



Coiste na Mí

An Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

Cathaoirleach: Iasún Pluincéad

Rúnaí: Ciarán Ó Floinn



Comhdháil Bhliantúil CLG na Mí 2024

Bye-Laws

Proposed Change 1:

That Bye Law 6, Meath GAA County Committee, be amended by the addition of the following clause:

f) A player resident in the parish of Laytown-Mornington as defined in Bye Law 8 (b) who has not played with his first club in the previous 48 weeks may choose to transfer to another club within the same Parish. Transfer requests in this instance will be processed as per Bye Law 6 (d). In instances where the first club does not sign the transfer request, the request shall be signed directly by the Meath County Secretary and forwarded to the Meath County Competitions Control Committee as per Bye Law 6 (c) for ratification.

C.L.G. Gaeil an Oirthir

Proposed Change 2:

That Bye Law 3, Meath County Committee, be amended as follows:

~~(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.~~

(a) As per Rule 3.10 T.O. 2024 the County Convention shall authorise the County Management Committee to select the following:

- i. Delegates to attend the Annual Congress, who shall include the Chairperson and County Secretary, when available.
- ii. Delegates to attend the Provincial Convention.

Coiste Contae C.L.G. na Mí

Proposed Change 3:

That Bye Law 9, Meath County Committee, be amended as follows:

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.

(Football only)

1. The eligibility of players in the All County Football Championship shall be governed by competition regulations approved by the Meath GAA County Committee.

(Hurling only)

1. A GAA club with a hurling team in the Senior (A or B) **and** the Intermediate (A or B) Hurling Championships shall forward a list of their Top 15 players who can only play hurling championship for their club's first team.

This list must be sent to the Meath GAA County Committee via email at **least three days** before the commencement of the club's first team's game.

Penalties:

(i) **Club Penalty:** They shall be liable to a minimum €100 fine

(ii) **Team Penalty:** Award of Game to Opposing Team

2. After the first round of the Senior (A or B) and the Intermediate (A or B) Hurling Championships, the lists of players are superseded by the players who have played.

A player is then graded by their Championship Status e.g., if a player plays in a Senior Championship game, the player is graded Senior. These players cannot play for their club's second or subsequent team in the Senior (A or B) and the Intermediate (A or B) Hurling Championships.

3. Players who **have played a competitive inter-county senior hurling game for Meath** (League or Championship), **in the current year or the previous year, are only eligible to play for the first team** in the hurling championship.
4. Clubs/Players may make an application to regrade their status to the Meath C.C.C. for a decision, which may be appealed to the Meath Hearings committee.
5. The eligibility of players to play in the **Junior and Junior 'B' Hurling Championships** shall be governed by competition regulations approved by the Meath GAA County Committee.

Motions to Annual Congress

Proposal 1:

Motion for Approval at GAA County Board AGMs: Financial Compensation for Coaching Fund Underspend

Motion:

That this County Board supports a motion for submission to the GAA Annual Congress, requesting the immediate establishment of mechanisms at a national level to ensure that all GAA clubs across the country are financially compensated for the underspend on the coaching funding model approved by Central Council in February 2022. This underspend is conservatively estimated at €5,268,612 (see attached for your county breakdown), excluding any underspend for the 2024 financial year-end. Compensation should be secured by County Committees from Croke Park within a clear timeframe of **three months following the financial year-end**.

Rationale:

1. **Average Compensation of €3,000 per Club:**

This funding shortfall could equate to an average of €3,000 per club, which would make a real and tangible difference in the operations and development of local GAA clubs across the country.

2. **No Basis for "Carried Forward" Funds Narrative:**

The GAA's assertion that these funds are "carried forward" lacks credibility. The new coaching funding model will continue in perpetuity, much like the model that has been in place for **Dublin GAA** for over 15 years. During this time, clubs outside Dublin have missed out on their fair share of these resources.

3. **Misrepresentation of Matching Funding Requirements:**

The GAA's argument that County Boards outside of Dublin could not provide matching funding, and that this is the cause of the underspend, also holds no merit. Dublin clubs have been allowed to provide matching funding to access their allocated funds. For clubs outside of Dublin, this matching funding mechanism is being removed under the new coaching model, effectively creating a **two-tier system**.

4. **Second-Class Treatment of Counties Outside Dublin:**

Despite assurances in February 2022 that the new coaching funding model would address inequities, counties outside of Dublin continue to be treated as **second-class citizens**. Clubs

across the country are entitled to equitable access to these vital coaching resources, yet they remain at a disadvantage under the current system.

Proposed Rule Changes to the GAA Official Guide to Implement This Motion

The following rule changes are proposed to ensure that County Boards have the power to secure underspent funds from Croke Park within a clear timeframe of **three months** after the end of the GAA's financial year.

Amendment to Rule 3.17 - Powers of County Committees

Current Rule:

The County Committee governs all matters within the County, but there is no explicit provision for ensuring timely receipt of national coaching funds or securing compensation for underspends.

Proposed Addition:

- *Rule 3.17(m):* "County Committees shall be empowered to secure the timely release of underspent funds from national-level coaching and games development programs. In cases of underspend, County Committees shall seek the transfer of these funds from Croke Park within **three months** after the end of the financial year. Central Council must provide the funds within this timeframe."

Rationale:

This amendment ensures that County Committees have the authority to demand compensation for coaching fund underspends and sets a clear three-month deadline for Croke Park to deliver these funds. This protects clubs from delays and ensures timely access to resources.

Amendment to Rule 3.28 - Powers of Provincial Councils

Current Rule:

Provincial Councils manage financial matters within their jurisdiction but lack provisions to ensure that County Committees receive their fair share of national funding within a specific time period.

Proposed Addition:

- *Rule 3.28(l):* "Provincial Councils shall monitor and support County Committees in securing underspent funds from national coaching and games development programs. If the funds are not transferred by Croke Park within **three months** following the financial year-end, Provincial Councils are authorized to escalate the issue to Central Council for immediate resolution."

Rationale:

This addition empowers Provincial Councils to provide oversight and ensures that if Croke Park does not release the funds within the specified timeframe, there is a clear escalation process to ensure that County Committees receive what is owed to them.

Amendment to Rule 3.20 - Central Council Powers Regarding Financial Management

Current Rule:

Central Council manages GAA financial resources but does not have an explicit obligation to transfer underspent funds within a specific time period.

Proposed Addition:

- *Rule 3.20(c):* "Central Council shall ensure that all underspent funds from national coaching and games development programs are transferred to County Committees within **three months** following the end of the financial year. Failure to meet this deadline will result in automatic escalation to Provincial Councils and the withholding of grants or project funding for Central Council initiatives."

Rationale:

This amendment holds Central Council accountable for releasing underspent funds within a three-month window. The automatic escalation process ensures that delays are dealt with swiftly, preventing clubs from losing out on essential resources.

New Rule - National Compensation and Pro-Rata Funding Redistribution

Proposed New Rule:

- *Rule 4.9(a):* "All underspent funds from national-level coaching and games development programs shall be transferred to County Committees within **three months** following the financial year-end. County Committees will ensure that these funds are distributed to clubs on a pro-rata basis. In the event of a failure to release funds, Central Council shall face financial penalties, including additional payments to county boards and local clubs as compensation."

Rationale:

This new rule ensures that clubs are compensated fairly and promptly. By introducing penalties for failure to release funds within the specified timeframe, this rule change guarantees that underspends are addressed efficiently.

Rationale for These Rule Changes:

1. Timely Compensation for Clubs:

By setting a strict three-month deadline for the transfer of underspent funds, these rule changes ensure that clubs are not subjected to lengthy delays in receiving vital coaching and development resources.

2. Clear Responsibilities and Escalation Process:

County Committees are given the authority to secure the funds from Croke Park, and Provincial Councils are empowered to oversee and escalate any delays. This creates a structured process that ensures accountability at all levels.

3. Protecting Clubs from Financial Delays:

The amendments protect clubs by ensuring that they receive their share of national underspends in a timely manner. The pro-rata distribution model ensures fairness and equality across all clubs, regardless of their size or location.

4. Accountability for Croke Park and Central Council:

By introducing financial penalties for delays, these rule changes hold Central Council and Croke Park accountable for managing funds efficiently and equitably. This prevents ongoing issues of underfunding for counties outside of Dublin.

C.L.G. Dún Doire