

Bye-Laws of Coiste Chill Dara 2024 **To be Read in Conjunction with the Official Guide**

(Approved by An Coiste Bainistíochta, on behalf of Ard Comhairle, 26 Eanáir 2024)

1. The Annual Convention is convened in accordance with Rule **3.9, T.O 2023**. In accordance with **R. 3.9, T.O. 2023**, the County Convention shall elect/appoint the following officers: Chairperson, Vice –Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Officer for Irish Language and Culture, Coaching Officer and Public Relations Officer, all of whom shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual Convention. It shall also elect two representatives on the Provincial Council, and one representative on the Central Council. Representatives not re-elected at County Convention shall continue in office until the conclusion of the Provincial Convention or Annual Congress as appropriate immediately following date of Convention.

The outgoing County Chairperson in any given year shall nominate, to the County outgoing County Committee, a Children’s Officer, Demographics Officer and a Planning and Training Officer.

The incoming County Chairperson will nominate a Chairperson of the Hurling Committee, a Chairperson of Coiste na nÓg, a Strategic Planning Officer, a Safety and Facilities Officer and any other position as may be required for the workings of the Management Committee, for the forthcoming year, for appointment by the incoming County Committee. This will take place at the February County Committee meeting.

The position of County Treasurer shall not be subject to the maximum number of years prescribed in **Rule 3.9(b)**.

2. In accordance with **R. 3.16(b)**, the County Committee shall consist of the Officers (as elected and appointed per Bye Law #1 above), the Central and Provincial Council Representatives, one named representative of each affiliated adult Club taking part in official adult Competitions, one representative from the County Handball Committee, one representative from the Post-Primary Schools’ Committee, one representative from the Primary Schools’ Committee and the County Referees Administrator (appointed in accordance with **R. 3.18 (i), T.O. 2023**).
3. In accordance with **R. 3.18, T.O. 2023** the County Committee shall appoint the following Sub-Committees whose powers and functions shall be as outlined in **R.3.18, T.O. 2023** and in these Bye-Laws. All members of sub-committees shall be nominated by the County Chairperson and ratified by the County Committee.

a. Management Committee:

It shall consist of the officers of the County Committee, the Central and Provincial Council representatives, the Chairperson of the Hurling Committee, the Chairperson of Coiste na nÓg and the Chairperson of the Strategic Plan committee and any other position as maybe required for the effective running of the County Committee. The Operations Manager, who shall not have voting rights, will also be a member of the Management Committee.

b. County Competitions Control Committee:

A County Competitions Control Committee shall be nominated annually by the County Chairperson for appointment by the County Committee. It shall consist of ten members in total to include a representative from the Hurling Committee and Coiste na nÓg, one

Fixtures' Analyst, and the County Referees' Administrator, who shall be entitled to vote only on the appointment of referees. With the exception of Grading of Clubs and Players the Competitions Control Committee is granted plenary powers and acts on behalf of the County Committee.

c. Fixture Analysts:

The County Chairperson shall be nominate **one** Fixture Analysts to be ratified by the County Committee.

d. County Hearings Committee:

A County Hearings Committee shall be nominated annually by the County Chairperson for appointment by the County Committee. It shall consist of eight members. No member of the County Management Committee, the County Competitions Control Committee, the County Coiste na nÓg C.C.C., the County Primary and Post-Primary Schools' C. C. C. may serve on the County Hearings Committee. It shall consist of at least three members for any hearing. Except where required to stand aside, as per Rule 7.3(v), the Chairman or Secretary of the Committee must be present. It shall hear appeals lodged by individuals and clubs against decisions of Divisional or other subcommittees formed under **R. 3.18 and 3.17 T.O. 2023.**

e. County Planning and Training Committee:

It 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 National Officer Development Committee and Club and County Planning Committee.

f. Safety and Facilities Committee

It shall have six members including County Safety and Facilities Officer who shall be Chairperson, a Qualified Event Controller. 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 **R. 3.18 (v) T.O. 2023.**

g. County Referee's Administration Committee:

It shall consist of at least five people, nominated by the County Chairperson, for appointment by the County Committee, and the Referees' Administrator. The Chairperson to be selected from the membership.

h. Coaching & Games Development Committee:

It shall consist of ten members: The County Coaching Officer as Chairperson, the County Games Development Manager as Secretary and eight members, nominated by the County Chairperson for appointment by the County Committee.

i. County Cultural Committee:

It shall be chaired by the Officer for Irish Language and Culture and shall comprise of five people, four of whom shall be nominated by the County Chairperson, for appointment by the County Committee. The secretary is to be selected from these four.

j. County Public Relations/Marketing Committee:

It shall be chaired by the County P.R.O. and shall comprise of eight people, including the Officer for Irish Language and Culture. The other six members shall be nominated by the County Chairperson, for appointment by the County Committee. The Secretary is to be selected from these six.

k. County Youth Committee:

It shall be chaired by the Children's Officer and shall comprise of six people, five of whom shall be nominated by the County Chairperson, for appointment by the County Committee. The Secretary is to be selected from these five.

l. Audit and Risk Committee:

It shall consist of no more than five named members including a Chairperson nominated by the Management Committee and approved by the Provincial Audit and Risk Committee and up to four members nominated by the Management Committee. The Treasurer shall not be a member.

m. County Teams Management and Panels Sub Committee:

The membership of the County Teams 'Management and Panels' Committee shall be as outlined in the players charter for County Committee/Player relationships as approved by Árd Chomhairle from time to time. The functions of this Committee will be as outlined in **Rule 3.18 (xiv), T.O. 2023.**

n. Health and Wellbeing Committee:

It shall consist of a Chairperson and three other members all of whom shall be nominated by the County Chairperson, for appointment by the County Committee.

o. County Hurling Committee:

It shall comprise of a Chairperson and seven other people all of whom shall be nominated by The County Chairperson, for appointment by the County Committee. The Secretary shall be selected from the seven people. It shall be responsible for the development of hurling at all levels within the county. Matters of finance and the administration of county teams shall be dealt with by the County Committee.

p. Coiste na nÓg:

The Chairperson and officers of Coiste na nÓg shall be nominated by the County Chairperson, for appointment by the County Committee. It shall also consist of one named delegate from each affiliated club taking part in official underage competitions. They will be responsible for the control of underage football and hurling within the county up to the Under 17 age group. Appeals against decisions of this committee and requests for a Hearing where prescribed shall be heard by the County Hearings Committee.

q. Demographics Committee

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 to include 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

The County Committee shall appoint a Coiste na nÓg C.C.C. which shall consist of the Coiste na nÓg Chairperson, Secretary and three named members of the Committee.

The accounts of Coiste na nÓg will be presented within the County Committee's consolidated accounts at the annual convention of every year.

r. Post-Primary Schools Committee

It shall consist of a Chairperson, who will be an officer of the County Committee, a Secretary, a representative of each affiliated Post-Primary school, a representative of the Coaching and Games Development Committee and a representative of Coiste na nÓg. The function of the Committee shall be the promotion, development and control of Gaelic games in Post-Primary schools. It shall organise competitions where appropriate and encourage as wide a participation as possible in Gaelic games across

the post-primary school network. The County Post-Primary Schools A.G.M. shall be held annually. Its officers shall be appointed in accordance with Rule **3.18 (I) T.O. 2023**. It shall appoint an executive committee and forward motions to the provincial body. It shall also elect a representative to the provincial body. The Post Primary Committee Chairperson shall, with approval from the Management Committee, appoint a Post-Primary school's C.C.C. that will consist of the chairman, secretary and three other named members of the Post Primary schools Committee. Appeals against decisions of this committee and requests for a Hearing where prescribed shall be heard by the County Hearings Committee.

s. County Strategic Planning Committee:

The Committee's role, working in conjunction with the Management Committee, will be to implement Kildare GAA's Strategic Plan, including updating the plan in 5-year cycles. The County Chairperson will nominate a Chairperson and two other members of the Strategic Planning committee for appointment by the County Committee. The Chairperson will be a member of the Management Committee.

t. Primary Schools Subcommittee:

It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Assistant-Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, P.R.O., Registrar, Development Officer, County Board Delegate and Officer for Irish Language and Culture. This Committee shall be responsible for the organising and control of Gaelic games at primary school level. The Primary Schools Committee Chairperson shall, with approval from the Management Committee, appoint a Primary school's C.C.C. that will consist of the chairman, secretary and three other named members of the Primary schools Committee. The Primary Schools Committee will have its own Hearings committee, consisting of three named people who shall not be members of the primary schools executive or C.C.C.

u. Club Kildare Sub- Committee:

It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer (who shall be the current Treasurer of the County Committee), P.R.O., Membership Officer, at least five additional members, all of whom shall be shall be nominated by the Chairperson of the County Committee for appointment by the County Committee. It will be the main fundraising arm of the Kildare County Committee. All funds raised by Club Kildare shall be lodged to the account of Club Kildare and then transferred to the account of the County Committee who shall be responsible for the disbursements of the said funds. The accounts of Club Kildare will be presented within the County Committee's consolidated accounts at the annual convention of every year.

4. Representation to Annual Congress & Leinster Convention:

Kildare GAA's delegation to Annual Congress shall consist of the representative to relevant council (Leinster or Central) and the Executive Officers of the County Committee, namely: The Chairperson, the Vice –Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, if available.

5. Grading/Regrading:

Subject to rule **Code 10.8** the County Committee shall delegate responsibility for dealing with annual player and club re-grading to the Competition Control Committee (CCC). The CCC shall set a date for re-grading submissions, which must be compiled by clubs. This date shall be set by the CCC at the February County Board meeting, or as otherwise advised and notified by the CCC.

The CCC shall also set out, and publish, the format under which clubs must compile their regrading lists and the rules surrounding how players may be regraded.

The County Committee shall retain the right to make the final decision on an application for regarding by a club.

A player shall have the right to appeal to the County Hearings Committee whose decision shall be final. **Code 10.8 (b)** a player has 3 days to appeal this decision upon issue of approved grading list by the County Secretary.

Failure to adhere to the date and format prescribed by the CCC shall result in a fine of €100 on each count.

6. Attachment to First Club:

Coiste na nÓg shall compile, and annually update, a first club players register within the County. In all cases a player's first club shall be determined on the basis of the definition of First club. **Rule 6.2 T.O. 2023.** A player shall have an unfettered choice when joining his first Club. This register shall be supplied annually to the County Competitions Control committee, prior to the Annual Convention of that year.

7. Transfers within the County:

The following note will guide club transfers within the County:

- a. All inter-club transfers within County Kildare shall be dealt with in accordance with **Rule 6.4 (a) T. O. 2023.** A player who wishes to transfer from one club to another must apply to the Secretary of County Committee on the form prescribed for this purpose. Applications must be submitted to the County Secretary no later than February 1st and applications received after this date shall not be considered in the current year. The CCC, in the first instance, shall make decisions on applications for transfers at least one week prior to the March County Committee Meeting.
- b. The County Competitions Control Committee (C.C.C.), when adjudicating and reaching its determination on a Transfer Application in accordance with **Rule 6.4 T.O. 2023,** shall also give due consideration to **Rules 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 T.O. 2023.** It shall further consider the response of his current Club, and shall;
 - Be cognisant of the role played by his current Club, in nurturing and developing the individual Player.
 - Consider the potential impact on his current Club.
 - Give special consideration to clubs that are affected by demographic decline.
 - Be cognisant of the imbalance in player membership that generally exists between urban and rural clubs.
 - Consider the potential impact on the promotion of the Association's aims in County Kildare.
- c. To have a transfer request considered the applicant must qualify under at least one of the conditions outlined hereunder:
 - The applicant and/or the applicant's permanent family residence is changed.
 - The applicant is applying for a transfer to his First Club
 - The applicant has other relevant connections (as defined in **Rule 6.2 T.O. 2023**) with the club to which he wishes to transfer.
 - The applicant is applying for a transfer from a Senior Club to an Intermediate or Junior Club, or from an Intermediate Club to a Junior Club to play first team Football/Hurling, in circumstances where he does not have the opportunity to do so at his existing club.

Note: The County Competitions Committee shall retain the right to consider extenuating circumstances in all transfer applications.

- d. Permanent residence, in the context of this Bye-Law and **Rule 6.2, T.O. 2023**, shall mean residing at a fixed address for a minimum period of twenty four consecutive weeks, prior to the date of the Transfer application, and likely to reside at that fixed address for at least the ensuing year. The applicant must satisfy the CCC of such residency by provision of documentary evidence, as required. For a player, up to and including Minor level, residence shall be considered to be the permanent residence of his Family.
- e. Multiple transfers from a Club shall not be approved pending consideration by the CCC and the presentation of a report thereon to the County Committee.
- f. A player may apply for a transfer at a time other than by the 1st of February in a given calendar year provided;
- a) That the application submitted by the player is in order, and,
 - b) That the application is compliant with all other sub-sections of this bye-law, and presented to Kildare CCC for its consideration, and,
 - c) That no other application for a transfer made by that player was adjudicated on by Kildare CCC in that calendar year, and,
 - d) That the application is made before the 1st of June in that calendar year. Applications received after this date shall not be considered and the player shall have to reapply by the 1st of February the following calendar year. Applications received by the 1st of June in a calendar year shall, in the first instance, be considered by Kildare CCC with decisions notified within three weeks of receipt of the application, and,
 - e) That the player has not played with a club in the 96 weeks preceding the date of the application, the onus being on the player to prove the date he last played.

For the purposes of clarification a calendar year is defined as the period from 1st January to 31st December in one given year.

8. **Playing Restrictions (Club):**

Rule 6.7 (c) TO 2023 shall only apply to ‘Single’ Clubs, where a player does not have the opportunity to compete in both codes. Rule 6.8 C will not apply to either ‘Dual’ Clubs or to ‘Twin’ Clubs.

Definitions:

- A ‘Single’ Club means a stand-alone Hurling Club or Football Club.
- A ‘Dual’ Club means a Club that caters for both codes, Hurling and Football.
- A ‘Twin’ Club means two Clubs, i.e. a Hurling Club and a Football Club separately registered under the same name.