



CLG LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE (BUNAITHE 1924)

CONSTITUTION

Constitution of GAA Handball,
revised and corrected up to date and published by authority of,
the GAA Handball Central Council.

Sanctioned by Management on behalf of Central Council.

This publication replaces all previous versions published.

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SECTION A. GAA HANDBALL OPERATIONAL MODEL

1. NAME

- 1.1. The official Name shall be CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL LIATHROID LÁIMHE the English version of which shall be GAA HANDBALL.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

- 2.1. GAA Handball shall, subject to the overall control of the GAA Central Council, as outlined in the Official Guide, be responsible for the preservation and promotion of the national game of handball.
- 2.2. The Membership, Income and Property of GAA HANDBALL shall be dedicated to and applied solely towards the promotion of Handball.

3. GOVERNANCE

- 3.1. The GAA Handball Constitution is subject to the overall control of the GAA. Central Council, as such is also governed by the overall Constitution and Rules of the GAA (Official Guide – Part 1), which include Safeguarding, Anti-Doping Policies & Code of Conduct, which can be accessed at www.gaa.ie or www.gaahandball.ie.
- 3.2. Control of Association Property shall be as per the General Rules of the GAA Official Guide.
- 3.3. All members and units of GAA Handball, while taking part in handball activities, in all matters that may arise, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of GAA Handball and of the GAA where appropriate.
- 3.4. Safeguarding of children/young people (under the age of 18)
- 3.4.1. The Association shall safeguard and promote the interests and wellbeing of all those under 18 years of age who are involved in its games and related activities.
- 3.4.2. The Association shall take all practical steps to protect them from all discernible forms of abuse, from harm, discrimination or degrading treatment, and shall respect their rights, wishes and feelings.
- 3.4.3. Central Council shall have in place a Child Safeguarding Policy for the protection and safeguarding of children/young people under 18 years of age (including the disciplinary and other procedures to be applied in the event of a breach of the Policy) and shall be entitled to amend or revoke any provision of the Policy from time to time. The Code shall provide for the manner in which it is determined whether the procedures under the Code or the provisions of rules of the GAA official guide shall be invoked in any particular case.
- 3.4.4. The Code shall specify the disciplinary procedures to be applied for breaches of the Code. This Rule shall give and constitute authority for the carrying out of all functions and actions in accordance with the Code and Guidelines.
- 3.4.5. Central Council shall have in place the GAA Guidance for Dealing with and Reporting allegations or concerns of abuse. Allegations and complaints of abuse shall be dealt with exclusively in accordance with the provisions of these Guidelines and not under any other provision of these Rules or under the Club Constitution.

- 3.5. Elective offices referred to in this Constitution shall be confined to fully paid-up members of GAA Handball.
- 3.6. The quorum for all meetings of Committees or Councils of the Association shall be one quarter and not fewer than Three of the members entitled to attend unless the Constitution provides otherwise.
- 3.7. Except where otherwise provided in the Constitution, all decisions at General Meetings and Committee Meetings shall be taken by a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting and in the event of a tie, the presiding Chairperson shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a member, irrespective of whether or not he had originally voted on the issue. Any decision taken at a duly convened meeting of any Committee or Council of the Association, shall not be rescinded at a subsequent meeting, unless due notice of intention to propose rescindment has been previously conveyed to each member, and the consent of two-thirds of those present, entitled to vote and voting is obtained.
- 3.8. All official correspondence to the Central and Provincial Councils in connection with County and Club matters, except as provided for in Rule, must come through the Secretary of the County Committee or, if absent, the Assistant Secretary (who was elected at previous County Annual General Meeting). Likewise, all official Club correspondence to County Committees must come through the Club Secretary. All official documents and correspondence shall have the following in Irish:
- 3.8.1. The name of the Club/ Committee that is being represented (where a Club/Committee is involved).
 - 3.8.2. The signature of the sender, subject to the GAA Official Guide rules.
 - 3.8.3. The name and address of the addressee, where used, including on envelopes.
 - 3.8.4. Printing and signatures on official cheque books and cheques in payment of fees.
 - 3.8.5. Full names of players and signature of Rúnaí on official list of players for games.
- Correspondence and documents not complying shall be ruled out of order, but may, subject to any time limit specified by Rule or the Committee in charge, be resubmitted in compliant form.
- 3.9. General Rules of the GAA apply to Objections, Appeals & Investigations, Reference the GAA Official Guide.
- 3.10. Procedures and Hearings relating to Disciplinary matters & Rule Enforcement follow those, as laid down in “an Treorai Oifigiúil”, Cumann Luthcleas Gael.
- 3.11. All transfers as per the GAA official guide. Foireann will be used for all Club & County transfers within GAA Handball.
- 3.12. GAA Handball Perpetual Cups & Trophies to be returned to the Central Council each year before the start of that season in 4-Wall, Softball, Hardball & Wallball.
- All perpetual awards, be they cups or shields, are in trust with GAA Handball, and as such if required by the association must be returned as requested, for purposes of cleaning or repair, engraving, or for use during promotional events or award ceremonies.
- 3.12.1. Penalty: Fine of €70 per Cup/Trophy not returned on time.
- 3.13. The Association shall use all practical endeavours to support Irish Industry especially in relation to the provision of Trophies and playing Gear and Equipment.

4. STRUCTURE

4.1. GAA Handball is a democratic organisation comprised of the following affiliated units:

- 4.1.1. Clubs
- 4.1.2. Irish Collegiate Handball Association (ICHA)
- 4.1.3. County Committees
- 4.1.4. Provincial Councils
- 4.1.5. GAA International Units
- 4.1.6. Central Council
- 4.1.7. National Annual General Meeting (Congress)

5. DEFINITIONS

- 5.1. “The GAA” means the Gaelic Athletic Association.
- 5.2. “The Official Guide” means the current Official Guide of the GAA and may be amended from time to time.
- 5.3. “Real Property” means the property of GAA HANDBALL of an immovable nature, comprising Grounds or Buildings, whether of Leasehold or Freehold tenure, with all Fixtures or Fittings attached thereto and used therewith.
- 5.4. “Personal Property” means the property of GAA HANDBALL of a movable nature, comprising all Playing or Sporting equipment of GAA HANDBALL, as well as all Stock in Trade and Money or other Assets not already classified as fixtures or fittings on “Real Property”, as heretofore defined.
- 5.5. Words importing the singular number only, include the plural number and vice versa, and words importing the masculine gender only, also include the feminine and vice versa.
- 5.6. “Management” shall mean the management committee of the Central Council of the GAA.
- 5.7. Where the following terms are used in this Constitution, they refer to Handball unless otherwise specifically stated.
 - 5.7.1. Clubs
 - 5.7.2. County Committees
 - 5.7.3. Provincial Councils
 - 5.7.4. Central Council
 - 5.7.5. National Annual General Meeting

6. MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1. There shall be three types of Membership of GAA HANDBALL:
 - 6.1.1. FULL MEMBERSHIP may be granted to people who, having reached the age of eighteen years, subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objects of GAA HANDBALL and the GAA.
 - 6.1.2. YOUTH MEMBERSHIP may be granted to persons, not having reached the age of eighteen

years, who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objects of GAA HANDBALL and the GAA.

6.1.3. SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP may be granted to people who do not compete at any level of the association but play recreationally or are involved in club activities.

6.2. Full Members (including Honorary Members) and Youth Members of GAA HANDBALL are members of the GAA.

6.3. The rights of any member of GAA HANDBALL shall be conditional upon the member complying with the provisions of this Constitution and Rules and the Official Guide, including payment of any annual membership fee and levies.

6.4. Such rights may be withheld, restricted or suspended in accordance with this Constitution and Rules and the Official Guide.

6.5. Any person seeking admission as a Member of any Class of Membership, other than Honorary, shall complete and sign a prescribed Application Form, which must be returned to the Club Secretary together with the prescribed fee.

6.6. An Application for Full or Social Membership must be on the prescribed form signed by the Applicant and proposed by one Full Member and seconded by another Full Member who are not suspended or disqualified under this Constitution and Rules or the Official Guide.

6.7. An Application for Youth Membership must be on the Prescribed Form signed by the Applicant and one of his parents or Guardians, as well as being proposed by one Full Member and seconded by another Full Member, who are not suspended or disqualified under this Constitution and Rules or the Official Guide.

7. REGISTRATION

7.1. General Rules of the GAA apply as set out in the GAA Official Guide, except in the case of Registration where the registration fee for adults and juveniles plus the registration fee for Third Level students shall be set at a level to be determined by Central Council. Proposed registration fees and registration forms for the following year must be issued to all Runaithí, Coiste Chontae, by 1st November each year. The current fees agreed shall not be increased by greater than 50% in any 3-year period without the approval of the National Annual General Meeting.

7.2. Each year before 31st January the County Secretary shall forward the list of full members submitted by clubs for the year to GAA Handball. He shall also forward a signed copy of the Club's list of Full Registered Members to the Provincial Administrator. Additional registrations may be made subsequently. Only a Full Member who has paid his annual Club subscription by the due date set by the Executive Committee of the Club shall be eligible to vote at, nominate for, or seek election to the Executive Committee at any following General Meeting of the Club in the Membership year.

7.3. Only registered members of affiliated Clubs shall be eligible to compete in any Club, County or inter-county championships and competitions under the jurisdiction of GAA Handball or any of its sub-units.

SECTION B. THE CLUB

8. CLUB COMMITTEE

8.1. A Club must register at least four full memberships before it may affiliate with the County Committee, as appropriate. Each club shall elect a:

- 8.1.1. Chairperson
- 8.1.2. Secretary
- 8.1.3. Treasurer
- 8.1.4. Children's Officer (Appointed)

It may further elect the following:

- 8.1.5. Ladies' Officer
- 8.1.6. Communications Officer (PRO)
- 8.1.7. Coaching and Development Officer
- 8.1.8. Delegate to the County Board

9. CLUB GOVERNANCE

9.1. A Club must have at least registered ten full memberships before it may affiliate with the County Committee to receive voting rights, as appropriate.

9.2. It shall pay affiliation fee to Provincial Council and Central Council and pay the Player Injury levy annually. A club or a player from any club shall not be permitted to play in any competition unless the Player Injury levy has been paid.

9.3. A fee for Clubs shall be, at least, €15.00 each year payable to the County Committee.

9.4. Affiliation fees must be paid to Central Council through Foireann as follows:

- 9.1.1. €160 Public Liability Insurance
- 9.1.2. €20 per Full Membership
- 9.1.3. €7.50 per Youth Membership
- 9.1.4. €0 per Social Membership

9.5. A Third Level College Club must have at least six full members before it can affiliate to the Provincial Council and to the relevant County Committee if taking part in the County Competitions.

9.6. Where no adult club exists, a youth club may be registered, such a club shall elect a Cathaoirleach, Rúnaí, Cisteoir and appoint a children's officer and pay affiliation fee to County Committee, Provincial Council and Central Council and pay the Player Injury levy annually. Such a club cannot take part in adult competitions. It will not have voting rights at County Committee but may have observer delegate status.

9.7. Players shall not play in competitions except under the auspices of County Committees, Provincial Councils or Central Council, unless they have applied to GAA Handball for clearance to do so. The penalty for infringement of this rule shall be suspension for 48 weeks.

10. CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 10.1. The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting before the 1st of November, to elect its officers, review accounts, and discuss matters of the club.

SECTION C. THE COUNTY

11. COUNTY COMMITTEE

- 11.1. A County Committee shall consist of the following officers: All members shall have voting rights.
- 11.1.1. Chairperson
 - 11.1.2. Vice-Chairperson
 - 11.1.3. Secretary
 - 11.1.4. Treasurer
 - 11.1.5. Communication Officer (PRO)
 - 11.1.6. Coaching and Development Officer
 - 11.1.7. Children's officer (Appointed)
 - 11.1.8. Ladies Officer
 - 11.1.9. Two representatives from each club
 - 11.1.10. Provincial Council representative (who shall be ex-officio members)
 - 11.1.11. One delegate to the GAA County Committee
 - 11.1.12. One representative from the GAA County Committee (in County where applicable).

It shall Further elect:

- 11.1.13. Delegates to National Annual General Meeting
- 11.1.14. Delegates to Provincial Annual General Meeting
- 11.1.15. Delegate to County GAA Committee
- 11.1.16. Delegates to Provincial Council
- 11.1.17. Youth Games Officer

12. COUNTY GOVERNANCE

- 12.1. A County Handball Committee shall be responsible to the GAA County Committee for the management of handball in the county and it must submit a Report, Financial Statement and Balance Sheet on the year's workings on the 30th of September each year to the GAA County Committee.
- 12.2. A County Committee shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting and shall hold meetings as it deems desirable.
- 12.3. A County Committee must have at least two affiliated Clubs before it can be recognised as such. Where there is only one Club within a county, that Club shall affiliate directly with the Provincial Council.
- 12.4. The County Competitions Control Committee shall consist of five members, with three being a quorum, appointed annually by the County Committee. It shall be responsible for all arrangements for and the control of any matter arising from competitions under the jurisdiction of the County

Committee, including disciplinary matters other than those reserved by the GAA County Hearings Committee. It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules, including hearing objections and Counter Objections. It shall consider and make recommendations to the County Committee on applications for transfers and grading within the county.

- 12.5. Where a Hearing is requested, it shall be heard by the Hearings Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.
- 12.6. Appeals shall be heard by the Central Appeals Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

13. COUNTY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 13.1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the 20th of November. It shall consist of the officers and members of the outgoing Committee (voting rights as on the Committee) and two delegates from each affiliated Club which competed in the previous year's adult championships. A newly elected officer, unless a member of the outgoing Committee or a delegate, shall not have the right to vote at any stage of the County Annual General Meeting.
- 13.2. The AGM shall consider the Secretary's Report, Financial Statement and Balance Sheet of the year's workings and also any Motions on the agenda.
- 13.3. It shall elect the following officers for the ensuing year as the Executive of the County Committee:
- 13.3.1. Chairperson
 - 13.3.2. Vice-Chairperson
 - 13.3.3. Secretary
 - 13.3.4. Treasurer
 - 13.3.5. Communication Officer (PRO)
 - 13.3.6. Coaching and Development Officer
 - 13.3.7. Children's officer (Appointed)
 - 13.3.8. Ladies Officer
- It shall Further elect:
- 13.3.9. Delegates to National Annual General Meeting
 - 13.3.10. Delegates to Provincial Annual General Meeting
 - 13.3.11. Delegate to County GAA Committee
 - 13.3.12. Delegates to Provincial Council
 - 13.3.13. Youth Games Officer
- 13.4. A candidate for any position shall be nominated by a Club. Motions for consideration by the County AGM shall be submitted by Clubs. Such Nominations and Motions should be submitted on the official Nominations and Motions paper and should include the date of the club meeting at which the nominations and motions were approved. These papers shall be sent to the Clubs at least four weeks prior to the County AGM and which shall be completed and returned to the County Secretary at least two weeks prior to the AGM.

From Official GAA Guide

A member who has served for five years either consecutively or cumulatively, in a specific Officership, shall be ineligible to hold that Officership for the five-year period following immediately after serving the fifth year in that Office. Ref 3.9 (b) – 2026

Voting to fill the Elective positions specified above shall be by secret ballot and on the basis of the Proportional Representation system. Ref 3.9 (f) – 2026

The County Secretary shall send an agenda, which shall include his Report and the Audited Accounts for the preceding financial year ending on 30th September, with the nominations and motions, to each Club Secretary and to the Members of the outgoing County Committee, at least one week before the Convention. A copy of these documents and the County Grounds Accounts for the preceding financial year ending 30th September shall, at the same time, be forwarded to the Central and Provincial Councils. Failure to do so may involve suspension. Ref 3.13 – 2026

Except as provided in Rule 3.19(k), a County shall only send forward to Provincial Convention or Annual Congress motions which have appeared on the circulated agenda of the County Convention and have received its approval. Where a motion is submitted originally by a Club, the Club name along with the County name shall appear on Congress documentation. A County Convention may submit an amended motion to Congress, provided such amendment does not alter the essential meaning of the original motion submitted. (H) At the first meeting after the County Annual General Meeting the committee may make regulations, which shall not be contrary to regulations of Central Council. Regulations shall remain in force until amended. Amendments shall only be considered on an annual basis. Ref 3.14 – 2026

County Conventions shall make Bye-Laws which shall be reviewed on an annual basis and forwarded for sanction to the Management Committee of Central Council within two weeks of the date of Convention. New or amended Bye-laws as proposed by Counties shall not become operative until sanctioned. County Bye-Law shall not be contrary to a Rule in the Official Guide. They shall not place a restriction on when Club Fixtures are played or govern postponement of fixtures, as such matters constitute powers of the Competitions Control Committee. The Management Committee may, for the purpose of compliance with the General Rules and standardisation and following consultation between its Rules Advisory Committee and the County Committee concerned, approve amendments to a Bye-Law submitted for sanction. Such a Bye-Law shall become operative immediately and Chapter 3 organisational structures 23 without the necessity of it receiving further approval of a County or Special Convention. Motions to remove or amend an existing Bye-Law shall be carried by three-fifths of those present, entitled to vote and voting. Ref 3.15 – 2026

SECTION D. THE PROVINCE

14. PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

14.1. A Provincial Council shall consist of the following:

- 14.1.1. Chairperson
- 14.1.2. Vice-Chairperson
- 14.1.3. Administrator
- 14.1.4. Treasurer
- 14.1.5. Communication Officer (PRO)
- 14.1.6. Children's Officer
- 14.1.7. Ladies Officer
- 14.1.8. Development Officer
- 14.1.9. Coaching Officer
- 14.1.10. Two officers from each affiliated County Board.

It shall Further elect:

- 14.1.11. Delegate to Provincial GAA Council (Where applicable)
- 14.1.12. Youth Games Officer

14.2. All officers shall not hold office for more than three consecutive years. The immediate past Council Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member for the year following his termination of office.

14.3. The Provincial Council Management Committee shall comprise of the following:

- 14.3.1. Chairperson
- 14.3.2. Vice-Chairperson
- 14.3.3. Administrator
- 14.3.4. Treasurer
- 14.3.5. Children's Officer
- 14.3.6. Communication Officer (PRO)
- 14.3.7. Delegate to Provincial GAA Council

15. PROVINCIAL GOVERNANCE

15.1. The Provincial Council shall be subject to the overall jurisdiction of the Central Council; a Provincial Council shall have within its Province the following powers: To manage the fixtures programme for the Provincial Championships and the general workings within the province.

15.2. A Provincial Council shall present to National Annual General Meeting:

- 15.2.1. Administrator's Report
- 15.2.2. Audited Accounts

15.3. A minimum of 5 days' written notice shall be given by the Provincial Administrator to all members for meetings, except in the case of an emergency when he may, in consultation with the Chairperson, summon a meeting with shorter written or verbal notice. A special meeting may be convened by the Administrator on the written request of a majority of members.

- 15.4. The Provincial Council shall nominate for appointment annually a Provincial Competitions Control Committee which shall consist of A minimum of three members. The Provincial C.C.C. shall be responsible for all arrangements for and the control of any matter arising from competitions under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Council and matters arising from same, including disciplinary matters other than those reserved to the G. A. A. Provincial Hearings Committee. It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules, including hearing objections and Counter Objections from competitions under its control.
- 15.5. Where a Hearing is requested, it shall be heard by the Hearings Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.
- 15.6. Appeals shall be heard by the Central Appeals Committee appointed by the Central Council of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

16. PROVINCIAL COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 16.1. A Provincial Annual General Meeting shall be held at least four weeks prior to National Annual General Meeting unless the Provincial Handball Annual General Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Provincial GAA Convention. In this instance the date must be confirmed at least 4 weeks prior to Provincial Annual General Meeting to Central Council. It shall consist of:
- 16.1.1. Members of the outgoing Provincial Council (voting rights as on the Council).
 - 16.1.2. Two representatives from each affiliated county or one representative where there is only one Club in a county, and it is affiliated with the Provincial Council.
- 16.2. The Functions of the Provincial Annual General Meeting shall be to consider Audited Accounts, Motions and general Provincial Activities. It shall elect on the basis of the Proportional Representation system, who shall hold office until the election of officers at the next Annual General Meeting. It shall also elect a delegate to the GAA Provincial Council, the following officers:
- 16.2.1. Provincial Chairperson
 - 16.2.2. Provincial Vice Chairman
 - 16.2.3. Administrator
 - 16.2.4. Treasurer
 - 16.2.4. Youth Games Officer
 - 16.2.4. Children's Officer (Appointed)
 - 16.2.6. Development Officer
 - 16.2.7. Communications Officer (PRO)
 - 16.2.8. Ladies Officer
 - 16.2.9. Coaching Officer
- 16.3. A candidate for election as a provincial officer shall be nominated by a County Committee. Only Motions carried at County Annual General Meeting may be submitted by that County Committee for consideration of the Provincial Annual General Meeting. Such Motions and Nominations shall be made on the Motion and Nomination paper, which shall be completed and returned to the Provincial Administrator at least 4 weeks prior to the Provincial Annual General Meeting.

- 16.4. The Provincial Administrator shall send an Agenda, which shall include his Report and the Audited Accounts for the year, with the Nominations and Motions, to each County Secretary, to the outgoing Handball Provincial Council members and to the GAA Provincial Council and to GAA Handball Central Council at least two weeks before the Provincial Annual General Meeting.

From Official GAA Guide

The functions of the Provincial Convention shall be to consider audited accounts for the preceding year up to 30th. September, motions, and general Provincial activities. Subject to the exception hereunder, it shall elect the following Officers: a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and P.R.O. The Elections shall each be completed at Convention on the basis of one secret ballot vote on the Proportional Representation system, and the result of each count shall be announced at Convention. Exception: Subject to the approval of Central Council, a Provincial Convention may appoint a full-time Secretary, who shall not be subject to annual election, and whose employment contract and job specification shall receive the approval of the Management Committee. A Provincial Officer, other than a full-time Secretary, shall not hold office for more than three consecutive years. Should a vacancy arise in the Officerships of the Provincial Council prior to 31st October in any year, it shall be filled on the basis of (a) nominations of the Counties (b) ballot vote of Counties, (based on Provincial Convention voting strength) and Members of current Provincial Council.

Ref 3.23 (a) and (b) – 2026

Provincial Convention may make Bye-Laws, which shall become operative, when sanctioned by the Management Committee, on behalf of Central Council. A Provincial Bye-Law shall not be contrary to a Rule in the Official Guide. The Management Committee, on behalf of the Central Council, shall sanction or reject a proposed Bye- Law within four weeks from date of receipt. Ref 3.25 (b) – 2026

SECTION E. CENTRAL COUNCIL

17. ARD COMHAIRLE

- 17.1. The Central Council shall consist of the following:
- 17.1.1. President
 - 17.1.2. The Head of Handball (without voting rights)
 - 17.1.3. The President-elect, if in office
 - 17.1.4. The immediate past President for the year following his term as President
 - 17.1.5. The Vice-presidents, being the Chairperson of each Provincial Council
 - 17.1.6. The Handball Representative on the GAA Central Council
 - 17.1.7. A Representative of GAA Management
 - 17.1.8. Chairperson of the Finance Committee (Finance Rep)
 - 17.1.9. Chairperson of the Communications Committee (C.C. Rep)
 - 17.1.10. Chairperson of the Ladies' Committee (L.C. Rep)
 - 17.1.11. Chairperson of Coaching and Games Committee (C&G Rep)
 - 17.1.12. 2 non-GAA Handball Representative (nominated by the President in conjunction with the Head of Handball and the four Provincial Chairpersons for appointment by the Central Council) all with voting rights.
- 17.2. The President, Head of Handball, President-elect, immediate past President and non-GAA Handball Representative shall not be represented by proxies at meetings of the Council. A Provincial President may be represented by another officer of the Provincial Council with written notification from the provincial administrator.
- 17.3. Should a vacancy occur in representation, such vacancy shall be filled by the body concerned.
- 17.4. A member absent, without just cause, from three consecutive meetings shall automatically become disqualified from membership of the Council for that year. This shall also apply to all members of sub-committees.

18. CENTRAL COUNCIL GOVERNANCE

- 18.1. Central Council subject to the overall control of GAA Central Council is the supreme governing body of GAA Handball on all handball matters between National Annual General Meetings.
- 18.2. It shall have the authority to interpret handball rules.
- 18.3. It shall control the All-Ireland Championships.
- 18.4. It shall, at its first meeting each year, ratify members to the various national Committees (within the Association's Strategic Plan) as decided from time to time by Annual or Special National Annual General Meetings. The Chairpersons of the committees would be recommended by a committee comprising of President, Provincial Chairpersons and Head of Handball. It shall also appoint representatives to the National Strategic Planning Committee and Chairperson of said Committees, who shall hold office for a maximum 5-year term. The national committee may form other committees as they require during the year.

- 18.5. Central Council will meet at least 6 times per calendar year.
- 18.6. Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed so as to admit to Central Council or its sub-committee's authority to introduce, enact or rescind aspects of the Constitution or in any way vary or delegate the power reserved to National Annual General Meeting by rule 20.4. This rule shall in all aspects be subject to rule 20.4. and in the event of conflict rule 20.4. shall prevail.
- 18.7. The Central Council shall appoint a Head of Handball.
- 18.8. A minimum of 5 days written notice shall be given by the Head of Handball to all members for meetings, except in an emergency, when he may, in consultation with the President, summon a meeting with shorter notice. A Special Meeting may be convened by the Head of Handball at the request of a majority of the members.

19. NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (CONGRESS)

- 19.1. The National Annual General Meeting, known as Congress, shall be held on a Saturday and/or Sunday prior to the Annual GAA Congress. Congress venue to be selected by Central Council. It shall consist of the outgoing Council (voting rights as on the outgoing Council), the past Presidents who are members, the President-elect, and delegates from the counties on the basis of three delegates from a county. In cases where there is only one Club in a county it shall be entitled to only one delegate. Officers or Council members cannot appoint proxies to represent them at National Annual General Meeting. The immediate past President shall be an ex-officio member for the year following his termination of office.
- 19.2. At least two weeks before National Annual General Meeting each county, in accordance with representation, and also the President and Director General of the GAA shall be issued with copies of the Bainisteoir Náisiúnta's Report, Audited Accounts, the Agenda and the list of Nominations and Motions.
- 19.3. The functions of National Annual General Meeting shall be:
- 19.3.1. To consider Reports and Audited Accounts of the Central Council and its subsidiary Councils for the preceding year up to 30TH of September.
 - 19.3.2. To elect by secret ballot on the basis of the Proportional Representation system, a President and representative to GAA Central Council.
 - 19.3.3. To consider Motions and to enact, amend or rescind Rules and this Constitution.
- 19.4. A candidate for the position of President and representative on the GAA Central Council shall be nominated by a County Committee. Such nominations shall be made on the Nomination Paper, which shall be sent to the County Committee at least eight weeks prior to the National Annual General Meeting, and which shall be completed and returned to the Head of Handball at least six weeks before National Annual General Meeting.
- 19.5. A President or representative to the GAA Central Council shall not hold office for more than three consecutive years. A President shall be elected one year prior to the commencement of his term of office and for that year shall be referred to as the President-elect.

- 19.6. In the case of death or permanent incapacity of the President, the Central Council shall have the authority to appoint from among its Provincial Chairpersons (Vice- Presidents) an acting President, who shall perform the duties of the Presidency until the next National Annual General Meeting.
- 19.7. Special National Annual General Meeting: In special circumstances and with the support of a two-thirds majority of its members, present and voting, Central Council may summon a Special National Annual General Meeting. Special National Annual General Meeting consists of the same representation as is allowed at National 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.
- 19.8. A Committee consisting of the President, the four Provincial Chairpersons, and the Head of Handball shall prior to National Annual General Meeting, examine Motions submitted 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 and/or regulations affected, or where there are minor clerical errors. Counties shall be advised in writing of the reason for a Motion not being in order and, subject to a time- limit determined by Central Council, shall be afforded an opportunity to resubmit the motion for consideration of the Motion Committee. The President shall have the authority at National Annual General Meeting to rule a Motion out of order.

20. MOTIONS

- 20.1. Only Motions carried at Central Council, Provincial Annual General Meeting or County Annual General Meeting and made on the Motion/Nomination paper may be submitted for discussion at National Annual General Meeting.
- 20.2. Such Motions shall be made on the Motion/Nomination paper which shall be sent to the County Committee at least eight weeks prior to National Annual General Meeting which shall be completed and returned to the Head of Handball at least six weeks prior to National Annual General Meeting.
- 20.3. 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 and/or Regulations affected thereby.
- 20.4. GAA Handball Ard Comhairle either directly or on recommendation from GAA Handball CCCC or a GAA Handball Provincial Council are authorised to revise Playing Rules during the 3- year trial subject to review. This is to ensure proper testing and a smooth transition over to final recommendations and to ensure all issues can be dealt with and corrected at the end of each Championship.
- 20.5. Motions to remove or amend an existing Rule must be carried by three-fifths of those present, entitled to vote and voting.
- 20.6. National Annual General Meeting may refer a Motion for consideration to Central Council or a sub-committee of that body. The ensuing recommendations, if they propose to alter an existing Rule, must come in Motion form to a subsequent National Annual General Meeting.

- 20.7. New and amended Rules shall become operative four weeks from date of National Annual General Meeting, and the text shall be circulated to County Secretaries within this period for distribution to Clubs.
- 20.8. Amendments to this Constitution shall be subject to approval of GAA Management and shall not be enforced until approved.
- 20.9. A Motion declared not to have received one-third of the votes at National Annual General Meeting may not be tabled on a National Annual General Meeting agenda for the subsequent three years.

21. POST NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 21.1. At its first meeting after National Annual General Meeting Central Council shall have the power to review the amount of fees and fines referred to in the Rules and Constitution, and to increase or decrease same as considered necessary.

SECTION F. SUBCOMMITTEES OF CENTRAL COUNCIL

22. CENTRAL COMPETITIONS CONTROL COMMITTEE (CCCC)

22.1. CCCC, shall be responsible for all arrangements for and control of any matter arising from competitions under the jurisdiction of the Central Council and matters arising from same, including disciplinary matters other than those functions reserved to the GAA Central Hearings Committee. It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules, including hearing Objections and Counter Objections, from competitions under its control. Hearings, where prescribed, shall be heard by the Central Hearings Committee. All appointed positions (with the exception of the chair) shall have a three-year term of office. Provincially appointed representatives may be represented by a nominated proxy The Committee shall consist of the following:

- 22.1.1. Head of Handball (with no voting rights)
- 22.1.2. GAA Handball Staff Member (with no voting rights)
- 22.1.3. The four Provincial Appointed Representatives
- 22.1.4. Two other members, appointed by the Central Council.

23. FINANCE

23.1. The Committee shall implement annual work programmes based on a rolling Strategic Plan for GAA Handball as approved by National Annual General Meeting, Special National Annual General Meeting or Central Council. It shall be responsible for formulating and appraising the income and expenditure of GAA Handball. All appointed positions (with the exception of the chair) shall have a three-year term of office. It will comprise the following:

- 23.1.1. Head of GAA Handball
- 23.1.2. President of GAA Handball
- 23.1.3. GAA Handball Staff Member
- 23.1.4. Chairperson (Appointed by Central Council) (Who appoints committee roles)
- 23.1.5. Four reps appointed by the Central Council (Reps must have an accounting or finance background)

24. NATIONAL COACHING AND GAMES

24.1. The Committee shall implement annual work programmes based on a rolling Strategic Plan for GAA Handball as approved by National Annual General Meeting, Special National Annual General Meeting or Central Council. It shall act as a resource to facilitate training, project management and support services for GAA Handball, under the direction of the full-time staff, and will complement the other National Committees. All appointed positions (with the exception of the chair) shall have a three-year term of office. It shall comprise the following:

- 24.1.1. Head of GAA Handball
- 24.1.2. GAA Handball Staff Member
- 24.1.3. National Children's Officer
- 24.1.4. Chairperson appointed by Central Council (Who appoints committee roles)
- 24.1.5. 4 Reps appointed by Central Council (Reps must have a Coaching or Sports Management background)

24.1.6. One National Coaching Tutor nominated by the Chairperson for appointment by Central Council).

25. COMMUNICATIONS (PR)

25.1. The Committee shall implement the promotions strategy based on a rolling Strategic Plan for GAA Handball as approved by National Annual General Meeting, Special National Annual General Meeting or Central Council. It shall promote upcoming Championships and National Competitions. It shall shape Social Media direction. It shall act as support services as required by the other National Committees. All appointed positions (with the exception of the chair) shall have a three-year term of office. It shall comprise the following:

25.1.1. Head of GAA Handball

25.1.2. President of GAA Handball

25.1.3. GAA Handball Staff Member

25.1.4. Chairperson appointed by Central Council (Who appoints committee roles)

25.1.5. National Children's Officer

25.1.6. 4 Reps appointed by Central Council (These must be people of a Media background)

26. LADIES'

26.1. The Committee, established under the GAA Handball Strategic Plan, shall lead the implementation of initiatives that strengthen the future development, inclusion and retention of female participation across the sport. The Committee will serve as a key resource, providing training guidance, health and wellness support for female players, and will liaise with other National Committees as required. All appointed positions (with the exception of the chair) shall have a three-year term of office. It shall comprise the following:

26.1.1. Head of GAA Handball

26.1.2. President of GAA Handball

26.1.3. GAA Handball Staff Member

26.1.4. Chairperson appointed by Central Council (Who appoints committee roles)

26.1.5. Lead Coaching & Development Co-Ordinator

26.1.6. 4 Reps appointed by Central Council (These must be people who have an interest in Ladies' Handball, and must represent a cross profile of the Ladies' Game)

27. 3RD LEVEL

27.1. The Irish Collegiate Handball Association/Colláiste Ard Oideachais Liathroid Laimhe (ICHA/CAOLL) shall be the National Governing Body for Third Level Handball in Ireland, and subject to governance of Central Council.