisting of one named representative from each affiliated club that participates in adult hurling championships together with appointed officers appointed as per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2023.

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

- (c) There shall be a Meath Football Development Committee (**Coiste na Mí Forbairt na Peile**) with appointed officers appointed as per Rule 3.17 T.O. 2023. The Football Development Committee shall (a) Liaise with the County Committee (b) Advise the County Committee in relation to all football matters.

- (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. 2023.

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. 2023.

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 Mhi**) 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. 2023

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.

6. Bye-Law 6

(a) The Meath County Committee shall delegate consideration of **transfers** to play applications to the Meath County Competitions Control Committee.

(b) All transfers shall be referred to the Meath County Competitions Control Committee by the Meath County Committee as per Rule 6.4 T.O. 2023.

(c) The Meath County Competitions Control Committee will process all signed and unsigned transfer, applications per Rule 6.4 T.O. 2023 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 County Committee between 1st and 31st January each year.

(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.



7. Bye-Law 7

(a)

As per Rule 6.7 (c) T.O. 2023, The County Committee shall delegate consideration of **permission to play** and **approval** applications to the Meath 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 County Committee between 1st and 31st January each year. The Meath County Competitions Control Committee will process approval applications per Rule 6.7 (c) T.O. 2023 and this Bye-Law. If granted it shall not be necessary to renew permission annually. An appeal against the decision of the Meath County Competitions Control Committee may be made in writing by the aggrieved party to the Meath County Hearings Committee within three days of receipt of the notification of the decision.



(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. 2023.

(i) This **application** must be submitted to the Secretary of the Meath County Committee. The Meath County Competitions Control Committee will process applications per Rule 6.7(c) T.O. 2023 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 County Competitions Control Committee may be made in writing by the aggrieved party to the Meath County Hearings Committee within three days of receipt of the notification of the decision.



8. Bye-Law 8

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 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 County Committee to become a member of a club outside the Catchment area between 1st and 31st January each year.

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

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 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.

9. Bye-Law 9

Grading of Clubs and Players

Code 10.7: Club Championship and League Status of Players:

A player is graded by their Championship Status. For example, if a player plays in a Senior Championship game, the player is graded Senior until regraded, but cannot be regraded during that Championship Year.

Exception: A County, through its Bye Laws, may make provision for a player to be regraded during that Championship year, subject to any guidelines issued by Central Council.

County exceptions (Football only)

1. Any player from a **senior club**, that **starts any game, or makes two appearances**, for any team, shall not be eligible to play in a championship or premier grade below that grade, in the current year.



2. Any player from an **intermediate club**, that **starts** the first championship game for any team, **or makes two appearances, for any team**, shall not be eligible to play a championship or premier grade below that grade, in the current year.
3. Any player from a **junior club**, that **starts the first championship game** for any team, shall not be eligible to play in a grade below that championship or premier grade, in the current year.
4. Players who **have played a competitive inter-county senior football game for Meath** (League or Championship), **in the current year or the previous year, are only eligible to play for the first team.**

Clubs/Players may make an application for regrading exceptions to the Meath C.C.C. for decision, and which may be appealed to the Meath Hearings committee.

(Hurling only)

1. Clubs with multiple hurling teams shall forward a list of their Top 15 players who can only play hurling championship for their clubs first team.
2. Where a club has a third/fourth championship hurling team, a second/third Top 10 player list shall also be supplied to the CCC.
3. Players on the second/third list shall not have played a higher grade of championship in the previous year.

Clubs/Players may make an application for regrading exceptions to the Meath C.C.C. for decision, and which may be appealed to the Meath Hearings committee. These lists of



players will be published online via the Meath GAA website and emailed to all club secretaries.

10. Bye-Law 10

Nominations and Motions for the Annual Convention

(a)

No later than two weeks before the date of the Meath Annual Convention and following the receipt of Nominations and Motions from clubs; the Meath Management Committee shall, following examination and assessment of nominations and motions, issue them to each club.

(i) A list of nominations for each position (excluding those who are ineligible due to the five-year rule, non-membership, invalid membership, or any other legitimate reason, and those who have not confirmed in writing to the County Secretary) will be sent to Clubs, following confirmation with nominees that they are allowing their name to go forward at the Meath Annual Convention.

(ii) A list of motions, bye-laws, or amendments to same, and proposed regulation changes which are in order shall be included in their correct category i.e., as motions affecting the Official Guide, Bye-Laws, or Regulations.

(b)

When a motion, bye-law, or amendment(s) to same, or proposed regulation change are received by the Meath County Committee by the closing date and are found to be out of order, the County Secretary will contact the proposing club and advise them of same



with a brief outline of the reason(s) why it is out of order. It will then be up to the relevant club to correct the motion and to resubmit it by a date given by the County Secretary. This is to allow the County Secretary to issue all motions that to clubs that are in order, no later than two weeks before the Meath Annual Convention. Only correction of motions will be allowed in this process – no new motions can be submitted.

11. Bye-Law 11

A club is entitled to appoint a **proxy** for its named representative on the County Committee, provided notice in writing is sent to the County Secretary by noon on the day of the County Committee meeting.

12. Bye-Law 12

In case a member **wilfully** obstructs or interferes with the business of the County Committee, they shall, on a motion proposed and seconded, and carried by the majority of the members present and under Rule 7.3 (a) O.G. 2023 be dealt with by Management Committee at a disciplinary meeting called within seven days of when the misdemeanour occurred.

13. Bye-Law 13

As per Rule 3.18 (i) T.O. 2023, any recommendation of the County Management Committee on a matter of **Finance** may not be upset save by a three-fifths majority of the members of the County Committee present, entitled to vote, and voting.