

GAA ROUNDERS CONSTITUTION 2023-24

INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Where the following terms are used throughout this Constitution they shall mean as follows:

“An Treorai Oifigiúil (Official Guide)” shall mean the Official Guide of Cumann Luthchleas Gael as amended from time to time.

“Central Council” shall mean the Central Council of Cumann Luthchleas Gael

“Management Committee” shall mean the Management Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Luthchleas Gael

“Ard-Comhairle” shall mean the Ard-Comhairle of Cluiche Corr na hEireann Cumann Luthchleas Gael (GAA Rounders)

“Competitions Control Committee” shall mean the Competitions Control Committee appointed by the Ard Comhairle of GAA Rounders under this Constitution.

“Rounders Hearings Committee” shall mean the Hearings Committee appointed by the Ard Comhairle of GAA Rounders under this Constitution.

“Hearings Committee” shall mean the Hearings Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Luthchleas Gael.

“Central Appeals Committee” shall mean the Central Appeals Committee appointed by Central Council of Cumann Luthchleas Gael. Except where otherwise provided for in this Constitution the Rules of the Official Guide (Parts 1 and 2) shall apply provided however that should any conflict arise between such provisions and the text of the Official Guide, the text of the Official Guide shall prevail.

Singular and Plural: A word importing the singular shall be read as also importing the plural and the plural shall be read as also importing the singular.

Gender: A word importing the masculine gender shall, where the context admits or requires, be read as also importing the feminine gender.

AIMS AND ETHOS

The Aims and Ethos of Comhairle Cluiche Corr Na h Eireann Cumann Luthchleas Gael (GAA Rounders) shall , save where otherwise provided for in this Constitution, be as set out in Chapter 1 of the Official Guide.

GENERAL

1. GAA Rounders shall, subject to the overall control of the G.A.A. Central Council, be responsible for the preservation and promotion of the national game of Rounders..
2. The affairs of GAA Rounders shall, in accordance with Rule 3.56 Official Guide 2016, be subject to the General Rules of the Cumann Luthchleas Gael contained in the Official Guide (Parts 1 and 2), where applicable and as are amended from time to time together with such Directives, Policies and Guidelines issued by Central Council.
3. GAA Rounders is a democratic organisation comprised of the following affiliated units: (A) Clubs (B) Ard Comhairle (C) National Annual General Meeting
4. All members and units of GAA Rounders taking part in the activities shall be subject to the jurisdiction of GAA Rounders in all matters that may arise.

5. THE CLUB

- (a) Each club shall elect a Cathaoirleach, Rúnaí, Cisteoir, PRO, (if desired) and appoint a Children's Officer. Save where otherwise provided in this Constitution, a Club shall comply with the requirements of the appropriate Club Constitution as contained in the Official Guide of Cumann Luthchleas Gael as currently in force.
- (b) A Club shall have at least nine full members before it may affiliate to Ard Comhairle. It shall pay the appropriate affiliation fee to Ard Comhairle together with the Player Injury Fund levy annually.
- (c) A Club team shall wear its distinctive Club colours in inter-club competitions.

6. YOUTH CLUB

- (a) Where no Adult club exists, a Youth Club may affiliate. Such a club shall elect a Cathaoirleach, Rúnaí, Cisteoir, PRO (if desired) and appoint a Children's Officer. It shall pay the appropriate affiliation fee to Ard-Comhairle together with the Player Injury Fund levy annually. A Youth Club shall not be eligible to take part in Adult competitions. It shall be entitled to appoint one voting delegate to attend at the Annual General Meeting of Ard Comhairle. Save where otherwise provided in this Constitution, a Youth Club shall comply with the requirements of the appropriate Club Constitution as contained in the Official Guide of Cumann Luthchleas Gael currently in force.
- (b)
 - (i) When a member of a Youth Club, reaches the age where they are eligible to play Adult Rounders, they can play Adult Rounders for another club which has an Adult Rounders Team; even if this Club also has underage teams.
 - (ii) The playing member of the Youth Club, must apply to Ard Comhairle of GAA Rounders each year to seek permission to play Adult Rounders with another Club.

(iii) The playing member of the Youth Club can only play Adult Rounders with 1 Club in a given year.

(iv) In the year where a Youth Club member turns 19 years of age, if their First Club now has an Adult Team, they continue to play for their First Club; otherwise the membership is transferred to the Club which they wish to play Adult Rounders for.

7. AFFILIATION AND REGISTRATION

(a) Registration forms and affiliation forms for the following year must be issued to all Club Secretaries not later than the 31st December each year together with details of the prescribed registration fees. Completed forms must be returned by each Club Secretary to the Secretary of Ard Comhairle by a date specified by ard Comhairle.

(b) The standard affiliation form shall include the names of all Club Officers, the Club colours and alternative colours .

(c) Registration fee for adults and Juveniles shall be set at a level to be determined by Ard Comhairle from time to time and brought to the Annual General Meeting .

(d) Each year before the 1st April the Club Secretary shall forward the list of fully paid up members for the year to the Secretary of Ard Comhairle. Additional registrations may be made subsequently. Only members who were fully paid up before 1st April each year shall be eligible to vote at, nominate for, or seek election as an Officer of a Club or to Ard Comhairle at any following general meeting of the Club or Ard Comhairle in the relevant Membership year which shall run from 1st January to 31st December.

(e) Only fully paid up registered members of affiliated Clubs shall be eligible to compete in Competitions under the jurisdiction of GAA Rounders.

8. AFFILIATION OF NEW CLUB.

(a) An application for the affiliation of a New Club shall be made to Ard Comhairle whose decision on the application shall be final. The provisions of Rule 3.3 Official Guide shall apply save that the required number of playing members shall be nine and the reference to County Committee/County shall be deemed to refer to Ard Comhairle/Country. The words football/hurling shall be construed as meaning Rounders.

9. PLAYING ELIGIBILITY

(a) Rules 6.1 to 6.4 inclusive Official Guide (Part 1) shall apply to playing eligibility for GAA Rounders.

10 TRANSFERS

(a) A Player not registered with a club for 96 weeks shall be deemed a 'free player' and a transfer will not be required.

(b) Applications for Transfers must be received by the Secretary of Ard Comhairle not later than 28th February in each year. They shall be processed, in the first instance, by the Competitions Control Committee of Ard Comhairle.

(c) Transfer requests will be sanctioned by the Competitions Control Committee within Rounders

(d) 'Free Player' is required to make the Competitions Control Committee aware that they have moved club

11. CONTROL OF ASSOCIATION PROPERTY

(a) Rules of Chapter 5 of the Official Guide (Part 1) shall apply to all property under the control of G.A.A. Rounders

12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the last day of November each year at a venue to be selected by Ard-Comhairle. The venue shall rotate from Province to Province each year. It shall consist of the outgoing Ard-Comhairle (voting rights as on the outgoing Council) and two voting delegates from each Adult affiliated Club together with one voting delegate from each Youth affiliated Club. Officers or Ard-Comhairle members cannot appoint proxies to represent them at the Annual General Meeting.

13. The functions of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

(a) To consider Reports and Audited Accounts of the Ard-Comhairle for the year up to 31st October immediately preceding the AGM.

(b) To elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, Coaching Officer (who shall represent Rounders on the National Coaching Committee of the GAA) and four ordinary members to Ard Comhairle (one representing the Clubs in each of the four Provinces) and four ordinary members from any province and shall appoint a Children's Officer nominated by the outgoing Ard Comhairle

(c) To determine Competition and other fees as necessary.

(d) To consider Motions and to enact, amend or rescind Rules.

(e) To appoint such Sub-Committees as are deemed necessary. The Quorum for meetings of all Sub-Committees, including the Competitions Control Committee shall be three in all cases.

14. NOMINATIONS

Candidates seeking election to Ard-Comhairle, excepting the Childrens Officer shall be nominated by a Club. Such nominations shall be submitted on the nomination paper, which shall be sent to each Club at least six weeks prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting and which shall be completed and returned to the Secretary of Ard-Comhairle at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. The nomination of a member by a Club shall have been approved by an Annual or Special General Meeting of the Club and the date of such meeting shall be shown on the nomination paper.

15 . MOTIONS

(a) A Committee consisting of the President, the Vice President and two other members appointed by Ard-Comhairle shall examine Motions submitted for consideration by the Annual General Meeting and decide whether these are in order. The Committee may put a motion in order where there is a failure to quote the number of Rules affected, or where there are minor clerical errors. Clubs shall be advised in writing of the reason for a Motion not being in order and, subject to a time-limit determined by Ard-Comhairle, shall be afforded an opportunity to resubmit an appropriately worded Motion for the consideration of the Committee. The President shall have the authority at the Annual General Meeting to rule a Motion out of order.

16. (a) Motions for consideration by the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted only by Clubs, the Ard Comhairle, the Competitions Control Committee and the National Children's Committee (Maximum three in each case). Such Motions shall be submitted on the motion paper, which shall be sent to the Clubs at least six weeks prior the date of the Annual General Meeting and which shall be completed and returned to the Secretary of Ard-Comhairle at least four weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. A Motion from a Club shall have been approved by an Annual or Special General Meeting of the Club and the date of such meeting shall be shown on the motion paper.

(b) Motions to enact new or amend existing Rules and/or this Constitution shall give the full text of the proposed addition or amendment, and also quote the numbers of any Rules affected thereby.

(c) Playing Rules may be tabled at the Annual General Meeting in 2022 and thereafter only in years divisible by 3 (i.e. 2025, 2028 etc). In such years they shall take precedence over any other Motions on the Annual General Meeting Agenda.

(d) Motions to remove or amend an existing Rule must be carried by a majority of sixty percent of those present, entitled to vote and voting.

(E) The Annual General Meeting may refer a Motion for consideration to Ard-Comhairle or a sub-committee of that body. The ensuing recommendations, if it is proposed to alter an existing Rule, must come in Motion form to a subsequent Annual General Meeting

(f) New and amended Rules passed are subject to the sanction of the Management Committee and shall not become operative until so sanctioned (*Rule 3.56 Official Guide*). If and when sanctioned by Management, the amended Constitution shall be circulated to all Club Secretaries.

(h) A Motion declared not to have received one-third of the votes at an Annual General Meeting may not be again considered at any of the three immediately ensuing Annual General Meetings .

17. At least two weeks before the Annual General Meeting each Club together with the Uachtaran and the Ard Stiurthoir of Cumann Luthchleas Gael shall be furnished with copies of the Annual Reports, Audited Accounts and the Agenda containing a full list of Nominations and Motions.

18. TERMS OF OFFICE AND ELECTION PROCESS

The Office of President shall be for a term of three years commencing with the Annual General Meeting of 2017 providing always that no President shall serve more than two terms either consecutively or cumulatively. All elective positions at the Annual General Meeting shall be filled on the basis of voting by means of proportional representation.

19. SPECIAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In special circumstances and with the support of a two-thirds majority of its members, Ard-Comhairle may summon a Special Annual General Meeting with representation and procedures as apply to an ordinary Annual General Meeting. Notice for such a meeting shall specify the business to be transacted at the Special Annual General Meeting and no other business shall be transacted.

20. ARD - COMHAIRLE

(a) The Ard Comhairle shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, Coaching Officer, Childrens Officer, the immediate past President for the year following his term as President; four ordinary members representing Clubs from each of the four Provinces and four ordinary from any province elected at the Annual General Meeting together with one representative nominated by the Management Committee/Central Council of the GAA – all of whom shall have voting rights.

(b) Should a vacancy occur in representation, such vacancy shall be filled by the body concerned or in the case of an Officer by a ballot of the members of Ard-Comhairle.

(c) A member absent, without just cause, from three consecutive meetings of Ard-Comhairle or any sub-committee appointed by it shall automatically become disqualified from membership for that year.

21. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF ARD COMHAIRLE

(i) It is the supreme governing body of G.A.A Rounders on all Rounders matters between Annual General Meetings or Special Annual General Meetings where applicable.

(ii) It shall have the authority to interpret rules in relation to Rounders. Interpretations shall have the force of Rule until the Annual General Meeting of Ard-Comhairle held in the Calendar year after the interpretation being given and which the Annual General Meeting shall, on a Motion submitted by Ard Comhairle approve or disapprove the interpretation being included in *Rule Comhairle Cluiche Corr Na h Eireann*

(iii) To manage Rounders Competitions throughout Ireland

(iv) To make Regulations governing competitions under its control but shall not place restrictions on the Competitions Control Committee

(v) To make regulations in relation to its powers, functions and operations. A Regulation once adopted shall remain in force unless altered or deleted by a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting. Alterations may be considered on an Annual basis.

22. A minimum of 5 days written notice shall be given by the Secretary of Ard-Comhairle to all members for meetings, except in an emergency, when he may, in consultation with the President, summon a meeting at shorter notice which shall not be less than 3 days . A Special Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary on a request signed by a majority of the members of Ard-Comhairle.

ADMINISTRATION.

23. Chapter 4 of the Official Guide (Part 1) shall apply to the administrative affairs of GAA Rounders, save that references to Committees and Councils shall be deemed to be references to Ard-Comhairle.

INFRACTIONS

24. In addition to Infractions referred to in Rule 7.2(b), Categories V, VI, Ia, IIa, IIIa, Iva, 7.2(d) and (e) of the Official Guide the following shall apply. If a referee deems that misconduct has occurred during a game the following shall apply: The red and yellow card system will be used. Depending on the severity of the offence the referee can give;

(a) A verbal warning to the player(s) involved

(b) Show the player(s) involved a yellow card and the player(s) must sit out the rest of the inning and can't be replaced by a substitute for the rest of the innings.

(c) Show the player(s) involved a red card and the player(s) is (are) disqualified from the remainder of the game and will automatically miss the next competitive fixture. If a player who received a yellow card returns to play and commits a second offence the referee can show him or her a second yellow card and/or red card and disqualify the player from the game. The referee does not have to carry out the warnings in the above sequence: the referee may issue a verbal warning, yellow card or red card

without showing any of the preceding warnings, if it is deemed that the offence warrants more severe action. If a player receives a red card, they cannot be replaced by a substitute.

ENFORCEMENT OF RULES/ARBITRATION

25. Competitions Control Committee: Ard-Comhairle shall appoint a Competitions Control Committee with delegated powers as outlined in Rule 3.47 (b), (c), (d) and (f) of the Official Guide (Part 1) together with the appointment of Referees and the selection of venues. It shall consist of a Chairperson, a Secretary and one member representing the Clubs in each of the four Provinces. (Quorum 3 Members)

26. Chapter 7 of the Official Guide shall apply in relation to the enforcement of the Rules of this Constitution where appropriate save that the following procedure shall apply:

(a) Infractions committed before, during or after Games by Players, Team Officials or supporters shall be dealt with in the first instance by the Competitions Control Committee appointed by Ard Comhairle.

(b) Where a Hearing is requested it shall be heard firstly by the Rounders Hearings Committee appointed by the Ard Comhairle of GAA Rounders.

Should a further request be made it shall be heard by the Hearings Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Luthchleas Gael.

(c) Appeals shall be heard by the Central Appeals Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Luthchleas Gael.

(d) Rules for requesting Rounders hearings will be set and published by the Ard Comhairle. Rules for Hearing at upper GAA level are detailed in the GAA Official Guide.

(e) The Rounders Hearings Committee shall be made up of a Chairperson, Secretary, then a member from each province plus one person nominated by the President. Members of the CCC should not sit on this committee. Quorum is 3 members.

(f) The Hearings committee shall consider the hearings for the following matters;

(i) The Enforcement of Rules arising from matters & competitions under the jurisdiction of the GAA Rounders.

(ii) Exception: A Hearing of an Objection/Counter Objection is the function of the GAA Rounders Competitions Control Committee.

(iii) Misconduct arising from the GAA Rounders controlled games

(iv) Match Regulations arising from Games under the jurisdiction of the GAA Rounders.

27. COMPETITIONS

(a)

The following Championships shall be organised annually;

All Ireland Senior Ladies

All Ireland Senior Men

All Ireland Senior Mixed

All Ireland Minor (under 18) Ladies

All Ireland Minor (under 18) Men

All Ireland Minor (under 18) Mixed

All Ireland U16 Boys

All Ireland U16 Girls

All Ireland U16 Mixed

All Ireland U14 Boys

All Ireland U14 Girls

All Ireland U14 Mixed

All Ireland U12 Boys

All Ireland U12 Girls

All Underage Championships organised as required.

27(b) Senior Matches

(i) All Ireland Championships senior matches shall be decided on one day five innings matches.

(ii) All Ireland Quarter-Finals shall be decided on one day 5 inning games. If the game ends in a draw, the game will continue for two extra innings. If it is still a draw after two extra innings, then the team that has won the most innings will be declared the winner. If the innings won method fails to decide, the game will be replayed. The Ard Comhairle will fix the game to be replayed within 7 days, on a day, venue and time decided by the Ard Comhairle.

(iii) All Ireland Semi-Final & Final shall be one day seven inning matches. If the game ends in a draw, the game will continue for two extra innings. If it is still a draw after two extra innings, then the team that has won the most innings will be declared the winner. If the innings won method fails to decide, the game will be replayed. The Ard Comhairle will fix the game to be replayed within 7 days, on a day, venue and time decided by the Ard Comhairle.

(iv) Intermediate & Junior All Ireland Semi-Final & Final shall be one day five inning matches. If the game ends in a draw, the game will continue for two extra innings. If it is still a draw after

two extra innings, then the team that has won the most innings will be declared the winner. If the innings won method fails to decide, the game will be replayed. The Ard Comhairle will fix the game to be replayed within 7 days, on a day, venue and time decided by the Ard Comhairle.

27(c) Mixed Competitions

In the case of mixed competition the following shall apply:

(i) At underage level, a team shall consist of nine players comprising, at all times, 5 female players and 4 male players or a vice-versa combination of genders.

(ii) At adult level the team, at all times, shall consist of 5 male and 4 female, or a vice-versa combination of genders

27(d) Age Grades;

Rule 6.18 Official guide (Age Grades) shall apply to all underage rounders competitions. Girls over the age of 12 will be included where eligible by age.

Players will become eligible for Adult level rounders when they are over 16 years on the 1st January of the Competition year.

27(e) Mens Championship

The All-Ireland Mens championship shall be split into divisions with the introduction of an intermediate Championship and where numbers allow a junior championship. The minimum number of teams in a division shall be 8. The Ard Comhairle may change this minimum number of teams in a division depending on the number of teams to make divisions viable, where the number of teams in one division may be one less.

(i) At the end of each season the bottom team in the championship will be relegated. The champions of each division promoted to the immediate higher division. Intermediate to Senior or Junior to Intermediate.

(ii) Teams playing in championship at any level then withdrawing for 1 year may enter back into the same division. Teams out for 2 or more years, will enter the championship one division

lower that is available. Returning teams will be added to the division will not be included in the total numbers when deciding the number of teams and how many divisions will be made.

(iii) The Ard Comhairle will have the final say into which league a returning team is placed.

(iv) Where numbers decrease or increase dramatically, the Ard Comhairle will decide the make-up of the divisions, if necessary and those decisions will be based on the league points gained in the previous year.

(v) No relegated team will shall play in the division they played in the proceeding season.

(vi) New teams will be added to the lowest division. Where a new mixed team is formed in an existing club from existing senior team(s), their starting division will be decided by the Ard Comhairle.

(vii) The Ard Comhairle may change this minimum number of teams in a division depending on the number of teams to make divisions viable, where the number of teams in one division may be one less than the number of teams in the higher division.

(viii) Where the total number of team entries is less than 15, all teams shall play in one division.

27(f) Mixed championship

The All-Ireland mixed championship shall be split into divisions with the introduction of an intermediate Championship and where numbers allow a junior championship. The minimum number of teams in a division shall be 8. The Ard Comhairle may change this minimum number of teams in a division depending on the number of teams to make divisions viable, where the number of teams in one division may be one less.

(i) At the end of each season the bottom team in the championship will be relegated. The champions of each division promoted to the immediate higher division. Intermediate to Senior or Junior to Intermediate.

(ii) Teams playing in championship at any level then withdrawing for 1 year may enter back into the same division. Teams out for 2 or more years, will enter the championship one division lower that is available. Returning teams will be added to the division will not be included in the total numbers when deciding the number of teams and how many divisions will be made.

(iii) The Ard Comhairle will have the final say into which league a returning team is placed.

(iv) Where numbers decrease or increase dramatically, the Ard Comhairle will decide the make-up of the divisions, if necessary and those decisions will be based on the league points gained in the previous year.

(v) No relegated team will shall play in the division they played in the proceeding season. Unless the number of divisions is decreasing.

(vi) New teams will be added to the lowest division. Where a new mixed team is formed in an existing club from existing senior team(s), their starting division will be decided by the Ard Comhairle.

(vii) The Ard Comhairle may change this minimum number of teams in a division depending on the number of teams to make divisions viable, where the number of teams in one division may be one less.

(viii) Where the total number of team entries is less than 15 all teams shall play in one division.

27(g) Ladies Championship

The All-Ireland Ladies championship shall be split into divisions with the introduction of an intermediate Championship and where numbers allow a junior championship. The minimum number of teams in a division shall be 8. The Ard Comhairle may change this minimum number of teams in a division depending on the number of teams to make divisions viable, where the number of teams in one division may be one less.

(i) At the end of each season the bottom team in the championship will be relegated. The champions of each division promoted to the immediate higher division. Intermediate to Senior or Junior to Intermediate.

(ii) Teams playing in championship at any level then withdrawing for 1 year may enter back into the same division. Teams out for 2 or more years, will enter the championship one division lower that is available. Returning teams will be added to the division will not be included in the total numbers when deciding the number of teams and how many divisions will be made.

(iii) The Ard Comhairle will have the final say into which league a returning team is placed.

(iv) Where numbers decrease or increase dramatically, the Ard Comhairle will decide the make-up of the divisions, if necessary and those decisions will be based on the league points gained in the previous year.

(v) No relegated team will shall play in the division they played in the proceeding season. Unless the number of divisions is decreasing.

(vi) New teams will be added to the lowest division. Where a new mixed team is formed in an existing club from existing senior team(s), their starting division will be decided by the Ard Comhairle.

(vii) The Ard Comhairle may change this minimum number of teams in a division depending on the number of teams to make divisions viable, where the number of teams in one division may be one less than the number of teams in the higher division.

(viii) Where the total number of team entries is less than 15, all teams shall play in one division.

27h. Social Leagues

1. The leagues will be open to all affiliated GAA Rounders units;
2. Allow affiliated units enter more than one team at different grades within the social leagues across Mixed, Ladies and Men's with defined panels before each competition commences.
3. Format and structure of social league to be approved by GAA Rounders Ard Comhairle in advance.
4. A sub-committee to be appointed by Ard Comhairle to promote and administer each local league.

27i. Leagues and Non-Knockout deciders

In the case of deciding standings for non-knockout matches, if teams are level on points and drew in head to head, the team finishing in a higher position will be determined by the team with a higher run rate. This will be calculated by dividing the runs scored by innings batted and subtracting runs conceded by innings fielded.

$$\text{Run rate} = (\text{runs scored}/\text{innings batted}) - (\text{runs conceded}/\text{innings fielded})$$

27(j)

Multiple Teams in different grades

Grade – Men, Mixed or Ladies

Level – Senior, Intermediate or Junior

Principal team – the highest club team level at a particular grade.

1. Method of entry into the league

A club would be allowed to enter multiple teams into the championship on the following basis;

- a) You can only have an extra team in a grade at a level if your club does not have a team at that grade or level already.
- b) An extra team must start in lowest level at a grade and work up to a higher level if the higher level is available in that grade - only one club team per level and grade.
- c) Each team has a minimum of 15 submitted players at the start of the season, submitted at a date set by the Ard Comhairle. This doesn't apply to the principal team in a one team club.
- d) Clubs cannot have two teams at a level in a grade.
- e) Entries accepted into different levels or grades are subject to ard comhairle acceptance

2. Relegation

If a team is relegated from a level at a grade.

a) If the Competitions Control Committee determines that a team playing at a level at the end of the championship is due for relegation then that team must move down to a lower available level. 1.d must also apply.

3. Promotion

a) If a team at a level in a grade is deemed to have been promoted then that team can only be promoted if the club doesn't have a team in the higher level of that grade.

b) If the Club have a team in the higher level of that grade. The Ard Comhairle will then have the option to promote another team in their place to balance the leagues.

4. Player gradings

a) At the start of the championship at a date set by the Ard Comhairle ,all entries for the championship must be received. These submissions must include a player list of 15 players to make up that team – Except in point 1.c

b) Those players are then graded at that grade and level of team entry. These are the initial gradings.

c) Players graded at a level either by submission on entry or during play over the course of the championship may not be eligible to play at a lower level. The player is ineligible to play at a lower level in that grade.

d) It is up to the clubs to manage players eligibility.

5. Workable solution

a) The Ard Comhairle can make changes to these entries, structures, levels and grades as needed to ensure viable and competitive championship.

28. TOURNAMENTS/FRIENDLY GAMES

(a) Friendly matches and tournaments must be sanctioned by Ard Comhairle.

29. THE PLAYERS

(a) At Adult/Juvenile level a team shall consist of nine players. However where it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of a member of the Competitions Control Committee that a team or teams is/are unable to field nine players in any particular game such team or teams may commence and complete a game with the available number of players (which shall be not less than seven and not more than nine) with the result of the game standing as if both teams had fielded nine players each. The decision of the Competitions Control Committee on the result of the game shall be final.

30. LIST OF PLAYERS

(a) Before all official games, the Referee shall be given a list of players, in duplicate and in Irish (except as provided for in Rule 1.7, Part 1 Official Guide giving full Christian names. The first nine names (or a number not less than seven) appearing on a list shall be taken as constituting the actual team, unless otherwise clearly indicated.

32. SUBSTITUTIONS

(a) The maximum number of substitutions permitted during the playing of a game shall be five. A substitution may only be made, after the player has given a substitution note to the Referee.

33. EQUIPMENT

(a) Spikes shall not be used under any circumstances.

(b) In all official competitions it shall be mandatory for and the responsibility of the Pitcher and the Catcher to wear a helmet with a facial guard that meets the standard set out in IS:355 or other replacement standard as determined by the National Safety Authority of Ireland(NSAI). Such helmets shall not be modified from their original manufactured state in any circumstances.

(c) Approved Sliotars used in all official games shall carry the GAA mark of approval. Any player not complying with (a), (b) above shall be ordered from the field of play and shall not be allowed to return unless they have fully complied. In the case of a player refusing to comply with an instruction from the Referee, the game shall be abandoned and awarded to the opposing team provided only players from one team is/are involved. In the event that players from both teams are involved, the game shall be abandoned and both teams shall be removed from the Competition.

34. CONTROL OF GAMES

(a) Control of Games shall be entrusted to a Referee.

35. RULES OF SPECIFICATION AND FAIR PLAY

(a) The Rules of Specification and Fair Play shall be as contained in the booklet entitled “The Rules of GAA Rounders” as amended from time to time by way of Motion to the Annual General Meeting.

36. Constitution updates.

After an AGM or an EGM;

(a) the Constitution will be updated where and if the rule number from the C.L.G Official guide most recently approved is different.

(b) Rule Numbering will change as the constitution is amended or as rules are inserted or deleted.