**Cóiste Bhreifne Úi Raghallaigh Competition Control Regulations 2020**

**Adult Football Competitions**

**Part A – Leagues**

These Regulations shall become operative from 1st March 2020 and shall supersede all previous regulations passed by the County Committee.

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**League Competitions**

* 1. The structure of the Football Leagues shall be determined by the County Committee.
  2. The League shall consist of two competitions, the All County Football League (ACFL) and the Reserve All County Football League. All references to the League in these regulations shall be construed as apply to ACFL and Reserve ACFL where appropriate.
  3. The ACFL shall determine promotion/ relegation for the ACFL only.
  4. The League shall consist of 3 divisions, namely Division 1, Division 2 and Division 3.
  5. The following teams shall compete in each division:

**Division 1:** Cavan Gaels, Ramor Utd, Castlerahan, Lacken, Kingscourt Stars, Ballinagh, Gowna, Killygarry, Crosserlough, Cootehill, Killinkere, Ballyhaise (12)

**Division 2:** Arva, Cuchulainns, Belturbet, Lavey, Laragh Utd, Cornafean, Knockbride, Bailieborough, Butlersbridge, Shercock, Drumgoon, Denn, Mullahoran, Ballymachugh (14)

**Division 3:** Drumlane, Drumalee, Kildallan, Killeshandra, Mountnugent, Swanlinbar, Redhills, Drung, Munterconnaught, Kill Shamrocks, Shannon Gaels, Templeport, Maghera (13)

* 1. Promotion in 2020 from the ACFL shall be decided as follows:

***Division 3 – 2 Teams promoted to Division 2***

Top Team in Division 3 on points is promoted and qualifies for the Final

3rd and 4th placed teams in Division 3 qualify for Playoff A.

Winner of Playoff A vs 2nd Placed team qualify for Promotion to Division 2 and Final.

***Division 2 – 2 Teams promoted to Division 1***

Top Team in Division 2 on points is promoted and qualifies for Final

2nd and 3rd placed teams in Division 2 playoff for promotion and qualification to the Final

* 1. Relegation in 2020 from the ACFL shall be decided as follows:

***Division 1 – 2 Teams relegated to Division 2***

Bottom Team in Division 1 relegated

10th and 11th playoff with winner avoiding relegation

***Division 2 – 2 Teams relegated to Division 3***

Bottom Team in Division 2 relegated

12th and 13th playoff with winner avoiding relegation

* 1. The Winners of the ACFL shall be decided as follows:

The top 2 teams as outlined in **1.6** will contest the Final in Divisions 2 and 3.

The top 4 teams in Division 1 will contest Semi Finals, (1 vs. 4, 2 vs. 3), with the winners qualifying for the Final.

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**Reserve Leagues**

**1.09** The Reserve League shall be known as the Reserve All County Football League Competition and teams shall be divided into three divisions. Division 1 and 3 will be split into 2 groups, as determined by the CCC. Division 2 will remain as is, due to numbers in Division.

**1.10** The Reserve ACFL shall be played as a **15 A Side Competition in Division 1, 13 A Side in Division 2 and 11 A Side in Division 3**, unless both participating teams agree to play 15 A Side in Division 2 and 13 or 15 A Side in Division 3.

**1.11** There will be promotion and relegation in the Reserve ACFL. The top 2 teams in Division 2 and Division 3 (1st Placed in Group A and 1st Placed in Group B) will be promoted. The bottom 2 teams in Division 1 and Division 2 shall be relegated.

**1.12** The Reserve ACFL Fixtures will run independently to the ACFL unless otherwise agreed by the Clubs involved and sanctioned by the CCC.

**1.13.1** The following teams will compete in each Division:

**Reserve Division 1:**

**Group A** – Castlerahan, Ballinagh, Crosserlough, Bailieborough, Mullahoran, Knockbride, Ramor Utd (7)

**Group B** – Cavan Gaels, Lacken, Killygarry, Kingscourt, Ballyhaise, Cuchulainns (6)

**Reserve Division 2**: Laragh Utd, Gowna, Drumalee, Killinkere, Denn, Cornafean, Belturbet, Drumgoon, Drumlane (9)

**Reserve Division 3:**

**Group A** – Killeshandra, Redhills, Shannon Gaels, Mountnugent, Lavey, Butlersbridge, Kildallan (7)

**Group B** – Templeport, Arva, Shannon Gaels, Swanlinbar, Cootehill, Shercock, Ballymachugh, Munterconnaught (7)

**1.13.2** The Reserve ACFL Structures are as follows:

**Reserve Division 1:**

*All Teams play 6 Games (Group A) and 5 Games (Group B) plus 1 additional game in Group B, the Reverse of Rd 1. This brings all teams in Division 1 to 6 Games.*

* Top 4 Teams in each Group after 6 games played qualify for Quarter Finals:

Quarter Final 1: Group A (1st) vs. Group B (4th)

Quarter Final 2: Group A (2nd) vs. Group B (3rd)

Quarter Final 3: Group A (3rd) vs. Group B (2nd)

Quarter Final 4: Group A (4th) vs. Group B (1st)

* Semi Finals (Open Draw) and Finals played at neutral venues unless otherwise agreed

**Reserve Division 2:**

* Top 4 Teams after 8 games played qualify for Semi Finals:

Semi Final 1: 1st vs. 4th

Semi Final 2: 2nd vs. 3rd

* Semi Finals and Finals played at neutral venues unless otherwise agreed

**Reserve Division 3:**

*All Teams play 6 Games.*

* Top 2 Teams in each Group after 6 games played qualify for Quarter Finals:
* Quarter Final 1: Group A (1st) vs. Group B (4th)
* Quarter Final 2: Group A (2nd) vs. Group B (3rd)
* Quarter Final 3: Group A (3rd) vs. Group B (2nd)
* Quarter Final 4: Group A (4th) vs. Group B (1st)
* Semi Finals (Open Draw) and Finals played at neutral venues unless otherwise agreed

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**Leagues General**

**1.14** Where teams finish on equal points, placings shall be decided in accordance with rule 6.21 and 6.38 of the GAA Official Guide Part 1 2019, or as amended. This shall apply to ACFL and the Reserve ACFL.

**1.15 (a)** Where a Club concedes a game in the **ACFL**, they will lose home advantage for their next home fixture. Loss of home advantage for 1 game will occur for each game conceded, extending to 2021 and further, if necessary. This includes loss of gate receipts.

**1.15 (b)** Where a Club conceded a game in the **Reserve ACFL**, they will lose home advantage in their next home **ACFL** fixture. Loss of home advantage for 1 game will occur for each game conceded, extending to 2021 and further, if necessary. This includes loss of gate receipts.

**1.16** Extra Time shall be played up to and including all Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Playoffs (relegation or promotion) for ACFL and Reserve ACFL.

**1.17** Clubs shall be obliged to play ACFL and Reserve ACFL games, if fixed by the CCC, on the weekend prior to a championship game with the exception of the Championship final. This shall apply to all competitions.

**1.18** The Club on whose ground an ACFL or Reserve ACFL game is played shall get the gate receipts, except in the case of Playoffs or change of venue due to an unplayable pitch, if either of the two Clubs have home advantage.

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**U20 League 2020**

**1.19** The U20 League shall consist of 4 divisions, namely Division 1, Division 2, Division 3 and Division 4

**1.20** Players born in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 will be eligible to participate in the U20 League, as per 6.17 of the Official Guide 2019.

**1.21** The U20 League shall be played as a **15 A Side Competition in Division 1 and Division 2, 13 A Side in Division 3 and Division 4**, unless both participating teams agree to play 15 A Side in Division 3 and Division 4

**1.22** Tables will be decided by Rule 6.21(4) of the Official Guide 2019, with no amendment.

**1.23** Top 4 Teams in Division 1, 2 & 3, after all games are played, will contest the Semi Final with the winners the final

**1.24** Top 2 Teams in Division 4 will contest the final

**1.25** The following teams shall compete in each division:

**Division 1:** Cuchulainns, Ramor United, Crosserlough, Southern Gaels, Cavan Gaels

**Division 2:** Assan Gaels, Trinity Gaels, St Josephs, Ballinagh, Kingscourt Stars

**Division 3:** Knockbride, Killygarry, Castlerahan, Drumlane, Mullahoran, Ballyhaise, Bailieborough

Belturbet

**Division 4:** Drumgoon, Butlersbridge, Ballymachugh, Denn, Cornafean, Laragh Utd, Dernacrieve Gaels

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**Player Eligibility**

**2.1** Each year, before a date specified by the CCC, County Secretary or prior to commencement of ACFL and Reserve ACFL competitions (whichever is the earlier), Clubs participating in two or more Divisions of the Leagues (ACFL and Reserve ACFL) shall submit as list of 12 players (10 in the case of Reserve Division 2 and 3) who shall be eligible to play for the first team only in ACFL and Reserve ACFL Competitions, for approval by the CCC. Clubs fielding three teams shall submit a further list of 10 Players for approval by the CCC.

**2.2** **First 12’s in Reserve Division 1 and First 10’s in Reserve Division 2 and 3** should, in all cases, be made up of genuine first team players. Players included at the beginning of the year must have played Championship in 2019. Players placed on the First 12/ 10 during the year should be shown as having started ACFL in 2020. Team Sheets will be checked to confirm eligibility. The CCC’s decision on First 12’s/ 10’s, including amendments, is final.

**2.3** The Players approved on the First 12’s/ 10’s and second list 10 shall not be eligible to participate in the Reserve ACFL Competition.

**2.4** Approved Lists shall be circulated to all Clubs prior to the commencement of the Reserve ACFL Competition and during, where changes occur, namely each Friday for the duration of the Reserve ACFL.

**2.5** Requests to change approved lists of 12 or 10 players, whichever the case may be, shall be made on writing to the CCC and include reasons therefor. **Requests should be received by the Wednesday Night each week. Any request received after Wednesday night will not be considered until the following week.** Where amendments are approved, notice shall be given to all participating Clubs by way of the Approved Lists sent on Fridays for the duration of the Reserve ACFL.

**2.6** A player participating illegally in a lower division shall incur suspension and the Club shall be sanctioned according to the GAA Official Guide 2019, or as amended.

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**Postponements/ Unplayable Pitches**

**3.1** A fixture, once properly made, cannot be postponed without the prior agreement of both Clubs, except in the following circumstances: **The death of a player or Club Official, the death of an immediate relative of a player or Club Official e.g. Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Son or Daughter.**

**3.2** A fixture may be deferred where both Clubs are in agreement subject to the following:

**3.2 (a)** The deferral, in the view of the CCC, will not adversely affect the completion date of the competition, potentially provide a competitive advantage to either of the teams involved or potentially disadvantage other teams in the competition

**3.2 (b)** The Fixtures Secretary of the CCC is notified by email, or in writing, by both Clubs.

**3.2 (c)** A new date for the fixture has been agreed by both Clubs and is acceptable to the CCC.

**3.3** Where a game is called off a short notice (less than 24 Hours) the game will be automatically scheduled for the following Wednesday evening, unless otherwise agreed by the Clubs involved and agreement sanctioned by the CCC.

**3.4** If there is doubt regarding the availability of a pitch, the home Club shall, at the earliest opportunity and no later than 6 hours before the starting time, contact the Fixtures Secretary of the CCC to arrange an inspection of the pitch. Only an appointed Referee or an alternative nominated by the CCC may declare a pitch unplayable. Where the pitch of the home team is deemed unplayable, the fixture may reverse to the away team’s venue **(With Gate Receipts remaining with the home team)** or 3G Pitch at Kingspan Breffni. Alternatively, the CCC (Chairman acting in consultation with the Fixtures Secretary) may reschedule the fixture for the 3G Pitch at Kingpsan Breffni, at a time appointed by the CCC, depending on availability.

**3.5** Where a team does not follow the procedure set out above, it shall be deemed to have defaulted on the fixture and the CCC may impose penalties, which may include forfeiture of the match and/or fines. Failure to fulfil the fixture as instructed by the CCC will be dealt with in accordance with Rule 6.38 of the GAA Official Guide 2019, or as amended.

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**Clubs & General**

**4.1** The trophy for all competition finals shall be displayed for the duration of the final.

**4.2** Clubs wishing to video a game must adhere to the following:

**4.2.1** Permission to video a game must be requested by email to the County Secretary no less than **72 Hours prior** to the game taking place.

**4.2.2** Once permission is given, the opposing Club must be notified by email of your intention to video the game no less than **24 Hours prior** to the game taking place.

**4.2.3** Any attempt to record a game without first receiving permission and/ or without notifying opposing team will result in a ban from recording any further games for the remainder of the current year in all competitions.

**4.2.4** If a ban is imposed and then ignored, a fine will then be imposed.

**4.2.5** Videos must be made available to the opposing team or CCC if requested.

**4.2.6** Clubs must observe any other regulations laid down by the County Committee regarding showing the video, use for personal gain, etc.

**4.3** A complete Master Fixture Plan shall be made, published and circulated to Clubs as early in the year as possible and shall include National and Provincial Fixture also.

**4.4** Referees for all Fixtures shall be appointed by the CCC.

**4.5** The Gate Receipts for all ACFL and Reserve ACFL Finals shall be shared equally between the two teams participating after the Referee Fees and Ground Fees to the team on whose ground the game is played, are paid.

**4.6** Rent payable to Clubs for the use of Club Grounds shall be €100 for a single fixture and €200 for a floodlit game. Included in this is the provision of a programme.

**4.7** The Regulations governing the organisation & presentation of Championship games for 2020 when adopted, shall also apply to ACFL and Reserve ACFL Finals, Semi Finals and promotion playoffs.

**4.8** In the event of a clash of Club Colours for an ACFL or Reserve ACFL fixture, **both teams shall change as per rule, unless otherwise agreed and confirmed by email or in writing to the Fixtures Secretary, by the teams involved.** If both Clubs are in agreement, teams may agree to toss a coin to determine which team shall change jerseys. The CCC shall be the deciding body in determining whether a change of colours is warranted.

**4.9** The Secretary of the CCC shall keep a list of Referees whose names have been approved by the County Committee. If a Referee fails to turn up and both Clubs appoint one, and it is approved by the CCC, the game, under such circumstances, shall be considered a fixture.

**4.10** Each Club shall contribute to a central fund for the payment of Referees within the County.

**4.11** Referees will be paid twice yearly, on receipt of the Referee’s reports in full.

**4.12** Clubs shall be obliged to play games under floodlights if requested to do so by the CCC, or governing bodies.

**4.13** Clubs shall be obliged to play games on the 3G at Kingspan Breffni if requested to do so by the CCC, or governing bodies.

**4.14** Notification of participation in a Challenge Match, either in Cavan or outside the County, must be sent to the via the **Online Permissions Form** no later than 24 Hours prior to the Fixture taking place, and should include Date, Time, Venue, Teams participating and details of the **neutral Referee** appointed, including Club, regardless of which team is responsible for organising the Referee.

**4.15** The Referee appointed to officiate in a Challenge Match **must be neutral** and not attached to either of the Clubs participating.

**End.**