

Regulations Governing the Organisation and Presentation of Inter-Club Championships, Inter-County Championships and Allianz League Games

Introduction: *These Regulations have been drawn up by An Lár Choiste Cheannais na gComortaisí and approved by An Coiste Bainistíochta (06.05.2021) in accordance with Riail 3.43, Riail 3.47(g) and Riail 6.63 T.O. 2020 and Riail 4, Rules of Control, Official Guide 2020 Cuid II.*

The Central Competitions Control Committee (CCCC) 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.

Categories of Games: *For the purposes of imposition of penalty under these Regulations three Categories of games have been created, as follows:*

Category A:-

All GAA Senior Inter-County Championship & Allianz League games & all National Finals and GAA All Ireland Senior Club Semi-finals & Finals

Category B:- *All other Inter-County games;*

Category C:- *All other Inter-Club games.*

Sideline Official/Match Monitor - A Sideline Official will be appointed by the Committee-in-Charge and it shall be his duty to report any breaches of these Regulations.

The Committee-in-Charge may also appoint a Match Monitor who shall be responsible for any duties assigned. The Sideline Official shall include in his report any relevant observations or breaches reported to him by the Match Monitor. These will then form part of the Referee's Report in accordance with Rule 1.6, Rules of Control, T.O. 2020 Cuid II but any errors or omissions in respect of this shall not invalidate the Report as a whole.

The Committee-in-Charge may also impose penalties for breaches of the Regulations brought to its attention by members of the Committee-in-Charge or the Management Committee.

Failure to respect the regulations and follow laid down procedures therein may lead to penalties as defined in General Rule & Section 3 of this document being imposed on individuals, teams, County Committees, or Clubs by the Committees-in-Charge.

1. Ground/Pitch Regulations

1.1 Ground Regulations shall apply to all venues considered suitable for Inter-County competitions. They shall include procedures for entry to each ground, designated areas for substitutes and Team Officials and shall be communicated to Teams along with the official Clár an Lae.

1.2 The Clár an Lae shall also notify teams in advance of each game as to pre-match & half time protocols, the assignation of dressing rooms, bib colours to be worn, and any pitch regulations around warmups & access.

1.3 Only those players named on the Official Team list (26 for senior Inter-County games & 24 in Non-Senior Inter-County games) shall be allowed external entry to venue and pitch Enclosure. Access for additional members of the panel and team officials will be dependent on the government regulations at the time.

1.4 A maximum of 14 Team Officials & County Officials shall be allowed entry to the controlled zone. The controlled zone is defined as the dressing room and pitch-side area. **All Team Officials and substitutes must sit in the designated areas identified** & must leave the field of play 3 minutes before the throw-in to go to the appropriate designated areas.

1.5 There shall be two designated areas for team personnel and officials:

- I. Bainisteoir's zone in which seats for the Bainisteoir, Maor Fóirne and a Medic should be provided (see pitch layout on page 3);
- II. A seated area for substitutes and all other permitted team officials. *

** Exception: Where this designated area for substitutes & Team Officials are considerably removed from the sideline area and provides a practical difficulty for Team Managers in terms of consultation with backroom personnel (i.e. selectors or medics only), seats in an appropriate area recessed from the pitch enclosure (e.g. in **the front row** of the stand/viewing area or in a dugout) may be provided for a maximum of 4 additional personnel who must remain seated in this area at all times.*

Seating for medics must ensure uninhibited access to the playing area at all times. Medics may sit together in the designated area for substitutes or one medic may be positioned in the Bainisteoir's zone.

Where facilities in particular grounds do not permit for the specific arrangements outlined above, alternative arrangements may be made in advance with the approval of the Committee-in-Charge and communicated to the relevant units.

1.6 Where the National Anthem precedes a game, Teams shall stand to attention respectfully facing the flag for the full duration of the anthem;

- Helmets must not be worn for Amhrán na bhFiann, for the parade or in team photographs.
- At least 30 seconds will be provided to teams after the anthem, this is to allow for any team huddles or warmups before they are required to get into position for the start of the game.
- There will also be a three minute and a one-minute reminder before the National Anthem is played.
- All other officials should be off the field when the National Anthem is been played.

1.7 The team captain shall lead the parade and only the 15 players commencing the game as per official team list may march in the parade, in team jerseys & numerical order.

1.8(a) For Senior Inter-County Championship Games Teams must be registered with the Committee-in-Charge not later than 9 am on the Thursday before a weekend game, along with names of personnel who have access to the controlled zone. (Riail 6.36 T.O. 2020).

1.8(b) For Allianz League games, the **Travelling County** shall forward their team selection for receipt by the Home County not later than noon on Wednesday before a weekend game, to enable the **Home County** to produce a match programme, along with names of personnel who have access to the controlled zone.

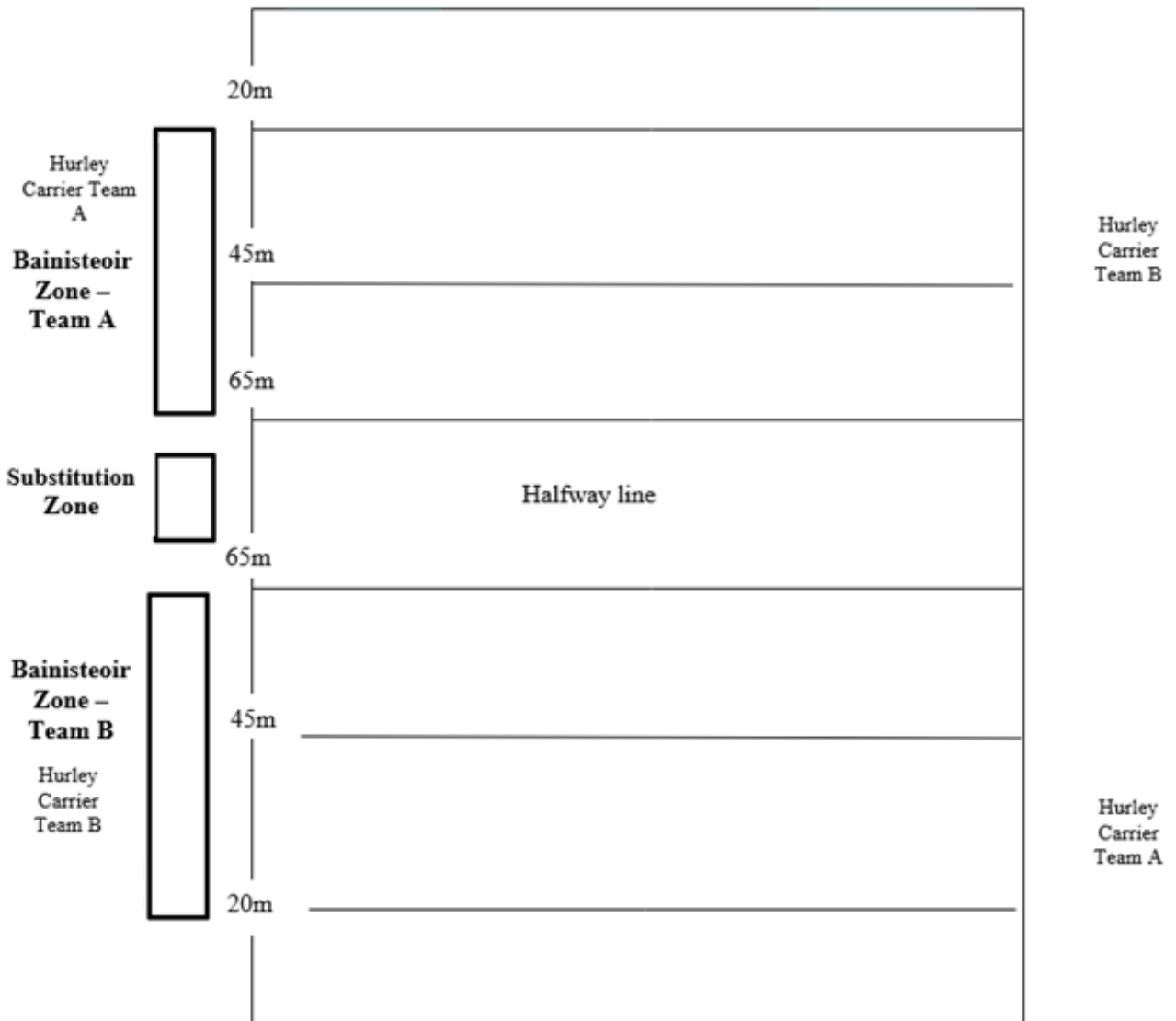
1.8(c) For Non-Senior Inter-County Championship games, Teams shall be provided to the Committee-in-Charge for the official programme, and to the media, four days before the game i.e. no later than Wednesday Noon before a weekend game, along with names of personnel who have access to the controlled zone.

1.9 Players shall be numbered in accordance with the Official Programme and from 1 to not more than 24 (26 in the case of Senior Inter-County games) and from 1 to not more than 30 in Inter-Club games. (Riail 6.32 T.O. 2020).

1.10 In the case of a valid withdrawal for For Non-Senior Inter-County Championship games the jersey number of the player being replaced shall be used by the replacing player. Such withdrawal shall be notified in advance of the commencement of the game to the Committee-in-Charge/Match Monitor at least 15 minutes before throw-in. The inclusion of **A.N.Other** is not permitted.

1.11 Ball Boys are not permitted.

Pitch Lay out



2. Game Regulations

2.1 Match Officials

- The Referee is in overall charge of Game Regulations and shall delegate authority to his Linesmen & Sideline Official; he shall include the Sideline Official/Match Monitor's report(s) with his match report as appropriate.
- ***The Referee has the authority during the game to send any person in repeated breach of these Regulations to the stand/outside the pitch enclosure and such person cannot be replaced.***

2.2 Controlled Zone Access

The following shall have access to the controlled zone. The controlled zone is defined as the dressing room and pitch-side area.

- The matchday panel will be limited to what is provided for in general rule: **26 players (GAA Senior) & 24 (GAA U20 and Minor)**. Only these players will be granted entry to the controlled zone.
- A maximum of **12 additional backroom personnel (GAA)** will also be granted access.
- In total **40 persons per Senior Team & 38 persons for all other age grades**, are permitted access to the controlled zone.
- The ultimate composition of this number is at each county's discretion but must contain the County Chairperson and Secretary (or their nominees).
- If attendances are permitted by the time inter-county competitions commence, additional panel members can be accommodated in general viewing areas.
- All officials with access to the controlled zone should be registered with the Committee in charge in advance of the game and recorded on listed on the team sheet supplied to the referee.

2.3 Cathaoirleach

- Games and Ground regulations apply to all players and officials and adherence to the regulations is the responsibility of the County Chairman.
- In their absence, their responsibilities will pass to the Rúnai/Nominated Person.
- The Bainisteoir also shares the responsibility of ensuring the Games Regulations are respected by players and members of team management.

2.4 Rúnai

- The Rúnai or Nominated Person shall relay details of substitutions to the Sideline Official.

2.5 Bainisteoir

- The Bainisteoir shall wear a designated distinctive top and is not permitted to enter the field of play and may move along the sideline from the 65m line to the 20m line as per the "Pitch Layout" on Page 3 of these Regulations.
- The Bainisteoir may not act in any other capacity.
- The Bainisteoir also shares the responsibility of ensuring the Games Regulations are respected by players and members of team management and can have their sideline privileges removed for any breaches by players and members of team management.

2.6 Maor Fóirne

- The Maor Fóirne is no longer allowed under rule.
- As per Regulation 2.7, all selectors must be seated in their designated area.
- Any unauthorised incursions onto the field of play will be dealt with under Rial 7.2 (c) Misconduct at Games by Team Officials (as per Rules Drafting Report as adopted by Ard Chomhairle on 20ú Márta 2021).

2.7 Selectors

- Selectors must sit in their designated area.

2.8 Medics

- Two (2) Medical personnel shall be identified on the Official Team list and shall sit in the areas designated in Ground Regulations; they shall wear clear identification which must not clash with the playing jerseys of either team and may only enter the field of play to attend to an injured player(s).
- Selectors/Coaches cannot act as a medic person, without advance approval from the Committee in Charge.
- Medical personnel while performing their duties are required to wear PPE.

2.9 Water Breaks

- One water break will take place between the 15th & 20th minute in each half, which the referee will signal for only when the ball has gone out of play following a score, wide or during a stoppage called by the Referee.
- The breaks should last no longer than a minute, with players coming to the area in front of their team zone and using clearly marked Personal bottles, or Single-use bottles should be used for fluid intake.
- The referee & any match day clocks shall be stopped for the duration of the water break. The Referee shall signal when he restarts his watch.
- Players are permitted to position their clearly marked Personal bottles or Single-use bottles around the outside of the pitch.
- **Maor Uisce is not permitted in either Football or Hurling.**

2.10 Maor Camán (Hurley Carriers)

- **Two Maor Camán** who must be over 18 years of age is permitted per team. Each must wear an official (Brown or Lilac) bib and will be situated as per the “Pitch Layout” on Page 3 of these Regulations, and at least two metres from the sideline.
- **The Maor Camán are included in the 12 people with access to the control zone.**
- Official team personnel (Selectors/Coaches) may act as Maor Camán but substitutes, injured players or members of the extended panel may not.
 - In the event that any injured player or a member of the extended panel act as a Maor Uisce, any breach of rule, shall be considered as a Misconduct at Games by Team Officials infraction.
- **Maor Camán is not allowed to carry water into the players and may enter the field of play only with a replacement hurley when necessary.**
- Any unauthorised incursions onto the field of play will be dealt with under Rial 7.2 (c) Misconduct at Games by Team Officials (as per Rules Drafting Report as adopted by Ard Chomhairle on 20ú Márta 2021).

2.11 Substitutes

- Substitutes are not allowed a kick/puck around at half-time.
- A maximum of three substitutes wearing designated distinctive tops may warm up on sidelines at any one time on their designated half of the field.
- Substitutes should not swap bibs or tops.
- The following amended has been made for the Allianz League
 - Rules of Specification, Rule 2.4 (i) be temporarily amended for the 2021 Allianz Football and Hurling leagues as follows:
 - "2.4 (i) The maximum number of substitutes permitted during the playing of Normal Time shall be **seven**. Each team is permitted to make substitutions on a maximum of five separate occasions during a game."
 - Penalties for a team breaching this rule would be as 6.44 (b) (ii) T.O. 2020.

2.12 Media Interviews

- Any Provincial/County/Club Committee Official or Players who make derogatory comments in relation to Games Officials before, during or after a game in interviews may be dealt with in accordance with Riail 7.2(e) T.O. 20120.
- Team Official(s) or Designated Person(s) (as per the list supplied to the Match Referee prior to the game) may be subject to the withdrawal of side-line privileges for future games

2.13 Sliotars

- Umpires have the responsibility to control the supply of sliotars approved by CLG to the goalkeeper by controlling the bag of sliotars at the back extension of the goal post.
- Any sliotars not officially approved and displaying the official GAA stamp shall not be used. Breaches shall be brought to the attention of the Referee.
- Goalkeepers are not permitted a private supply of sliotars in the goal area.
- For all Senior Inter-County games, sliotars with yellow leather will be used.
- For all other games, if there is an agreement between both teams, officially approved sliotars with yellow leather can be used, otherwise, sliotars with white leather shall be used.

2.14 Late Fielding

- A team taking the field late before a game shall be subject to the penalties outlined in Rule 6.44(d)(i), T.O. 2020; a team responsible for a half time interval being exceeded shall be subject to penalties outlined in Rule 6.44(d)(ii)(a), T.O. 2020 and a team responsible for an interval period allowed being exceeded by more than 10 minutes shall be subject to penalties outlined in Rule 6.44(d)(ii)(b), T.O. 2020.

2.15 Distinctive Tops

- If not wearing the official bib, the distinctive tops as listed above in relation to the Bainisteoir shall not clash with the main colour of either team.

2.16 Matters not provided for

- Matters not specifically provided for in these regulations shall be dealt with by the referee and his team of officials on the day, and then by An Lár Choiste Cheannais na gComortaisí when reported via either the Referee, Sideline Official or Match Monitor.

2.17 Covid-19 Guidelines

- All players and officials should follow the guidelines issued by the GAA Covid Advisory Group as outlined in the Covid-19: Return to Training and Play Guidelines for Inter-County Teams document.

2.18 Extra – Time & Winner on the Day

- Regulations governing the playing of Extra Time & Winner on the Day are outlined in Rule 2.6, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6 & 3.7, Rules of Specification, T.O. 2020 Cuid II & Winner on the Day regulations approved Ard Chomhairle on the 19th January 2019.

3. Penalties

3.1 Penalties for breaches of Ground/Pitch/Game Regulations shall be at the discretion of the Committee-in-Charge. These may include warnings, fines, the withdrawal of sideline privileges for individuals as outlined in Part 2 of these regulations or suspension of individuals as considered appropriate.

3.2 The **Referee** has the authority during the game to send any person in repeated breach of these Regulations to the stand/outside the pitch enclosure and such person cannot be replaced.

3.3 The Bainisteoir shares the responsibility of ensuring the Games Regulations are respected by players and members of team management and can have their sideline privileges removed for any breaches by players and members of team management as deemed appropriate by Committee-in-Charge.

3.4 Maximum fines for breaches of Ground/Pitch/Game Regulations and Clár an Lae: **Category A** €700; **Category B** €500; **Category C** €300 (for each reported breach).

3.5 Where Maor Camán sideline privileges have been withdrawn the Committee-in-Charge will appoint **Maor Camán** on a team's behalf.

3.6 Where Bainisteoir sideline privileges have been withdrawn the Bainisteoir will be confined to a designated area as decided on by the Committee-in-Charge.

3.7 The frequency and gravity of reported breaches in each game shall be taken into account by the Committee-in-Charge and may lead to next match penalties.

3.8 The provisions of Riail 7.2 (c) Misconduct at Games by Team Officials (as per Rules Drafting Report as adopted by Ard Chomhairle on 20ú Márta 2021) shall apply.

4. Player & Team Officials Covid-19 Guidelines

All players and officials should follow the guidelines issued by the GAA Covid Advisory Group as outlined in the Covid-19: Return to Training and Play Guidelines for Inter-County Teams document.

The following key points should be noted by Players & Team Officials to reduce risk and maximise personal safety.

- No handshakes before or after games
- No spitting or nose-clearing
- Team huddles should only take place where social distancing is observed
- Use hand-sanitisers before and after every match
- Players should use their own clearly marked water bottles
- Interaction with opponents & match officials should be kept to a minimum after the match