

## Regulations for Doire Adult Football & Hurling Leagues 2006.

1. As per Derry County Committee By-laws, the Committee in charge of Football & Hurling Leagues shall be the Games Administration Committee (GAC) for 2006.  
The GAC are delegated plenary powers as per Derry Bye-law and R.59 (ii) OG 2003.  
GAC have drawn up the following regulations governing the organisation of Leagues and Championships (as per R.129 OG 2003).

2. Clubs taking part are expected to supply at least one qualified referee per team with a minimum of 2 referees expected from a Club entering senior, reserve and thirds' teams.

**NB...** Throughout 2006, regular opportunities will be provided for aspiring referees to undergo qualification. It is intended that before the end of 2006, each "new trainee" will have completed at least the Referee's Foundation Level Qualification. The following year (2007), these "trainees" will progress to taking charge of underage games and thereafter, on to adult games in 2008. EACH partaking Club will thus be in a position to meet the above requirement and if failing to do so for 2008, will not have fixtures allocated.

### 3. 2006 Leagues' Organisation :

The adult football leagues will be organised as follows :

(a) A Premier Division of the following 16 teams :- Ballinascreen, Ballinderry, Banagher, Bellaghy, Castledawson, Craighane, Dungiven, Glen, Glenuillin, Greenlough, Kilrea, Lavey, Loup, Magherafelt, Slaughtneil, Swatragh; shall play a single round league with the top 2 teams playing a final game for the League Title. Team finishing in 16<sup>th</sup> position will be eligible for relegation to Div 1. Teams finishing in 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> positions will play off, with the LOSERS playing a relegation final game Vs the winners of the game between teams finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in Div 1. The eventual losers of this system shall be eligible for relegation to Div 1.

(b) A Division 1 of the following 14 teams : Ardmore, Ballerin, Ballymaguigan, Claudy, Coleraine, Desertmartin, Drumsum, Faughanvale, Foreglen, Limavady, Moneymore, Newbridge, Slaughtmanus, Steelstown who shall play a single round leagues of 13 games. The top team will be winners and eligible for promotion. Teams finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> will play off with the winners playing a promotion final game Vs the losers of the game between those teams finishing 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> in the Premier Division. The eventual winners of this system shall become eligible to play in the Premier Division.  
Team finishing in 14<sup>th</sup> position shall be eligible for relegation to Div 2. Teams finishing 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> shall play off, with the losers playing a relegation final game Vs the winners of the game between teams finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in Div 2. The eventual losers of this system shall be eligible for relegation to Div 2.

(c) A Division 2 of the following 12 teams Ballinderry 3rds., Bellaghy 3rds., Doire Trasna, Doire Colmcille, Drum, Glack, Glen 3rds., Lissan, Magilligan, Ogra Colmcille, Sean Dolans, Slaughtneil 3rds who shall play a double round league of 22 games. The top team shall be winners and eligible for promotion. Teams finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> shall play off with the winners playing a promotion final Vs the losers of the game between the teams finishing 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> in Div1. The eventual winners of this system shall become eligible to play in Div 1.

(d) RESERVE football leagues with games at venues with their "senior" teams. Teams shall be 13-a-side. However if BOTH clubs agree, 15-a-side may be played.

### 4. Football Championships

- (a) (i) The 16 teams in the Premier Division shall play in the Senior Football Championship.
- (ii) The 14 teams in Div 1 shall play in the Intermediate Football Championship.
- (iii) The Junior Football Championship shall be played among 8 clubs in Div 2. (ie no 3rds teams).
- (iv) This year GAC have introduced a Championship restricted to ONLY 3rds teams.

**5. Hurling Leagues / Championships**

(i) The Senior Hurling Championship will be organised in a League/Knockout format ie the following 6 clubs : Banagher, Ballinascreen, Kevin Lynch's, Lavey, Slaughtneil, Swatragh will play a double-round league with the top 2 teams qualifying for seeded semi-final positions and the remaining 4 being drawn for quarter-finals. This is as permitted by R.111 OG (2003).

(ii) Reserve teams from the above 6 Clubs along with Coleraine, MaMagha, Coalisland & Strabane will play a double-round Junior League.

(iii) A Championship will be played among all those teams (apart from Coalisland and Strabane) playing in the Junior Hurling League.

(iii) There will be a playoff between Coleraine & NaMagha with the winners progressing to represent Derry in the Ulster Junior Inter-club Championship.

**6.** A Club wishing to enter a second hurling team (in the Junior League), MUST submit in writing, the names of 12 "senior" players who cannot take part in the Junior League. These MUST be approved by GAC before the second team plays in the Junior League.

**7.** A Club entering a 3rds' football team MUST submit in writing, the names of at least 15 players whom the Club wishes to play in the 3rds' team. Players who play "first" or "reserve" football may not subsequently play for the 3rds' team. Additional names may be added to this list but prior approval of at least 5 clear days must be given by GAC through the GAC Hon Secretary.

**8. Entry Fees :**

Football leagues : £240 per 1<sup>st</sup> team ; £30 per reserve team ; £30 per 3rds team.

Hurling leagues : £120 per 1<sup>st</sup> team ; £30 per reserve team.

**9. Referee's expenses** shall be £40 per adult game & £25 per underage game. These must be lodged before date notified to Clubs.

<b>Football :</b>	Premier.....	£320
	Premier Reserve.....	£320
	Division 1.....	£280
	Division 1 Reserve.....	£280
	Division 2.....	£440

<b>Hurling :</b>	Division 1.....	£200
	Junior League.....	£320

\*\*\*\* The above fees are based on the number of home fixtures.

A Club "in credit" at the end of the season will have credit carried forward to the 2007 season.

**10.** Failure by a club (without acceptable reason) to field (in any grade) will incur an automatic fine of £50.

**11.** Clubs are asked to note that any/all fines levied by GAC / Discipline MUST be paid in full before start of season. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of fixtures (with associated league points) until fines are paid.

**12.** A Club team failing to fulfil two consecutive fixtures without an explanation acceptable to GAC, may be dismissed from their league.

13. **Postponement** :

**Clubs should note that GAC will, in exceptional circumstances (eg death of person impacting on the good standing of the Club in it's community) give sympathetic consideration to a request for postponement.**

**Clubs should also note that this will be subject to validation and should the spirit of the regulation be considered by GAC to have been abused, the points associated with the fixture will be awarded retrospectively to the non-abusing Club.**

The Club Hon Sec MUST contact & get clearance for the postponement from the GAC Hon Secretary. If initial contact is by telephone, this MUST be followed up by e-mail. Permission having been granted by the GAC Hon Secretary, the postponing Club MUST inform BOTH the opposing Club AND the referee. On occasions when the GAC Hon Sec is unavailable due to work commitments, then the GAC Chairman must be contacted. The GAC will rearrange the fixture as soon as is possible and certainly attempt to have the game played in the week following and before the next round of fixtures.

14. A Club withdrawing from it's league prior to league completion will incur an automatic fine of £150.

15. A Club seeking advance fixture change (date or time) MUST make this request in writing (e-mail acceptable) to the GAC **AT LEAST 4 WEEKS IN ADVANCE** of the fixture. Such occurrences which are generally well-known in advance may include eg local Church Mission or a wedding involving a number of Club members. Where possible, this game will be **refixed** on the **WEDNESDAY previous** to the original date. This is to maintain the drawn sequence of fixtures.

16. If a "home" Club considers their pitch to be unplayable, a member of GAC shall be asked to arrange an inspection NOT LATER than 4 hours before the game. This shall in most cases be carried out by a qualified referee. In the event of a pitch being judged to only be able (due to ground conditions) to host one game, then the "first" team game must take preference with the reserve game being refixed as soon as possible. The Club initially requesting the pitch inspection will be held liable for reimbursing travelling expenses incurred.

17. In the unforeseen event of a game being postponed, the GAC will refix the game as soon as possible making every effort to have the original sequence of complete rounds maintained.

18. (a) If the appointed referee is unable to officiate at any game, the Hon Sec / Chairman GAC must be notified at least 4 hours in advance by the referee's Club Chairman or Hon Secretary. If initial contact is by phone, this must be followed by e-mail to ensure Club certification of the referee's inability to officiate. Failure to comply will automatically result in a fine of £150 to the Club being represented by the referee. The GAC will deal with each non-appearance on it's merits.

(b) Where a referee consistently fails to fulfil fixtures' allocations, that referee shall be deemed to have withdrawn from refereeing duties and in that event, Regulation 2 above may be invoked.

(c) Any referee **failing to send a match result immediately after the game as per new "2006 text" arrangements** or submit a report of game within 3 days of the game, may forfeit match expenses.

(d) If an appointed referee fails to attend for a game and a qualified referee from a NEUTRAL club is present and willing to officiate, the game may be played under the control of that referee – provided BOTH Clubs (acting through their respective Chairmen) agree. Where any of the above criteria are absent, the game will be rearranged (as per Reg 17), as soon as is possible by GAC.

**19. (i) Team Mentors** : For ALL ADULT games, ... ONLY the following team officials will be allowed entry to the enclosed playing area :

(a) **Team manager (ONLY ONE)** who MUST wear a distinctive top/bib bearing the word “BAINISTEOIR” in clear letters.

(b) **Assistant team manager (ONLY ONE)** who MUST wear a distinctive top/bib bearing the word “MAOR FOIRNE” in clear letters.

(c) **Team Medical/First Aid Official (ONLY ONE)** who MUST wear a distinctive top/bib indicating his/her role.

(d) Members of team managements (apart from the above), must AT ALL TIMES confine them selves to the dugout.

(e) (i) For adult football leagues, clubs will be permitted ONE water carrier.

(ii) For adult hurling leagues, clubs will be permitted ONE water carrier OR ONE hurley carrier.

(iii) ONLY ONE team official (Maor Foirne) may, on the instruction of the Bainisteoir, move alongside the sidelines and endlines to make changes and/or give instructions to players. The Maor Foirne MUST RETURN to his place at the dugout after carrying out the instructions of the Bainisteoir.

(iii)..Officials may not engage in any behaviour interfering with play or the game’s controlling officials or remain behind the goal area during play.

**Penalty** : Teams failing to comply with the above regulation (ie No 19) will be fined up to £200 max.

Each case will be decided on it’s merits.

**Note** : Above distinctive bibs are available from the Derry Supporters’ Shop in Owenbeg.

**20. For ADULT games**, Clubs with the game as a home fixture are ASKED to provide ALL 4 UMPIRES with WHITE COATS.

This is to (1) act as an aid to the game referee so that he may easily identify who are the umpiring officials to whom he may refer for information when making specific decisions; (2) help improve our games’ presentation.

**21. For Underage Hurling** : ALL hurling clubs participating in underage hurling competitions MUST have at least TWO qualified referees ie referees who have undertaken the Derry Referees’ Training Programme for new referees and who have completed the requisite modules.

Any Clubs not fully compliant with the requirement “ re referees” ( ie number, training participation ) will, in the short term (ie during 2006) have to play ALL games AWAY from home and in the longer term will NOT be allocated games.

The “away” fixture will be at the opposing club’s ground, and in the case of Clubs from outside the County, at a venue to be decided by the Derry Underage Hurling Sub-committee.

**22. Clubs are asked to respect the privacy of GAC members and NOT make phone calls or personal visits to their homes AFTER 9.30 pm unless in an instance of extreme emergency.**

**Difficulties may be resolved on a daily basis by reference to the County Administrator at his office in Owenbeg. Phone 77742990.**

**Contact may also be made by e-mail at any time.**

**23. The GAC reserve the right to alter any of the above regulations to meet the demands of unforeseen circumstances.**