

Coiste na nÓg Dhun na nGall

RULES & REGULATIONS 2022

1 Coiste na nÓg shall be the governing & controlling body of all underage Hurling and Football games within County Donegal.

1.1 Roles and Responsibilities of Coiste na nÓg/Coiste na nÓg CCC

- a) To agree competition formats with all Regional Boards and the Hurling Board at start of the year.
- b) Will have final decision in the grading for all competitions.
- c) Will draw up match regulations for all competitions.
- d) Will work in conjunction with the Coaching & Games Development Committee to co-ordinate new coaching initiatives.
- e) Will deal with all disciplinary matters arising from all stages of all Competitions in both Football and Hurling.

2. Regional Boards

The Three Regional Boards shall be called the Northern Regional Board, the Southern Regional Board and the Inishowen Regional Board.

3. Role and Responsibilities of All Regional Boards:

- a) To organize Leagues, Championships and Blitz competitions up to and including Minor(U17) age group.
- b) To produce a detailed fixture list in conjunction with the Coiste na nÓg CCC at the start of the year for all the above competitions.
- c) To send all disciplinary matters within their Board's area to be dealt with by Coiste na nÓg CCC Disciplinary secretary. Appeals arising out of decisions made by the Coiste na n Óg CCC will be dealt with by the County Hearings Committee.
- d) To have one (1) vote on County Committee.

4. Regional Boards AGMs

The Annual General Meeting of all the Regional Boards shall be held not later than November 30th each year. It shall consist of the officers of the outgoing Boards and two delegates from each club, which competed, in an underage Championship of the preceding year.

5. Finance

Funding will be determined by the Donegal County Committee. The Treasurers shall lodge all monies in a bank as nominated by the Donegal County Committee and shall produce all books including those of the Regional Boards, when requested to do so for audit purposes.

5.1 The Treasurer and one of either the Chairman or Secretary must sign all cheques. The Treasurer shall submit a financial report to every monthly meeting of the Regional Board.

5.2 The Regional Board Treasurer shall send a copy of their annual report to the County Treasurer immediately after the AGM.

6.0 Fixtures

The Donegal Coiste na nÓg CCC in conjunction with the three Regional Boards and the Hurling Board, shall produce a complete set of all underage fixtures, these to ratified by Donegal Coiste na nÓg and be set up on the Servasport system and published on Donegal GAA Webpage.

6.1 The Regional Boards' Coiste na nÓg CCC delegate shall be responsible for coordinating Regional Board fixtures and the selection of venues that arise between meetings.

6.2 Coiste na nÓg will meet at least six (6) times during the year to ensure smooth running of the fixture program.

6.3 Players who reside in a Club area where no underage teams exist may apply in writing to the County Committee as per Rule 6.4 T. O 2021.

6.4 Fixtures in all regions will take place as per master fixture plan with the following exception on a postponement. The Coiste na nÓg CCC, in exceptional circumstances, may grant the postponement of a club fixture in the event of a sudden or tragic death or the death of a club member who during their lifetime had rendered exceptional service to CLG. The Coiste na nÓg CCC may grant a postponement on the death of an immediate family member of a player, Team Manager, 3 Main Club Officers and the CCC will have responsibility for the rescheduling. (Immediate Family Members shall include husband, wife, child, parent, sibling and in the case of player grandparent or parent's sibling.)

6.6 As the last round of League Games will be played simultaneously, no postponement of any game to a date beyond that round, or of the final round of fixtures, will be granted.

6.7 In the case of unplayable pitches, games cannot be called off without a pitch inspection by an official referee appointed by the County Referees Administrator at least 4 hours before appointed time. If the pitch is deemed unplayable the game automatically reverts to the opponent's grounds (provided it is playable).

6.8 Challenge Game

The Club Secretary of all Clubs wishing to seek permission to play an Underage Challenge Match, must do so on the Official Challenge match App in advance of the Fixture as per Rule, 6.41 T.O. 2021.

Challenge Games outside the County and within Ulster require permission from Ulster Council, Challenge Games outside the Province must be sought from Croke Park, Clubs participating in unauthorized challenge games will be fined €100.

7.0 Referees unable to fulfill a fixture must contact the Referees Administrator for the services of a neutral referee, and he shall inform the Assistant Secretary of the relevant Board before 6pm on day prior to fixture.

7.1 Referees shall forward their reports to the relevant Regional Secretary / Treasurer who will reimburse their expenses. The referee's expenses shall be recovered from the relevant club. Referees Reports in Regional games with Disciplinary issues must be with relevant secretary no later than 48 hours after game who shall forward them immediately to Coiste na nÓg CCC Disciplinary secretary at Disciplinarysecretary.coistenanog.donegal@gaa.ie Referee reports in all county competitions with Disciplinary issues must be with Coiste na nÓg CCC Disciplinary secretary at Disciplinarysecretary.coistenanog.donegal@gaa.ie within 48 hours of game.

7.2 The expenses of referees in semi-finals and finals of all county competitions shall be paid for by the Treasurer of the Donegal Coiste na nOg Committee.

8. Games and control of games:

(a) Both teams qualifying for County Finals should be properly attired and presented on County Final Day.

(b) Five (5) Subs only are permitted in all underage levels from u15 upwards.

(c) All knockout League games including County Finals must be finished. Therefore, in the event of a draw at full time, extra time (10 minutes each way) must be played. Penalty kicks to be taken if still level after extra time.

(d) In the event of teams finishing level on points after completion of group games in Regional leagues the positions in league table will be determined by Scoring Difference (subtracting the total Scores Against from total Scores For) per Rule 6.21(4) c (ii) T.O 2021.

(e) An underage player is not allowed to play 2 grades above his/her age (4 years above the competition date) i.e., an U9 is not allowed to play U13, U11 is not allowed to play U15 (see below). Girls may participate only up to and including the U12 grade.

Age Grades on 1/1/2022

Under 17: Be over 13 and under 17 years

Under 15: Be over 11 and under 15 years

Under 13: Be over 9 and under 13 years

Under 12: Be over 9 and under 12 years

Under 11: Be over 8 and under 11 years

(f) Each team to have only Four Mentors including medical person on the sidelines during underage matches from U11 to U17. Distinctive bibs to be worn to identify same (**Home Team shall wear Blue Bibs and Away Team shall wear Orange Bibs,**) The penalty for breach of this rule is €50.00 payable to relevant Regional Boards if Regional Games or to Coiste na nÓg CCC if County Quarter Final /Semi-Final or Final matches.

9. Returning of Trophies, all cups and trophies to be returned to the relevant Regional Board Secretary by 1st April of each year. All County Trophies won in 2021 to be returned to Assistant Treasurer Frankie Doherty at assistanttreasurer.donegal@gaa.ie by 1st May 2022 clubs who fail to do so will incur a €150 fine and may be made financially liable for any damage caused.

10. Role of the Coiste na nÓg CCC.

- a). shall organise and decide format of all competitions under its jurisdiction.
- b). shall deal with all objections and counter objections arising from the fixture programme within its jurisdiction.
- c). shall deal with referees reports and matters arising other than those functions that are reserved for the County Hearings Committee.
- d). shall investigate and process matters relating to the enforcement of the rules and match regulations except where these matters are reserved for the County Hearings Committee.
- e). shall control all grading or re-grading in respect of county/club and Regional competitions.
- f). the powers of the Coiste na nÓg CCC assistant secretary for Disciplinary are plenary.
- g). The Coiste na nÓg CCC will ensure that the provisions of the official guide are upheld in relation to games and competitions.

11. For U15 and U17 competitions

If a club/unit has only 15 registered players* at a particular age group then that club shall play 11 a side if required.

If a club/unit has only 17 registered players* at a particular age group then that club shall play 13 a side if required.

If a club/unit has 18 or more registered players* at a particular age group then that club must play 15 a side.

***Where a club/unit has players involved with under-age county activity at these age grades (during league competitions), those players shall be counted as equivalent of an unregistered player for this purpose.**

12. Methods for Grading/Re-grading: Results from the previous two years will be the measurement for all grading/re-grading requests.

12.1 Any team winning a County League or Championship in a year will be promoted to the next highest grade if applicable in 2 years' time.

County Competitions Format

13. Under 13 Division One League

Winners and Runners Up in Northern and Southern Regional Under 13 Division One League plus Third Placed Team and the Winners and Runners Up in the Inishowen Regional Under 13 Division One League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of U/13 Division One League.

13.1 Under 13 Division Two League

Winners and Runners Up in Northern and Southern Regional Under 13 Division Two League plus Third Placed Team and the Winners and Runners Up in Inishowen Regional Under 13 Division Two League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of U/13 Division Two League.

14. Under 13 Division 1 Cup Competition

Winners and Runners up in Northern and Southern Regional Division One League plus Third Placed Team and the Winners and Runners Up in the Inishowen Regional Division One League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of Division 1 Cup competition.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)
- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section **A Winner to receive Home Advantage.** (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section **B Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in Division 1 County Cup Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have **home advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.**
- **(If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)**
- Shield Semi Final winners meet in Division 1 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

14.1 U13 Division 2 Cup Competition

4th 5th and 6th placed teams in Northern and Southern Regional Divisional League plus 3rd and 4th placed teams in the Inishowen Regional Divisional League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of Division 2 Cup Competition.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)
- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section **A Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section **B Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in Division 2 County Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have **Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.** (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome) Shield Semi Final winners meet in Division 2 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

14.2 U13 Division 3 Cup Competition

7th 8th and 9th placed teams in Northern and Southern Regional Divisional League plus 5th and 6th placed teams in the Inishowen Regional Divisional League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of Division 3 Cup Competition.

* Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)

- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section **A Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section **B Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in Division 3 County Cup Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have **Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.** (If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Shield Semi Final winners meet in Division 3 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

14.3 U13 Division 4 Cup Competition

10th 11th and 12th placed teams in Northern and Southern Regional Divisional Leagues plus 7th and 8th placed teams in the Inishowen Divisional League shall qualify for the County Quarter Finals of the Division 4 Cup Competition.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)

- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section **A Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section **B Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in Division 4 County Cup Competition Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section B shall play Fourth placed team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have **Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.** (If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Shield Semi Final winners meet in Division 4 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

14.4 U13 Division 5 Cup Competition

All other teams in Northern and Southern Regional Divisional Leagues shall qualify for County Division 5 Cup Competition.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin) if possible
- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section **A Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section **B Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in Division 5 County Cup Competition Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have **Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.** (If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)

Shield Semi Final winners meet in Division 5 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

15. Under 15 Division One League

Winners and Runners Up in Northern and Southern Regional Under 15 Division One League plus Third Placed Team and the Winners and Runners Up in the Inishowen Regional Under 15 Division One League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of U/15 Division One League.

15.1 Under 15 Division Two League

Winners and Runners up in Northern and Southern Regional Under 15 Division Two League plus Third Placed Team and the Winners and Runners up in Inishowen Regional Under 15 Division Two League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of U/15 Division Two League.

16.0 Under 15 Division 1 Cup Competition

Winners and Runners up in Northern and Southern Regional Under 15 Division One League plus Third Placed Team and the Winners and Runners Up in the Inishowen Regional Under 15 Division One League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of U15 Division 1 Cup.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)
- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section **A Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section **B Winner to receive Home Advantage.**) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division 1 County Cup Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A& B shall have (Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.)
- (If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Shield Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division 1 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

16.1 Under 15 Division 2 Cup Competition

4th 5th and 6th placed teams in Northern and Southern Regional Under 15 Divisional League plus 3rd and 4th placed teams in the Inishowen Regional Under 15 Divisional League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of U15 Division 2 Cup.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)
- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section A Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section B Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division 2 Cup County Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have (Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome) Shield Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division 2 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

16.2 Under 15 Division 3 Cup Competition

7th 8th and 9th placed teams in Northern and Southern Regional Under 15 Divisional League plus 5th and 6th placed teams in the Inishowen Regional Under 15 Divisional League shall qualify for County Quarter Finals of U15 Division 3 Cup Competition.

* Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)

- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section A Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section B Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division 3 Cup County Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have (Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.) (If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Shield Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division 3 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

16.3 Under 15 Division 4 Cup Competition

10th 11th and 12th placed teams in Northern and Southern Regional Under 15 Divisional Leagues plus 7th and 8th placed teams in the Inishowen Under 15 Divisional League shall qualify for the County Quarter Finals of the U15 Division 4 Cup Competition.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin)
- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section A Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section B Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division 4 Cup County Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have (Home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals.) (If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Shield Semi Final winners meet in Under 15 Division 4 County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

16.4 Under 15 Division Five Cup Competition

All other teams in Northern and Southern Regional Under 14 Divisional Leagues shall qualify for County Under 15 Division 5 Cup Competition.

- Divided into Two Sections of Four (Round Robin) if possible

- Top two in each section shall qualify for County Semi Finals.
- Top team in Section A shall play Second team in Section B (Section A Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Top team in Section B shall play Second team in Section A (Section B Winner to receive Home Advantage.) (If teams are tied for top place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Semi Final winners meet in U15 Division Five Cup County Final (Neutral Venue where possible)
- Third placed team in Section A shall play Fourth placed team in Section B in County Shield Semi Final.
- Fourth placed team in Section B shall play Third place team in Section A in County Shield Semi Final.
- Third placed teams in Sections A & B shall have home Advantage in County Shield Semi Finals. (If teams are tied for third place toss of coin shall decide outcome)
- Shield Semi Final winners meet in U13 Division Five Cup County Shield Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

17 Note in County Quarter Finals of Under Fifteen Leagues and Under Thirteen Leagues

(Winners in all three Regional Boards plus one of the Regional Runners Up shall be seeded and receive a Home Draw in the All County Quarter Finals, Format of all these Quarter Finals Draws, shall be determined by the Minor CCC)

In the event of teams in the Leagues finishing on equal points placings will be decided as per Rule 6.21 (4) (c) T.O 2021.

18 All County U17 Division 1 League

Winners of Northern, Southern and Inishowen Division One Leagues shall qualify for County Paly Offs of All County U/17 Division One League.

*One of the Regional Winners will receive a Bye into County Final.

* The other two Regional Winners shall meet in County U17 Division One League Semi Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

* Winner of above shall meet bye in County U17 Division One League Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

19 All County U17 Division 2 League

Winners of Northern, Southern Division 2 League and the Fourth placed team in the Inishowen U17 league shall qualify for County Paly Offs of All County U/17 Division Two League.

*One of these teams will receive a Bye into County Final.

* The other two teams shall meet in County U17 Division Two League Semi Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

* Winner of above shall meet bye in County U17 Division Two League Final (Neutral Venue where possible)

20 All County U17 Division One, Division Two and Division Three Cup Competitions.

* The format for All County U17 Cup competitions will be determined by CCC when confirmation of the grading of all clubs is decided.

21. All clubs who are entering two (2) teams into same age group must provide a list of 12 (twelve) named players for their first team, to the relevant regional secretary and to the Secretary of Coiste na nÓg. Players outside of the named 12 may play on the "B" team for league competitions only. If a player not named in the first 12 plays for the "A" team in Cup Competition, then he is no longer eligible to play with the "B" team again.