



## Rules effective 6<sup>th</sup> August 2017

### 1. Definitions

“AGM” and “SGM” mean the Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting of the Leinster Senior Football League respectively.

“The Association” or “the FAI” shall mean the Football Association of Ireland.

“Day(s)” shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays unless the rule specifies calendar days.

“Domestic Competitive Match” shall mean all Competitions within the League the player is registered with.

“Legal Persons” means entities or bodies not being individuals.

“Manager” means the Official of a Club responsible for selecting a team.

“Match” means a football match sanctioned by the League or the FAI.

“Match Delegate” means an individual appointed to furnish a report on a Match.

“Match Officials” means referees and assistant referees and includes reserve officials and fourth officials.

“Members” of the League shall mean the clubs registered with the League.

“Natural Persons” shall mean an individual human being as distinct from a corporate body or entity.

“Official” means any official, Manager, technical official, director, secretary, servant or representative of any member of the League.

“Participant” means a Player, Official, Manager, Match Official and all such persons who are from time to time participating in any activity sanctioned by the League.

“Player” means a person who is registered with a Club and/or the League in accordance with these Rules, and/or who participates in a fixture and/or whose name is referenced on a match card of a fixture under the jurisdiction of the League.

### 2. The Leinster Senior Football League

2.1 This amalgamation of Clubs shall be called the LEINSTER SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE (the “League”) and shall consist of Clubs, divided into groups affiliated to the LEINSTER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, hereinafter referred to as Divisions.

2.2 It shall be permissible for a new Club to seek admission to any Division of this League. It shall not be lawful, however, for the Management Committees to admit the new Club when the Division to which such new Club seeks admission is already at maximum strength. In such event the Club seeking admission to this League shall be offered a place in a Division in which there is a vacancy. The Leinster Senior Football League reserve the right to accept or reject any application.

2.3 All matches shall be played under the jurisdiction of the Leinster Football Association and the Football Association of Ireland and according to the laws of the Game.

### 3. Bodies of the League

3.1 The bodies of the League shall be

- a) The AGM which is the supreme and legislative body comprised of members as defined in Rule 4.
- b) The Leinster Senior League Council which is a body comprised of members as defined in Rule 6 and is empowered to monitor the Association in accordance with Rule 6.
- c) The Management Committee which is a body comprised of members as defined in Rule 7 and which governs and controls the League in accordance with Rule 30.
- d) The Disciplinary Committee which is a disciplinary body as defined in Rule 30.4

#### **4. The Annual General Meeting**

4.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held on or before the 7th June in each year and shall transact any business of which notice may appear on the Agenda of the Meeting.

4.2 The clubs must receive fourteen days' notice of the AGM together with the Agenda for the AGM and the minutes from the previous AGM.

4.3 Each member club shall be entitled to nominate two representatives to attend the AGM however each club shall be entitled to only one vote. All matters put to a vote shall be by way of simple majority other than an alteration to rule or removal of a member of the Management Committee where a two thirds majority shall be required.

4.4 The President and Vice-Presidents may attend and take part in the deliberations, but cannot vote.

4.5 A minimum of 50% representation of Clubs is required to form a quorum at an AGM rounded up to the nearest whole number.

4.6 The Chairman of the League or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside as Chairman at every AGM. In the event that neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman is available the Management Committee members present shall choose one of their number to preside as Chairman. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote only and not an original vote.

4.7 An Auditor at a fee to be decided by the Management Committee shall be elected at the AGM each year.

4.8 The Annual Report and Audited Statement of Account of the League are to be presented at the AGM.

4.9 The Management Committee shall be elected at the AGM for a two year period. In 2015 the full eight members of the Management Committee shall be elected, however the Vice-Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and two of the non-officers shall be elected for a one year period only. This is to ensure continuity on the Management Committee. Thereafter, the Vice-Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and two non-officers shall be elected for a two year period.

4.10 Four representatives are to be elected each year to the Leinster Football Association (LFA) Senior Council at the AGM. In order to be eligible to represent the League on the Council of the LFA an individual must have been a member of the Management Committee for a cumulative period of 3 years.

4.11 Four representatives are to be elected to the LFA Junior Committee and five representatives to be elected to the FAI Junior Council at the AGM.

4.12 Any person seeking election for any position shall be proposed and seconded from the floor and individually voted upon.

#### **5. Special General Meetings**

5.1 The Management Committee shall have the power to call a Special General Meeting (SGM) at any time they deem it necessary on giving at least five days' notice to the Clubs such notice to include an Agenda showing the business to be transacted at the meeting. A notice for a SGM

called for dealing with alterations to rules must be sent in accordance with the time frames in Rule 14.

5.2 A SGM shall also be called upon receipt by the Honorary Secretary of a requisition signed by the secretaries of fifty percent of the Clubs in membership of the League within 10 days of the receipt of the requisition.

5.3 No business shall be transacted at SGM except that specified in the requisition or contained in the Agenda issued by the Management Committee.

5.4 All procedures and voting rights which apply to the AGM shall apply to the SGM.

## **6. Leinster Senior League Council (“the Council”)**

6.1 Each member club shall be entitled to send one representative to each meeting of the Council.

6.2 Meetings shall be held at least 5 times in any twelve month period.

6.3 Council members must receive five days’ notice of Council meetings together with the Agenda for the Council meeting and the minutes from the previous Council meeting.

6.4 A minimum of 30% representation of Clubs is required to form a quorum at a Council Meeting rounded up to the nearest whole number.

6.5 The Chairman of the League or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside as Chairman at every Council meeting. In the event that neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman is available the Management Committee members present shall choose one of their number to preside as Chairman. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote only and not an original vote.

6.6 Each Club in membership must send a representative to each Council Meeting; any Club failing to be represented shall be fined a sum of €50, the fine must be paid within 10 days of notification of such fine or the club stands suspended.

6.7 At each meeting, the Council shall receive a report from the Management Committee on the activities of the League.

## **7. The Management Committee**

7.1 The governance and control of the League shall be vested in the Management Committee.

7.2 The Management Committee shall have a maximum of eight members and shall comprise of the four Honorary Officers and four non-officers.

7.3 The Management Committee shall carry out its duties and exercise its powers to achieve the objects of the League. It shall have the power to deal with such matters concerning the League as are not expressly provided for in the Rules but must report on such matters to the next meeting of Council.

7.4 The Management Committee shall meet as required but at least every three weeks.

7.5 A quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee shall be six.

7.6 At Management Committee meetings the Chairman shall have an original vote and in the case of a tie a casting vote.

7.7 The Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside as Chairman at every Management Committee meeting. In the event that neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman is available the Management Committee members present shall choose one of their number to preside as Chairman.

7.8 Minutes from the previous Management Committee meeting shall be circulated to all Management Committee members at least 5 days in advance of the next meeting.

7.9 No substitutions shall be permitted at Management Committee meetings.

7.10 The Management Committee shall report on its work to the Council at each meeting of that body and shall also consult, as necessary, with the Council in developing and progressing major policies of the League.

7.11 The Management Committee shall be solely responsible for the decision making process within the League and no other individual shall be involved other than in an advisory capacity.

7.12 The Management Committee may appoint as many people as they deem necessary to assist with the running of the League. Any person brought in to assist in the running of the League must be approved by the Council at its next meeting.

7.13 The Management Committee shall have the power to appoint a sub-committee comprising of three or more members of the Management Committee to deal with specific matters as and when they deem it necessary.

7.14 Every Member of the Management Committee shall be indemnified by the League against all costs, damages, compensation and expenses incurred in or about the discharge of duties, except as accrue from their own respective willful acts and defaults.

7.15 Should a vacancy arise on the Management Committee before the period of office for that position has expired then a SGM shall be convened for the purposes of filling the vacant position. For the avoidance of doubt that person shall remain in office for the remaining period of the original term of office which has become vacant.

7.16 Each member of the Management Committee shall be elected for a two year period at the AGM.

## **8. Removal from Membership of the Management Committee**

8.1 A member of the Management Committee may only be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and entitled to vote at an AGM/SGM on a motion submitted fourteen days in advance of an AGM/SGM.

## **9. Honorary Officers**

9.1 The Honorary Officers of the League shall be:

- a) The Chairman
- b) The Vice-Chairman
- c) The Honorary Secretary
- d) The Honorary Treasurer

9.2 In order to be eligible for appointment as an Honorary Officer of the League an individual must have been a member of the Management Committee or the Executive as it was previously known for a cumulative period of three years.

9.3 The Honorary Officers shall not exercise any collective responsibility as a group.

9.4 All Honorary Officers shall serve for a single period of two years and shall be entitled to seek re-election for further terms.

9.5 During the term of office of the above named Honorary Officers, they shall have no direct or indirect capacity with any club in membership of the League.

9.6 The Honorary Officers for the time being of the League, shall hold the Cups, monies and property of the League in trust and shall deal with same according to the direction of the Management Committee.

## **10. Role of the Chairman**

10.1 The Chairman shall be required to lead by example and shall represent the Leinster Senior Football League at all times in a manner appropriate to the position.

10.2 The Chairman in conjunction with the Honorary Secretary shall ensure that all scheduled meetings are held, with advance notice of agenda given to those entitled to attend.

10.3 The Chairman shall chair all meetings of the League Management Committee, Council and the AGM/SGM.

10.4 At meetings the Chairman shall ensure that the minutes of previous meetings are passed, adopted and reviewed. The Chairman should ensure that the agenda is strictly adhered to and

allow all those entitled to attend a fair opportunity to speak on each topic before a consensus is reached or calls for a vote to determine the decision.

10.5 The Chairman shall have a casting vote only at AGM and Council meetings and not an original vote.

10.6 At the conclusion of each Council and Management Committee meeting the Chairman shall announce the date and time of the next Council and/or Management Committee meeting.

10.7 The Chairman shall ensure that all decisions taken by Council and the Management Committee are acted upon as quickly as possible and that all matters discussed within the confines of a meeting shall stay confidential until they have been acted upon.

### **11. Role of the Vice-Chairman**

11.1 In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall undertake the duties of the Chairman.

### **12. Role of the Honorary Secretary**

12.1 The Honorary Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation of all minutes of all AGM/SGM meetings and all of the meetings of the Council and the Management Committee. The minutes shall be recorded and circulated to all members of the League in accordance with these rules.

12.2 The Honorary Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the Disciplinary procedure outlined in these rules.

### **13. Role of the Honorary Treasurer**

13.1 The Honorary Treasurer shall take control of the funds of the League, and deposit same in such Bank as may be approved of by the Management Committee. Such funds shall be controlled by the Management Committee. All cheques on this account must be drawn and signed by any three of the following, the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary.

13.2 The Honorary Treasurer shall keep an approved Cash Book and such other account book as may be required by the Executive Committee.

13.3 The Honorary Treasurer may hold such cash as the Management Committee may approve to pay sundry expenses, but no account in excess of €300 shall be paid unless by cheque.

13.4 All accounts must be passed by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.

13.5 The Honorary Treasurer shall close his accounts as at the 31st March each year.

### **14. Alterations to Rules**

14.1 No alteration shall be made in these Rules except at the AGM or SGM called for that purpose.

14.2 Proposed alterations by Clubs must be lodged in writing, FAX or email with the Honorary Secretary not later than the 30th April for the AGM or 15 days before a SGM called for the purposes of rules changes.

14.3 All proposed alterations must be forwarded to the Clubs ten days prior to the AGM or SGM.

14.4 The Management Committee shall have power to submit alterations to Rules up to 15 days prior to the AGM or SGM.

14.5 No rule changes shall be taken en-block. All rules must be read out and be passed or rejected on their own.

14.6 No alterations of Rules shall be made unless supported by at least two-thirds of those present and voting at the AGM or SGM.

## **15. Representative Matches**

15.1 Players selected for Representative Matches shall be bound to place themselves at the disposal of the League. Any player failing to comply with this rule shall stand suspended from all football activity until he appears before the Leinster Senior Football League disciplinary committee.

15.2 Any Club that has one or more Players selected to represent the Leinster Senior League in a representative match is entitled to have their next fixture cancelled, should they so desire.

## **16. Professional Players**

16.1 Professional players engaged by Clubs in membership of the League shall be subject to the Rules and Regulations as regards such players as laid down by the Football Association of Ireland.

## **17. Notification and Communications to the League**

17.1 Clubs changing their secretary's or secretary's changing their contact details must notify such change to the Honorary Secretary of the League by fax, email or letter post at once. Clubs must be represented by one Honorary Secretary only.

17.2 All communications to be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, who shall conduct the correspondence of the League by fax, e-mail, letter post or registered post.

17.3 An electronic mail (email) address will be compulsory for all clubs within the League.

## **18. Appointment of Referees**

18.1 When a Referee has been appointed for League match or cup tie within the jurisdiction of the League no objection to such official will be entertained from a club or clubs participating in such League match or Cup tie, except in the case where an objection has been lodged and sustained by the Referees Committee of the F.A.I.

18.2 Associate Amateur Referees shall be reimbursed for travelling expenses as laid down for professional referees by the F.A.I. Referees Committee.

## **19. Artificial Lighting and Artificial Turf**

19.1 Matches under the jurisdiction of the FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND can be played with the use of artificial lighting provided that they are installed as per FIFA directives for leagues and clubs (class 2) as may be revised from time to time.

19.2 Matches under the jurisdiction of the FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND can be played on an artificial turf surface only where the surface has been certified in accordance with the FIFA/IATS (International Artificial Turf Standards) or FAI standards appropriate to the relevant competition.

19.3 Clubs who have grass/astro pitches must inform their opponents 24 hours in advance of the fixture the surface they intend to use.

19.4 In the event of a floodlight failure, which results in the abandonment of a match, the home team must supply the League with a full maintenance report. Failure to do so will result in the home team playing all their remaining fixture during daylight hours only.

## **20. Withdrawal or Removal from League**

20.1 A Club or Team that is withdrawing or is removed from competing in the League before the completion of their League programme during the playing season shall have their playing record expunged from the League records. If that team has played at least one (1) competitive match in its respective division that team will be deemed to have participated in that division and as such be regarded as one of the teams to be relegated at the completion of the season.

20.2 If a Club disbands or is removed from competing in the League during the season the player registrations shall come under the direction of the League concerned. The players may be allowed, at the discretion of the League, to register with other clubs within that League. The

deadline for such registrations shall be the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

20.3 If a Club / Team withdraws from any division during the season they will not be allowed to participate in the following season.

20.4 Clubs desiring to leave any league must receive a clearance certificate from the League concerned before 1st May.

## **21. Playing of Matches**

21.1 League games; When a home team's pitch is either unavailable, or is declared unplayable, and the teams have not already played each other in the league, then the game shall be reversed (24 hours' notice required) and the opposing team shall be considered as the home team.

21.2 Cup games; When a pitch is either unavailable, or is declared unplayable the game shall be reversed to the opponents ground. If the game is not played, the re-fix will be played on the original opponents ground. No Club shall be permitted games off on Domestic Cup dates.

21.3. Only one team per Club can compete in any League or Cup Competition in the same season.

21.4 Only one team per individual Club shall be permitted to compete in the Leinster Senior League Intermediate Divisions.

## **22. Promotion and Relegation**

22.1 At the completion of the season in all Divisions, three (3) teams will be promoted and three (3) teams will be relegated. The Management Committee reserves the right to fill any vacancies that may occur in any Division including the promotion of 4th placed teams. Relegated teams in any division including the Intermediate Divisions will not be re-elected except in the case of the lowest Junior Saturday and lowest Junior Sunday Divisions.

## **23. Friendly Matches**

23.1 All friendly games arranged between clubs during the season or out of season must be sanctioned by the Leinster Senior Football League / Provincial Association (LFA) and or the FAI. Domestic friendly matches must be sanctioned by the League of the hosting team. A minimum of 3 calendar days is required to have any Domestic friendly match sanctioned.

## **24. Insurance**

24.1 Public Liability Insurance (including where necessary Property Owners Insurance) providing insurance cover in respect of all the clubs activities is compulsory for all clubs within the League. In addition, where a club engages any person under a contract of service or apprenticeship, the club must have in force an appropriate Employers Liability Policy.

24.2 No team/club shall be admitted to membership of the League that fails to comply with (1) above. Where a team/club are already in membership but subsequently allow the insurance referred to in (1) above to lapse or discontinue they are liable to be expelled from membership at the discretion of the Management Committee

## **25. Arranging Fixtures**

25.1 The Fixtures Secretary shall have power to arrange mid-week fixtures.

## **26. Procedure for Matches**

26.1 The Secretary or other responsible person of contesting Clubs shall prior to the commencement of the game, fill in on the Referee's Card, in BLOCK LETTERS, the full Christian and Surname of players participating in said match and also the names of substitutes and the Liaison Officer. Match fee to be paid to referee before the game and copies of match

card to be given to both teams. The match card must be in the possession of the referee prior to the game commencing and may not be altered once the game begins.

26.2 Clubs wishing to use squad numbers must ensure that the numbers used are between 1 and 99 only. Numbers between 1 and 9 must not be prefixed by a 0. All players named on the match card must have numbered shirts that correspond with their individual number on the match card.

26.3 Matches should be started at the appointed time of kick-off. Clubs guilty of a systematic breach of this Rule shall be fined.

26.4 Goal nets to be used in all matches and to be supplied by home Clubs.

26.5 Home clubs must confirm fixtures with opposition and the referee at least 24 hours in advance.

## **27. Registration**

27.1 The registration period shall be 1st June to 31st March inclusive. The two transfer periods shall be 1st June to 30th September inclusive and 1st December to 31st January inclusive. Transfers must be on the new FAI Approved transfer form.

27.2 The Registrar shall keep a full record of all Registrations and Transfers.

27.3 Any Club which is found to have included an unregistered or suspended player(s) on its team sheet in any match or played an unregistered or suspended player(s) in any match under the jurisdiction of the Leinster Senior Football League shall be reported to the Disciplinary Committee to initiate disciplinary proceedings.

27.4 The onus is on the Club to satisfy itself that the player is properly registered and not under suspension.

27.5 A Club may sign an Emergency Goalkeeper after the 31<sup>st</sup> March, and up to the 1<sup>st</sup> May. The Player cannot have been signed to any other Club in the current season, and can only play as a Goalkeeper. Medical evidence must be provided to show the original goalkeeper is injured.

## **28. Age Eligibility**

28.1 No player under the age of sixteen (16) years of age is eligible to compete in the Leinster Senior Football League.

## **29. Players Entering & Leaving the Area of Jurisdiction of the Football Association of Ireland**

29.1 Any Player wishing to be registered within the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Ireland having last been registered within another jurisdiction must obtain an International Transfer Certificate ("ITC"). If the Association does not receive a response to the ITC Request within fifteen (15) calendar days for Professional Players or within thirty (30) calendar days for Amateur Players, it shall immediately register the Player with the New Club on a provisional basis ("Provisional Registration"). A Provisional Registration shall become permanent one (1) year after the ITC Request. The Association may withdraw a Provisional Registration, if, during this one (1) year period, the Former Association presents valid reasons explaining why it did not respond to the ITC Request.

29.2 Any Player wishing to leave the area of jurisdiction of The Association to play for a club in the area of jurisdiction of another National Association must obtain an ITC from The Association.

29.3 Should a club confirm in writing to the Association that it is not agreeable, thereby resulting in the non-issue of an ITC by The Association, the club must indemnify The Association for all damages, costs and for all expenses accrued by The Association as a result of the non-issue of the ITC. Should it be established that a club withheld agreement without reasonable cause, The Association shall be empowered to deal as it sees fit with such clubs.

29.4 An International Transfer of a Player shall only be permitted under the following conditions:

- a) The Player is aged between sixteen (16) and eighteen (18) and the transfer takes place within the EU or EEA and the new club comply with the obligations provided by FIFA in the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
- b) The Player is under eighteen (18) but the Player's parents move to the Country in which the new club is located for reasons not linked to football.
- c) The Player is under eighteen (18) but the Player lives no further than fifty kilometer's (50km) from a national border and the new club is also within fifty kilometer's (50km) of that border. The maximum distance between the Players domicile and the clubs headquarters shall be one hundred kilometer's (100km). In such cases the Player must continue to live at home and both Associations must give explicit consent.
- d) The Player is aged eighteen (18) years of age or over.

29.5 Players leaving the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Ireland may not be permitted to return to the jurisdiction of The Association until a period of eight (8) weeks has elapsed from date of clearance from The Association.

### **30. Disciplinary**

30.1 Disciplinary matters pertaining to Cautions/Yellow cards shall be dealt with by the Honorary Secretary.

30.2 All other disciplinary matters shall be initially assessed by a Sub-Committee of the Management Committee to determine whether a hearing of the Disciplinary Committee is required. This Sub-Committee shall consist of at least three members.

30.3 For the avoidance of doubt the following must be put to the Disciplinary Committee:

- a) All assaults
- b) Non-red or yellow card offences
- c) All red card offences which may incur a sanction in excess of the mandatory sanction.

30.4 The Disciplinary Committee shall be made up of 3 persons comprising of two Management Committee members and one member voted in by the clubs to assist the committee in running the league.

30.5 The Disciplinary Committee shall deal with disciplinary matters as follows:

- a) on the basis of match reports;
- b) if a complaint or protest is lodged;
- c) reported violations of Rules;
- d) if in the opinion of the Management Committee, Rules have been breached.

30.6 Following a sending off in the Leinster Senior Football League a player can request a personal hearing if he so desires, by notifying the Honorary Secretary of the League through his club secretary by registered post within 2 days (Sat, Sun and Public Holidays excluded). This does not include the automatic one match suspension which cannot be appealed. (Except for mistaken identity see Rule 66/10. below)

30.7 The Honorary Secretary must inform all parties to the case of the venue, date and time of the hearing and all parties are entitled but not obliged unless specifically requested under Rule 30.8 to attend the hearing. For the avoidance of doubt all electronic mail is deemed to have been read on the next working day after it was sent. (Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays excluded)

30.8 The Disciplinary Committee may request the attendance of any persons at a hearing. Failure to comply with a reasonable request may result in disciplinary action if deemed appropriate in the circumstances.

30.9 A hearing can be postponed or adjourned if the appointed Disciplinary Committee requires additional information or to allow technical or other issues to be addressed.

30.10 All parties shall be notified by the Honorary Secretary within three days by electronic mail and/or ordinary post, of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee. In urgent matters the Disciplinary Committee may issue or direct the Honorary Secretary to issue an oral decision in advance of the written notification. For the avoidance of doubt all electronic mail is deemed to have been read on the next working day after it was sent. (Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays excluded)

30.11 The members of the Disciplinary Committee shall ensure that disclosures made to them remain confidential to the Disciplinary Committee.

30.12 All proceedings and disclosures made in relation to a case remain confidential to the parties, the League, their representatives and/or persons or witnesses attending on their behalf unless the matter is appealed in which case the League shall furnish the relevant Appeals body with all relevant information relating to the matter.

30.13 Members of the Disciplinary Committee of the League may not be held personally liable for any deeds or omissions relating to any disciplinary procedure.

30.14 Disciplinary Committee hearings are deemed to be valid if the three selected members are in attendance.

30.15 Hearings shall be arranged by the Honorary Secretary who shall also provide Secretariat support.

30.16 Decisions of the disciplinary committee shall be decided by simple majority

30.17 The Disciplinary Committee shall consider all evidence that it deems relevant to the case.

30.18 The Disciplinary Committee shall make their decisions entirely independently and shall not receive instructions from any other body or persons. No Disciplinary Committee member shall partake in a hearing where they may have a conflict of interest.

### **31. Appeals**

31.1 Any Club in membership of the League has the right of appeal to the Leinster Football Association, in accordance with the Rules of that body against the decision of the League.

### **Offences**

#### **32. Match and Competition Reports/Cards**

32.1 Disciplinary offences may be reported in a Match Official's Report. Match Officials may be requested to clarify their report or obliged to attend the Disciplinary Hearing if requested by the Disciplinary Committee.

32.2 Disciplinary offences may be reported in a Match Delegate's report. Match Delegates may be requested to clarify their report.

32.3 It shall be an offence for any person to intentionally complete a match card/team sheet/report inaccurately.

#### **33. Misconduct by Players**

33.1 Including the automatic suspension incurred, the overall suspension imposed on any Player receiving a direct red card shall be for:

- a) at least one (1) match for denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity (particularly by deliberately handling the ball);
- b) at least one (1) match for unsporting conduct;
- c) at least two (2) matches for serious foul play (particularly in the case of the use of excessive or brute force);
- d) at least three (3) matches for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) an opponent or a person other than a Match Official;

- e) at least six (6) matches for assaulting by spitting at an opponent or a person other than a Match Official;
- f) at least twelve (12) months for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, spitting, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) a Match Official.

33.2 A minimum fine of €30 may also be imposed in all cases.

33.3 The right is reserved to punish an infringement which has escaped the Match Official's attention.

33.4 A Player whom the Match Official has reported as having committed an assault on a Match Official before, during or immediately after a match shall automatically stand suspended until the disciplinary process has been completed.

33.5 All suspensions imposed by the Disciplinary Committee relating to assaults on Match Officials must be notified immediately by the Honorary Secretary to the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI and to all other relevant bodies.

### **34. Misconduct by Officials**

34.1 The overall suspension imposed on any Official shall be for:

- a) at least one (1) match for unsporting conduct;
- b) at least three (3) matches for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) an opponent or a person other than a Match Official;
- c) at least three (3) months for assaulting by spitting at an opponent or a person other than a Match Official;
- d) at least twelve (12) months for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, spitting, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) a Match Official.

34.2 An Official whom the Match Official has reported as having committed an assault on a Match Official before, during or immediately after a match shall automatically stand suspended until the disciplinary process has been completed.

34.3 A minimum fine of €30 may also be imposed in all cases

34.4 The right is reserved to punish an infringement which has escaped the Match Official's attention.

34.5 All suspensions imposed by the Disciplinary Committee relating to assaults on Match Officials must be notified immediately by the Honorary Secretary to the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI and to all other relevant bodies.

### **35. Brawling/Fighting**

35.1 Involvement in a brawl/fight is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six (6) matches.

35.2 Anyone who has tried merely to prevent a brawl/fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

### **36. Unidentified Aggressors**

36.1 If it is not possible to identify the perpetrator(s) of an offence, the Disciplinary Committee may sanction the club to which the aggressors belong.

### **37. Team Misconduct**

37.1 The following constitute misconduct by a team and are sanctioned by a fine:

- a) when at least five (5) Players are cautioned or sent from the field of play during one match;
- b) when at least three (3) Players are sent off during one match;
- c) when several Players together make threats or show force against a Match Official.

37.2 When determining the amount of the fine, the type of competition shall be taken into account.

### **38. Inciting Hatred or Violence**

38.1 A Participant who publicly incites others to hatred or violence may be sanctioned with a suspension and/or a fine.

### **39. Provoking the General Public**

39.1 Any Participant who provokes the general public shall be suspended for a minimum of two matches and sanctioned with a fine.

### **40. Ineligibility (Sanctions)**

40.1 If a Player takes part in an official match while being ineligible to do so, his team shall subject to Rules 40.2, 40.3 and 40.4 below, be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a fine.

40.2 If a Player, while being ineligible, takes part in an official match in league competitions in which only amateur players are entitled to participate, the following shall apply:

- a) If a protest has been lodged in accordance with the relevant league rules, his team shall be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a fine.

If a league allows, in its own rules, for ineligibility to be raised without lodging a protest then his team shall be sanctioned with a forfeit and paying a fine.

- b) , but such ineligibility must be raised within twenty eight (28) calendar days of the particular match;
- c) In all other cases falling outside of Rule 40.2(a) and Rule 40.2(b) above a forfeit shall not be imposed and only a fine shall apply.

40.3 For cup competitions in which only amateur players are entitled to participate, the following shall apply:

- a) If such ineligibility has taken place before the Player's team participates in the next round of the cup competition, his team shall be sanctioned by forfeiting that most recent match and shall pay a fine. Ineligibility which occurred in previous rounds of the cup competition shall not result in a retrospective forfeit but a fine shall be imposed in relation to all applicable fixtures;
- b) The team deemed to have won a match following a forfeit shall progress to the next round of the competition, or in the case of a Final be deemed the winner;
- c) In the case of Finals or Final replays, if the ineligibility has been brought to the attention of the relevant committee within twenty eight (28) calendar days of the particular match taking place, his team shall be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and a fine. Outside of this twenty eight (28) calendar day timeframe a forfeit shall not be imposed and a fine only shall apply;
- d) A team who has fielded an ineligible Player but has already been eliminated from the cup competition shall be sanctioned by paying a fine in relation to all applicable fixtures.

40.4 For all other cup competitions the following shall apply:

- a) If such ineligibility has taken place before the Player's team participates in the next round of the cup competition, his team shall be sanctioned by forfeiting that most recent match and shall pay a fine. Ineligibility which occurred in previous rounds of the cup competition shall not result in a retrospective forfeit but a fine shall be imposed in relation to all applicable fixtures;
- b) The team deemed to have won a match following a forfeit shall progress to the next round of the competition, or in the case of a Final be deemed the winner;
- c) A team who has fielded an ineligible Player but has already been eliminated from the cup competition shall be sanctioned by paying a fine in relation to all applicable fixtures.

40.5 In all official matches a sanction may also be imposed on a Player and/or the person in charge of the team if they knew or could reasonably have been expected to know of the ineligibility.

40.6 If a Player takes part in a friendly match despite being ineligible, his team shall be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a fine.

40.7 A Player is deemed to be ineligible if he is in breach of competition rules relating to ineligibility.

40.8 Time limits referred to in this ineligibility rule shall begin from the next calendar day after the relevant match.

40.9 All teams will be permitted to request the Signature and Date of Birth of a maximum of two (2) Players whose name(s) appear on the Match Card. Only the use of the Booklet supplied by the Leinster Senior League, containing the pre-printed forms, can be used to record these details. Failure, or Refusal, by any Player to supply this information will be taken into consideration by the Disciplinary Committee when reviewing each case.

#### **41. Failure to Play or Fulfil a Fixture/Abandonment**

41.1 If a team refuses to play a match or refuses to continue playing one which it has begun, it will be sanctioned with a fine of €200, shall forfeit the match 3 – 0 and be deducted three (3) points. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> refusal the Team will be sanctioned with a fine of €200, shall forfeit the match 3 – 0 and be deducted six (6) points. For the third forfeit the team concerned will be expelled from the league and will not be allowed to participate in the following season, and their application to re-join the league may only be considered after the period of expulsion. Any walkover given in the final game of the season will result in the appropriate sanction above and any deduction of points will be carried forward to the following season.

41.2 If a Match Official has to abandon a match due to the conduct of members of a team, including their Officials, the offending team may forfeit the match and the team and/or Officials may be sanctioned.

41.3 In serious cases, the team shall also be disqualified from the competition in progress and may be disqualified from future competitions.

41.4 If a team fails to fulfil a fixture, in circumstances not already provided for in these rules, it may be subject to disciplinary sanction.

41.5 Any Player selected to play in any International or any other match arranged by the League or the FAI and who without good and sufficient cause refuses to comply with the arrangements for the playing of the match, or fails to play in such match, may be adjudged to be guilty of misconduct, and such Player, or any Club which may be deemed to have encouraged such Player to such misconduct, may be dealt with as the Disciplinary Bodies shall deem appropriate.

## **42. Offensive Behavior**

42.1 Any Participant who insults someone in any way, especially by using intimidation, threats, offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play or whose behavior is unsporting in any other way may be sanctioned with a suspension and/or fine and/or a ban on performing any football related activity.

## **43. Racism/Discrimination**

43.1 Any Participant, who offends, disparages, discriminates against or denigrates someone, or a group of persons, in a derogatory manner on account of 'race', skin colour, language, religion, ethnic and/or national origin(s) or sexual orientation, or perpetrates any other racist/discriminatory and/or contemptuous act, shall be subject to disciplinary sanction. The Disciplinary Committee shall consider and have the power to impose a suspension, fine and/or other sanction as deemed appropriate. In the case of individuals, the minimum suspension shall be for a period of five (5) matches.

43.2 If a spectator, or spectators, engage in racist/discriminatory behavior, including but not limited to chanting or displaying racist/discriminatory slogans at a match, the Disciplinary Committee shall sanction the Club which the spectator(s) support. If the spectator(s) cannot be identified as a supporter, or supporters, of one or other club the host club may be sanctioned.

43.3 Spectators engaging in racist/discriminatory behavior may be subject to a disciplinary sanction.

43.4 Sexual or racially-based harassment or other discriminatory behavior, whether physical or verbal, shall result in disciplinary action.

## **44. Intimidation/Threats**

44.1 Anyone who intimidates a Match Official with serious threats shall be sanctioned with a fine and a suspension.

## **45. Coercion**

45.1 Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressurize a Match Official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely shall be sanctioned with a fine and a suspension.

## **46. Bringing the Game into Disrepute**

46.1 Any Club or Participant who has brought the game of football or the League into disrepute by any means, written, verbal, by action or otherwise shall be sanctioned with a suspension and/or fine and/or a ban on performing any football related activity or other sanction deemed appropriate.

## **47. Disparaging Comments and/or Actions**

47.1 Public comment and/or actions of the following nature may result in disciplinary sanction:

- a) Comments and/or actions which are offensive or threatening in any way and/or;
- b) Comments and/or actions causing damage to the game or the League or bringing the game or the League into disrepute and/or;
- c) Unsubstantiated allegations or comments which question the integrity of any person or body or are disparaging in any way;
- d) Publication of material which questions the integrity of any person or body or are disparaging in any way.

## **48. Protection and Welfare of Children**

48.1 The League and all member Clubs and Participants shall be bound by the FAI Rules, regulations, codes, policies and guidelines governing the protection and welfare of children, and breaches of such rules, regulations, codes, policies and guidelines shall be subject to

disciplinary sanction.

48.2 Any person reported to the League by a Statutory Authority in respect of a child welfare matter may be subject to disciplinary sanction.

48.3 The Disciplinary Committee may impose any sanction it deems appropriate. The FAI Child Welfare Committee may be party to the proceedings and shall be copied on all decisions.

#### **49. Forgery/Falsification**

49.1 Anyone who, in football-related activities, forges a document or falsifies an authentic document or uses a forged or falsified document to deceive in contractual or legal relations shall be sanctioned with a suspension of at least six (6) matches.

49.2 If the perpetrator is an Official, the Disciplinary Committee shall impose a ban on taking part in any football-related activity for a period of at least twelve (12) months and the Honorary Secretary shall immediately notify the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI.

49.3 A fine may also be imposed.

#### **50. Corruption**

50.1 Anyone who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a member of the League, a body or employee of the FAI, a Match Official, a Player or an Official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the rules of the League, the FAI, the Confederations or FIFA shall be sanctioned:

- a) with a fine, and/or;
- b) with a ban on taking part in any football-related activity and/or;
- c) with a ban on entering any stadium.

50.2 Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) shall be sanctioned in the same manner.

50.3 In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 1b) may be imposed for life.

50.4 In any case, the Disciplinary Committee may order the confiscation of any assets involved in committing the infringement which are within the remit of the League or of any assets which may be due to the offender from the League for any other football activities. These assets shall be used for football development programmes within the League.

#### **51. Doping**

51.1 The Anti-Doping Rules adopted by the Football Association of Ireland and the League are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as amended from time to time. Doping and doping offences are sanctioned under the Irish Sport Anti-Doping Programme Rules and Procedures as provided by the Irish Sports Council.

51.2 Decisions of the Irish Sport Anti-Doping Disciplinary Bodies are recognized by the League and such decisions shall be rendered effective by the League.

51.3 In the event of any contradictions between national regulations and the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the provisions set out in the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations shall prevail.

#### **52. Manipulating Match Results**

52.1 Anyone who conspires to influence the result of a match in a manner incompatible with sporting ethics shall be sanctioned with a suspension and a fine. The Disciplinary Committee may also impose a ban on taking part in any football-related activity; in serious cases this sanction may apply for life.

#### **53. Betting/Gambling**

53.1 Anyone who engages in any behavior that damages or could damage the integrity of matches and competitions may be subject to disciplinary sanctions. All persons are obliged to cooperate fully with the League in all efforts to combat such behavior.

53.2 Anyone who engages in any of the following may be subject to disciplinary sanction:

- a) acting in a manner that is likely to exert an influence on the course and/or result of a match

- or competition by means of behavior with a view to gaining an advantage for themselves or a third party;
- b) participating directly or indirectly in betting or similar activities relating to matches or competitions or having a direct or indirect financial interest in such activities;
  - c) instructing someone to bet on their behalf;
  - d) using or providing others with information which is not publicly available, is obtained through his position in football and damages or could damage the integrity of a match or a competition;
  - e) failing to immediately and voluntarily inform the League if approached in connection with activities aimed at influencing the course and/or result of a match or competition;
  - f) failing to immediately and voluntarily report to the League any behavior that they may be aware of that falls within the scope of this Rule;

53.3 Any complaints made regarding match fixing after the relevant competition stage has finished will have no impact on the sporting result of the competition or match in question and will not require a match to be replayed.

53.4 If there is a suspected breach of this rule all persons subject to these rules must provide any information, documentation, data recording and/or storage device including but not limited to text, images, sound etc. that could contain data relating to the matter.

## **54. Complaints**

54.1 Any complaint made in writing may be investigated by the Management Committee and may result in disciplinary sanction if not otherwise provided for.

## **55. Spectator Conduct**

55.1 The home club/team is liable for any improper conduct among all spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight and depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances.

55.2 The visiting club/team is liable for improper conduct among its own group of spectators, regardless of the question of culpable conduct or culpable oversight and depending on the situation, may be fined. Further sanctions may be imposed in the case of serious disturbances. Supporters occupying the away sector of a stadium are regarded as the visiting supporters, unless proven to the contrary.

55.3 Improper conduct includes but is not limited to violence towards persons or objects, letting off incendiary devices, throwing missiles, use of smoke bombs, flares or fireworks, displaying insulting slogans in any form, uttering insulting sounds, racist behavior or invading or encroaching onto the pitch.

55.4 The liability described in par. 1 and 2 also includes matches played on neutral grounds, especially during finals of competitions.

## **56. Match and Player Safety Obligations**

56.1 When organizing matches Clubs and Participants shall also:

- a) Assess the degree of risk posed by matches and notify the League of those matches that are especially high-risk;
- b) Comply with and implement existing safety rules and take every safety precaution demanded by circumstances before, during and after the match and if incidents occur;
- c) Ensure the safety of Players and Officials of the visiting team;
- d) Keep authorities informed and collaborate with them actively and effectively so that law and order are maintained in the stadiums/grounds and immediate surroundings and that matches are organized properly;
- e) Vet the age of Players at competitions that are subject to age limits;

56.2 Any Club or Participant that fails to fulfil its obligations may be fined or in the case of a serious infringement the Disciplinary Committee may impose other sanctions, such as a stadium ban or order a team to play on neutral ground.

56.3 The right is reserved to impose certain sanctions for safety reasons, even if no infringement has been committed.

## **57. Other Obligations**

57.1 Clubs should ensure no one is involved in their management who is under sanction or has been found guilty of an offence of corruption, forgery, serious misconduct or other serious behavior or other offences which would bring the game into disrepute.

## **Sanctions**

### **58. Culpability**

58.1 Unless otherwise specified, infringements are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed intentionally or negligently.

58.2 Exceptionally, a match may have to be played without spectators or on neutral ground, or a certain stadium may be banned purely for safety reasons, without any infringement having been committed.

### **59. Involvement**

59.1 Anyone who intentionally takes part in committing an infringement, either as instigator or accomplice, is subject to disciplinary proceedings.

59.2 The Disciplinary Committee shall take account of the degree of guilt of the party involved and may reduce a sanction accordingly. It shall not go below the minimum sanction applicable.

### **60. Sanctions Applicable**

60.1 The following sanctions are applicable only to natural persons:

- a) caution;
- b) expulsion;
- c) match suspension;
- d) ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' bench;
- e) ban from entering a stadium;
- f) ban on taking part in any football-related activity.

60.2 The following sanctions are applicable only to legal persons:

- a) transfer ban;
- b) playing a match without spectators;
- c) playing a match on neutral territory;
- d) ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- e) annulment of the result of a match;
- f) exclusion;
- g) forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) demotion to a lower division;
- j) suspension from membership of the FAI;
- k) replaying a match.

60.3 In addition to the sanctions listed above the following sanctions are applicable to both natural and legal persons;

- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a fine;
- d) the return of awards.

## **61. Warning**

61.1 A warning is a reminder of the substance of a disciplinary rule allied with the threat of a sanction in the event of a further infringement.

## **62. Reprimand**

62.1 A reprimand is an official written pronouncement of disapproval sent to the perpetrator of an infringement.

## **63. Fines**

63.1 The Disciplinary Committee decides the terms and time limits for payment and the level of the fine if not otherwise provided for in these rules or in specific competition rules.

## **64. Return of Awards**

64.1 The person or body required to return an award shall return all of the benefits received, in particular sums of money and symbolic objects (medal, trophy etc.).

## **65. Caution (Yellow Card)**

65.1 A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a Player during a match to sanction offences as identified by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game. One point shall be recorded against the Player. A caution in any game must be reported to the League concerned and a record must be kept by that League. No caution or mandatory suspension arising from an accumulation of cautions may be appealed.

65.2 Two (2) cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion and, consequently, an automatic suspension. The two (2) cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded. Players may also be further sanctioned in respect of any other matters reported by the Match Officials relating to a caution.

65.3 The following also incur a one (1) match mandatory suspension:

- a) Five (5) cautions received in the season (5 Points);
- b) Ten (10) cautions received in the season (10 Points);

The following incur a two (2) match mandatory suspension:

- c) Fifteen (15) cautions received in the season (15 points);

The following incur a three (3) match mandatory suspension:

- d) Twenty (20) cautions received in the season (20 points);
- e) Every five (5) cautions following the 20th caution.

65.4 If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.

65.5 If a Player is guilty of an offence as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld and incurs the relevant suspension, fine and point as referred to above.

65.6 Prior to the commencement of each playing season, a Player's accumulated cautions/points total shall be reduced to zero. Any outstanding suspensions must be served in accordance with Rule 67.8.

65.7 A suspension imposed under Rule 65.3(a) shall not apply to the Final of any Leinster Senior League Cup Competition and replays if applicable.

## **66. Expulsion**

66.1. An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a stadium ban.

66.2 Expulsion takes the form of a red card for Players including substitutes. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions offences as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards.

66.3 A direct or indirect red card incurs a one (1) match automatic suspension and a fine of €30. This automatic suspension is not subject to appeal unless in the case of mistaken identity as provided for in Rule 66.10.

66.4 An expulsion automatically incurs a one (1) match suspension from the next Domestic Competitive Match. A Player sent from the field of play shall serve an automatic suspension at the same level of football i.e. a Player sent from the field of play in a 1<sup>st</sup> team fixture may not serve an automatic suspension in a reserve team fixture or U19 fixture and vice-versa.

66.5 In all friendly matches sanctions imposed shall be applied as directed by the Disciplinary Committee.

66.6 An Official dismissed from the technical area by the Match Official must take no further part in the match by managing, directing, assisting or communicating with his team in any way.

66.7 The automatic suspension applies notwithstanding the pending decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

66.8 Should the same Player be dismissed again in the same season including the automatic suspension the following minimum suspension shall apply:-

2nd sending off	suspended for 1 match (automatic)
3rd sending off	suspended for 2 matches (automatic plus 1)
4th sending off	suspended for 4 matches (automatic plus 3)
5 or more dismissals	suspended for 6 matches (automatic plus 5)

66.9 A Player who has been sent off in a match will be notified, through his club, of the offence reported by the Match Official, and at the same time advised that he will be subject to a decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

66.10 In the case of a claim of alleged mistaken identity concerning a Player sent off in a match, the Player concerned and his Club must, within twenty four (24) hours of receiving the Match Official's report, submit in writing to the Honorary Secretary, particulars upon which the claim is founded including the identity of the person responsible. The particulars must also include a signed statement by the Player reported by the Match Official that he was not responsible for the offence reported. If the Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that the claim warrants further investigation, a Disciplinary Committee shall be convened to meet before any automatic penalty is due to take effect. If the Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that mistaken identity has been proved in a case, the record of the offence will be transferred to the appropriate offender, who shall be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with the provisions of the current procedures. Video or independent authoritative evidence must be produced by person(s) seeking the appeal.

66.11 An expulsion automatically incurs an automatic suspension and fine even if imposed in a match that is later abandoned and/or annulled. The Disciplinary Committee may extend the duration of the suspension.

## **67. Match Suspension**

67.1 A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition and on attending it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.

67.2 The suspension is imposed in terms of matches and/or time periods.

67.3 Suspensions of twelve (12) months duration or longer must be notified immediately by the League to the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI and to all other relevant bodies. Such suspension shall be accompanied by a copy of the Match Official's Report. No such suspension can be amended or cancelled without the express approval of the FAI and not before twelve (12) Months of the suspension has elapsed.

67.4 If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned or forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment or forfeiture of the match.

67.5 If a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

67.6 A Player must be eligible to have played in a match in order to have the suspension served.

67.7 Suspensions can only be served on the terms as determined by the decision of the Disciplinary Committees taking into account the competition rules applicable. A suspension may be deemed not served by the Disciplinary Committee if a match has been rearranged for the primary purpose of enabling a Player to complete a suspension.

67.8 Any suspension or part thereof which remains outstanding at the end of the season must be served at the commencement of the following season.

67.9 All of the foregoing suspensions are the minimum penalties. The Disciplinary Committee may impose suspensions above this minimum depending on the nature of the offences committed.

67.10 All suspensions, except where otherwise provided for in these Rules, may be appealed to the LFA and in accordance with the Rules of the FAI, FIFA and UEFA.

67.11 Players or other technical staff, including managers under suspension are not permitted to be included in the list of Officials on the technical bench. Breaches of this regulation will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee for further possible sanction.

67.12 Officials suspended by the Disciplinary Committee shall have the terms of the suspension clearly outlined to them in the notice of suspension.

## **68. Ban from Dressing Rooms and/or Substitutes Bench**

68.1 A ban from dressing rooms and/or substitutes' benches deprives someone of the right to enter team's dressing rooms and/or the area immediately surrounding the field of play, and in particular to sit on the substitutes' bench.

## **69. Stadium Ban**

69.1 A stadium ban prohibits someone from entering the confines of one or several stadiums.

## **70. Ban on Taking Part in Football Related Activity**

70.1 Any Club or Participant may be banned from taking part in all or any part of football-related activity. The Disciplinary Body shall ensure the extent and remit of the ban is clearly provided for in the decision.

## **71. Transfer Ban**

71.1 A transfer ban prevents a club from registering any player during the period in question.

## **72. Playing a Match without Spectators**

72.1 The obligation to play a match behind closed doors requires a Club to have a certain match played without spectators.

## **73. Playing a Match on Neutral Ground**

73.1 The obligation to play a match on neutral ground requires a Club to have a certain match played in another venue.

#### **74. Ban on Playing in a Particular Stadium**

74.1 A ban on playing in a certain stadium deprives a Club of the right to have their teams play in a certain stadium.

#### **75. Annulment of the Result of a Match**

75.1 The result of a match is annulled if the result reached on the field of play is disregarded.

#### **76. Exclusion from a Competition**

76.1 Exclusion is the deprivation of the right of a Club to take part in the current and/or a future competition.

#### **77. Demotion to a Lower Division**

77.1 A club may be demoted to a lower division.

#### **78. Deduction of Points**

78.1 A club may have points deducted from those already attained in the current or a future competition.

#### **79. Forfeit**

79.1 Teams sanctioned with a forfeit are considered to have lost the match by 0-3.

79.2 If the goal difference at the end of the match in question is greater than 0-3, the result on the pitch is upheld.

### **Rules Relating to Sanctions**

#### **80. Combined Sanctions**

80.1 Unless otherwise specified, the sanctions provided for may be combined.

#### **81. Partial Suspension of Implementation of Sanction**

81.1 The Disciplinary Committee that imposes a match suspension, a ban on access to dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench, a ban on taking part in any football-related activity, the obligation to play a match without spectators, the obligation to play a match on neutral ground or a ban on playing in a certain stadium, may examine whether it is possible to suspend the implementation of the sanction partially.

81.2 Partial suspension is permissible only if the duration of the sanction does not exceed six (6) matches or six (6) months and if the relevant circumstances allow it, in particular the previous record of the person sanctioned.

81.3 The Disciplinary Committee decides which part of the sanction may be suspended. In any case, half of the sanction is definite.

81.4 By suspending implementation of the sanction, the Disciplinary Committee subjects the person sanctioned to a probationary period of from six (6) months to two (2) years.

81.5 If the person benefiting from a suspended sanction commits another infringement during the probationary period, the suspension is automatically revoked and the sanction applied; it is added to the sanction imposed for the new infringement.

#### **82. Calculation of Time Sanctions**

82.1 The duration of a time sanction can be interrupted by rest periods during or between seasons.

### **83. Limitation Period for Prosecution**

83.1 Offences committed during a match may no longer be prosecuted after a lapse of two (2) years. As a general rule, other offences may not be prosecuted after a lapse of ten (10) years.

83.2 Prosecution for offences against children or for corruption are not subject to a limitation period.

### **84. Commencement of the Limitation Period**

84.1 The limitation period runs as follows:

- a) From the day on which the perpetrator committed the offence;
- b) If the offence is recurrent, from the day on which the most recent offence was committed;
- c) If the offence lasted a certain period, from the day on which it ended.

### **85. Interruption**

85.1 The limitation period no longer applies if the Disciplinary Committee commences proceedings before it has expired.

### **86. Limitation Period for the Enforcement of Sanctions**

86.1 The limitation period for the enforcement of sanctions is five (5) years.

86.2 The limitation period for the enforcement of sanctions begins on the day on which the decision comes into force.

## **Determining the Sanction**

### **87. General Rules**

87.1 The Disciplinary Committee pronouncing the sanction decides the scope and duration of it provided it does not fall below the minimum sanction applicable.

87.2 Sanctions may be limited to a geographical area or to one or more specific categories of match or competition.

87.3 Unless otherwise specified, the duration of a sanction is always defined.

87.4 The Disciplinary Committee shall take account of all relevant factors in the case and the degree of the offender's guilt when imposing the sanction.

### **88. Repeated Infringements**

88.1 Unless otherwise specified, the Disciplinary Committee may increase the sanction to be imposed as deemed appropriate if an infringement has been repeated.

### **89. Concurrent Infringements**

89.1 If several fines are imposed against someone as a result of one or more offences, the Disciplinary Committee bases the fine on the most serious offence committed first and, depending on the circumstances, may increase the sanction.

89.2 The same applies if a person incurs several time sanctions of a similar type (two (2) or more match suspensions, two (2) or more stadium bans etc.) as the result of one or several infringements.

89.3 The Disciplinary Committee that determines the fine is not obliged to adhere to the general upper limit of fines in cases of concurrent infringements.

## **RULES OF THE INTERMEDIATE DIVISIONS**

1. Clubs wishing to remain in the League and those seeking admission must make formal application in writing, addressed to the Honorary Secretary, not later than 1st June in each year. The non-compliance with the provisions of this Rule will be construed as meaning that the Club concerned does not require admission. The Management Committee shall have the power to appoint a grounds inspection committee. The grounds inspection committee shall determine if a ground and its facilities complies fully with the criteria required to allow for the playing of Intermediate League and Cup football at any venue. The decision of the grounds inspection committee shall be final.

Clubs seeking admission to the League must have a private ground.

(a) Grounds for Intermediate League and Cup Football must be totally under the control of the Home Team at all times and such grounds may only be deemed playable or unplayable by the Match Referees without interference from the Groundsman, or any other outside Agencies. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in a fine of €200.

(b) The Leinster Senior Football League retains the right to reject any ground that the Grounds Inspection Committee deems unsuitable or sub-standard for Intermediate Football.

(c) A rail or fence or rope must enclose the field of play to avoid encroachment onto the playing area by spectators.

(d) All grounds must have separate dressing rooms for each team and a separate dressing room for referees.

(e) All grounds must have shower & toilet facilities for both teams and referees.

(f) The Management Committee shall have the power at any time to cancel the membership of a club not provided with a ground so specified. The Management Committees decision is final in this matter.

Definition of a private ground; Grounds that are on private land or grounds that have a gated entrance and the playing area properly enclosed (with a rail, fence or rope) to avoid encroachment by spectators.

2. All matches, venues shall be arranged by the Fixtures Secretary of each Division.

3. All League and Cup Fixtures in the Intermediate Divisions of the Leinster Senior League must be officiated by Leinster Senior League match officials, where the applicable grade of referee is available.

4. No Club or Clubs within the jurisdiction of the league shall have power to break or postpone a League fixture or change venue without obtaining the consent of their opponents and the Fixture Secretary. All clubs making application for postponement must do so in writing or by email. All matches postponed or undecided shall be refixed at the earliest possible date by order of the Management Committee. Only two League fixtures will be postponed per team per season. No games can be postponed on Cup dates. Ten days' notice in writing or by email for postponement of any fixtures.

5. All matches must be played on the days appointed for same except as provided for in Rule 3, or in the case of Football Association of Ireland, Leinster Football Association and Leinster Senior Football League Senior Cup matches. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be subject to disciplinary action. The Club which fails to play shall also be liable for the full referee's fee.

6. The Fixtures Secretary shall have power to arrange mid-week fixtures.

7. In the event of a League match being unfinished owing to darkness, accident, or any other cause, the Management Committee shall have the power at their discretion, to allot the points according to the goals scored at the time the match ended or order that the match be replayed in its entirety on a date to be fixed by the Fixtures secretary.

8. Each Club in the League Competition shall register its colours with the Honorary Secretary. In the event of two Clubs playing in similar colours the home club shall change colours when

such Clubs meet in the Competition. Goalkeepers must wear colours which will distinguish them from other players. In the event of two Clubs whose registered colours are similar having to play a test or other match on neutral ground, choice of colours shall be decided by the flip of a coin. A distinctive armband shall be worn by team captain.

9. Players shall be registered on Forms to be supplied by the League. A bona-fide player of a Club is one who has signed a properly completed Registration Form and paid the appropriate fee duly witnessed by the Club Secretary and received by the League. A player is registered for a club if his registration form has been examined and is considered to be properly completed when stamped by the League. The League date stamp shall be the official date of registration. A player is only eligible to play in a league or cup match if there is at least one (1) calendar day between the date of receipt of the registration form by the League and the day of the match. In the event of a player signing two or more forms for two or more Clubs, priority of Registration shall decide as to which Club the player belongs, except as covered by transfer, and it shall be the duty of the Registrar to return any such forms and to report same to the Management Committee. Any Club intimating in writing to the Honorary Secretary before the 1st June in any season its intention to continue in membership of the League shall be entitled to register players on and from that date for the following season. Registration forms can be posted or brought into the League. All Registration Forms MUST be accompanied by the correct monies due.

10. The registration period shall be as per Rule 27

10 A player suspected of willfully signing more than one Registration Form, or a Club suspected of knowingly inducing a player to sign more than one Form shall be referred by the Management Committee to the Disciplinary Committee.

11 Any bona-fide member of a Club shall be eligible to play, provided he is not registered for another Club. If he is so registered his transfer must be obtained from the Club on whose registered list he appears. No player can be signed on a League form until Transfer Form has been signed by both Clubs and the Player concerned. Transfer fee must be paid to the league, no fee – no transfer. All players must be approved by the Leinster Senior Football League to ensure eligibility to play.

12 Any Club in membership of the League which withholds a player's transfer without having a valid claim against such player when the transfer has been applied for by the player or on his behalf by any Club in membership, the Club withholding this transfer will be reported to the Management Committee who after investigating the matter, may make an order for the transfer of such player, which order must be complied with within two days of the making of such order. Any Club in membership of the League found guilty of unreasonably holding a player's transfer may be sanctioned by the Disciplinary Committee

13 No player of a Club which has been removed from membership can play for another Club in membership without first having received the sanction of the Management Committee. No registration may be granted after 31<sup>st</sup> March.

14. Referees shall be appointed to the various matches. Any referee appointed to act in a League match must, in the event of his not being able to attend, inform the Referees Allocator of his inability to act two days prior to the date of the match and not send a substitute to take his place. Referees' fee shall be payable by home club in League matches, before game commences. Scale as agreed by F.A.I. / Referees Agreement. Any match Official that does not attend for a game when appointed and without sufficient reason, stands suspended from officiating in any Domestic game, until that Official gives his reasons in writing to the Lead Observer/ Referees Allocator.

15. Protests against the eligibility of a player or players in any match or any unfinished match must be forwarded in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the League by registered post bearing postmark within four days (Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays excluded) of the date of playing the match and must be accompanied by the correct fee, only Bank Drafts, Postal

Orders or Money Orders accepted, made payable to Leinster Senior Football League. Clubs have the right to search individual forms on Mondays and Thursdays between 7.00- 8.30 in the League Offices for the correct fee of €25 per form. A copy of the protest must be forwarded by registered post at the same time to the Secretary of the Club protested against. A period of 4 days (Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays excluded) after the receipt of protest shall be afforded to the Club protested against to lodge a cross protest and that all the conditions of the original protest be observed in the case of a cross protest such as fees etc. The deposit will be returned only in the event of the protest being either upheld or not heard. No Club can withdraw a protest without obtaining the permission of the Management Committee. . All protests shall be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee.

16. Any objection to ground, goal posts, nets or balls must be lodged in writing to referee before the game starts. The Referee shall have power to have such objection corrected. Referee shall also have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground for play.

17. If any member of the Management Committee has any doubts as to the qualification of any player taking part in the Competition, such member must make the complaint to the Honorary Secretary. The Management Committee shall call upon such player, or the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof, the Management Committee shall refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee.

18. Averages for the championship shall be taken from wins and draws, to be counted as follows, three points for a win and one point for a draw. Goal difference shall be the deciding factor when clubs finish level on points and where either trophies or relegation are concerned. If the goal difference is equal, goals scored shall be deemed the deciding factor. If clubs are still level then head to head games shall be deemed the deciding factor. If teams still cannot be separated then a test match will decide.

19. The Management Committee shall have power to deal with any matter that is not provided for in these Rules.

20. When the winning Clubs shall have been declared the Management Committee shall hand the Challenge Cups to the representatives of the clubs, who by virtue of their position within the club agree to hand the cups back to the Leinster Senior Football League or to the relevant company for examination on or before the 31st day of January next in good order and condition and providing the said Cup is destroyed by fire or lost in any other accident whilst in the clubs possession, they agree to refund to the Leinster Senior Football League the amount of its current value". Trophies not returned by the 31st January the offending club or clubs will be fined a minimum of €200. In addition to the Cup, the League may present to the winners Medals. The League may also present Medals to the runners-up.

## **RULES OF THE METROPOLITAN CUP, CHARLIE CAHILL CUP, & LUMMY O'REILLY CUP.**

11. The Competitions shall be called the Metropolitan Cup, Charlie Cahill Cup, Lummy O'Reilly Cup, confined to Clubs comprising the Leinster Senior Football League, Senior Divisions at the discretion of the Management Committee

12. Players in order to be eligible to compete in these Competitions must be bona-fide members of the Club for which they propose to play. A bone fide player of a Club is one who has signed a properly completed registration form and paid the appropriate fee, duly witnessed by the Club Secretary and received by the League. A player is registered for a club if his registration form has been examined and is considered to be properly completed when stamped by the League. The League date stamp shall be the official date of registration. A player is only eligible to play in a league or cup match if there is at least one (1) calendar day between the date of receipt of the registration form by the league and the day of the match.

13. No player shall be eligible to play for more than one Club in any cup competition.
14. A player who has played in the Charlie Cahill Cup may not play in the Lummy O'Reilly Cup and vice versa.
15. The Clubs which are in each instance first drawn shall have choice of ground, providing that the nominated ground fully complies with Rule 2 of the Intermediate divisions and is approved by the Leinster Senior Football League grounds inspection committee. Games finishing level after 90 minutes shall be decided after 15 minutes each way extra time, and F.I.F.A. Penalty Rule if necessary.
16. No Club or Clubs within the jurisdiction of the League shall have power to break or postpone a fixture or change venue without obtaining the consent of the fixture secretary. All Clubs making application for postponement must do so in writing or by email and obtain the sanction of their opponents. All matches postponed or undecided shall be refixed at the earliest possible date by the Management Committee and the fixture secretary.
17. Any Club or Clubs refusing to play the club against which it has been drawn on the date fixed by the Management Committee shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. Clubs desirous of changing venue must make application in writing or email to the League Secretary three days before the date fixed for playing. The ground on which the match takes place shall be considered the home ground and the home Club shall be responsible for all arrangements.
18. All matches must be played on the days appointed for same, except as provided for in the case of Football Association of Ireland or Leinster Football Association. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. The Club which fails to play shall also be liable for the full Referee's fee.
19. In the event of a Cup match being unfinished owing to darkness, accident or any other cause, the Management Committee shall have the power at their discretion to allot the match according to the goals scored at the time the match ended or order that the match be replayed in its entirety on a date to be fixed by the Fixtures secretary.
20. Each Club in the Cup Competition shall register its colours with the League Secretary. In the event of two Clubs playing in similar colours the home club shall change colours when such Clubs meet in the Competition. Goalkeepers must wear colours which will distinguish them from other players. In the event of two Clubs whose registered colours are similar having to play a test or other match on neutral ground, choice of colours shall be decided by the flip of a coin. A distinctive armband shall be worn by team captain.
21. Protests against the eligibility of a player or players in any match or any unfinished match must be forwarded in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the League by registered post bearing postmark within Four days (Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays excluded) of the date of playing the match and must be accompanied by the correct fee, only Bank Drafts, Postal Orders or Money Orders accepted, made payable to Leinster Senior Football League. Clubs have the right to search individual forms on Mondays and Thursdays between 7.00- 8.30 in the League Office for the correct fee of €25 per form. A copy of the protest must be forwarded by registered post at the same time to the Secretary of the Club protested against. A period of Four days after the receipt of protest shall be afforded to the Club protested against to lodge a cross protest and that all the conditions of the original protest be observed in the case of a cross protest such as fees etc. The deposit will be returned only in the event of the protest being either upheld or not heard. No Club can withdraw a protest without obtaining the permission of the Management Committee. All protests shall be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee.
22. Any objection to ground, goal-posts, goal-nets or ball must be lodged in writing with the referee before the game is started. The referee shall have power to have such objection corrected. The referee shall also have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground for play.
23. If any member of the Committee has any doubts as to the qualification of any player taking part in the Competition, such member must make the complaint to the Hon Secretary. The

Management Committee shall call upon such player, or the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof, the Management Committee shall refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee.

24. The Management Committee shall have power to deal with any offending Club, or Clubs, player, or players as they think fit and to deal with any matter that is not provided for in these Rules, so far as these Competitions are concerned.

25. In the Final Tie the Management Committee shall fix the date, venue and appoint referee and assistant referees.

26. Receipts after expenses have been deducted shall be divided as follows: League to take one-third, remaining two-thirds to be divided equally between the two finalists.

27. When the winning Clubs shall have been declared the Management Committee shall hand the Challenge Cups to the representatives of the clubs, who by virtue of their position within the club agree to hand the cups back to the Leinster Senior Football League or to the relevant company for examination on or before the 31st day of January next in good order and condition and providing the said Cup is destroyed by fire or lost in any other accident whilst in the clubs possession, they agree to refund to the Leinster Senior Football League the amount of its current value". Trophies not returned by the 31st January offending club or clubs will be fined a minimum of €200. In addition to the Cup, the League may present to the winners Medals. The League may also present Medals to the runners-up.

28. In all Cup competitions under the auspices of the Leinster Senior Football League, the payment of referees' fees must be shared equally by each club unless there is an entrance fee paid at the gate. Therefore, the referee's full fee must be paid by the home team.

## **RULES OF THE JUNIOR DIVISIONS**

1. The Management Committee shall decide in all cases relating to this competition.

2. Clubs wishing to remain in the League and those seeking admission must make formal application, in writing, addressed to the Secretary, not later than 1st June in each year. The non-compliance with the provisions of this Rule will be construed as meaning that the Club concerned does not require admission.

2a. All matches, venues shall be arranged by the Fixtures Secretary of each Division.

3. No regrading necessary from Intermediate Grade to all Major Divisions Saturday only. However, if a player plays 5 or more games at Intermediate Grade or Leagues of a similar status in the current season, he must be regraded to play in all other divisions. Regrading approval must be given by the Management Committee. Each club cannot have more than 2 regraded players playing in any Domestic League or Cup game. No regrading will be granted to any players after 31st January in the current season.

Teams playing in the Major Saturday Divisions cannot play more than 6 Players who have played more than 13 games at Intermediate level.

4. Protests against the eligibility of a player or players in any match or any unfinished match must be forwarded in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the League by registered post bearing postmark within four days (Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays excluded) of the date of playing the match and must be accompanied by the correct fee, only Bank Drafts, Postal Orders or Money Orders accepted, made payable to Leinster Senior Football League. Clubs have the right to search individual forms on Mondays and Thursdays between 7.00- 8.30 in the League Office for the correct fee of €25 per form. A copy of the protest must be forwarded by registered post at the same time to the Secretary of the Club protested against. A period of 4 days (Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays excluded) after the receipt of protest shall be afforded to the Club protested against to lodge a cross protest and that all the conditions of the original protest be observed in the case of a cross protest such as fees etc. The deposit will be

returned only in the event of the protest being either upheld or not heard. No Club can withdraw a protest without obtaining the permission of the Management Committee. All protests shall be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee.

5. All matches must be played on the days appointed for same except as provided in Rule 4 (Intermediate Division Rules), or in the case of F.A.I. Junior or Leinster Junior Cup Ties. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. The Club which fails to play shall also be liable for the full Referee's fee.

6. No Club or Clubs within the jurisdiction of the league shall have power to break or postpone a League fixture or change venue without obtaining the consent of their opponents and the Fixture Secretary. All clubs making application for postponement must do so in writing or by email. All matches postponed or undecided shall be refixed at the earliest possible date by order of the Management Committee. Only two fixtures will be postponed per team per season. Ten days' notice in writing or by email for postponement of any fixtures.

7. Clubs desirous of changing venue must make application in writing or by email to the League Secretary, three days before the date fixed for playing. The ground on which the match takes place shall be considered the home ground and the home Club shall be responsible for all arrangements.

8. In the event of a League match being unfinished owing to darkness, accident, or any other cause, the Management Committee shall have power at their discretion to allot the points according to the goals scored at the time of such abandonment or order the match be replayed in its entirety on a date to be fixed by the fixtures secretary.

9. Each Club in the League Competition shall register its colours with the Secretary. In the event of two Clubs playing in similar colours the home club shall change colours when such Clubs meet in the Competition. Goalkeepers must wear colours which will distinguish them from other players. In the event of two Clubs whose registered colours are similar having to play a test or other match on neutral ground, choice of colours shall be decided by the flip of a coin. A distinctive armband shall be worn by team captain.

10. Players shall be registered on Forms to be supplied by the League. A bona fide player of a Club is one who has signed a properly completed registration form and paid the appropriate fee, duly witnessed by the Club Secretary and received by the League. A player is registered for a club if his registration form has been examined and is considered to be properly completed when stamped by the League. The League date stamp shall be the official date of registration. A player is only eligible to play in a league or cup match if there is at least one (1) calendar day between the date of receipt of the registration form by the league and the day of the match. In the event of a player signing for two or more Clubs, priority of Registration Forms shall decide as to which club the player belongs except as covered by transfer. It shall be the duty of the Registrar to return any such Forms and to report same to the Management Committee. The correct Transfer fee must be paid to the League, no fee – no transfer. Any Club intimating in writing to the Hon. Secretary before the 1st June in any season its intention to continue in membership of the League shall be entitled to register players on and from that date for the following season. Registration forms can be posted or brought into the League. All players must be approved by the Leinster Senior Football League to ensure eligibility to play.

11. Any bona-fide member of a Club shall be eligible to play, provided he is not registered for another Club. If he is so registered his transfer must be obtained from the Club on whose registered list he appears. No player can be signed on a League form until Transfer Form has been signed by both clubs and the Player concerned.

12. Any Club in membership of the League which withholds a player's transfer without having a valid claim against such player when the transfer has been applied for by the player or on his behalf by any club in membership, the Club withholding this transfer will be reported to the Management Committee who, after investigating the matter, may make an order for the transfer of such player, which order must be complied with within two days of the making of such

order. Any Club in membership of the League found guilty of unreasonably withholding a player's transfer may be sanctioned by the Disciplinary Committee.

13. No player of a Club which has been removed from membership can play for another club in membership without first having received the sanction of the Management Committee.

No registration may be granted after 31<sup>st</sup> March.

14. Referees shall be appointed to the various matches. Any referee appointed to act in a League match must, in the event of his not being able to attend, inform the Referees Allocator of his inability to act two days prior to the date of the match and not send a substitute to take his place. Referees' fee shall be payable by home club in League matches, before game commences. Scale as agreed by F.A.I. referees agreement. Any match Official that does not attend for a game when appointed and without sufficient reason, stands suspended from officiating in any Domestic game, until that Official gives his reasons in writing to the Lead Observer/ Referees Allocator.

15. Referees' fee shall be payable by Home Club in League matches, before game commences. Scale as agreed by F.A.I. / Referees Agreement.

16. Any objection to ground, goal posts, nets or balls must be lodged in writing to referee before the game starts. The Referee shall have power to have such objection corrected. Referee shall also have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground for play.

17. If any member of the Management Committee has any doubts as to the qualification of any player taking part in the Competition, such member must make the complaint to the Honorary Secretary. The Management Committee shall call upon such player, or the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof, the Management Committee shall refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee

18. Averages for the championship shall be taken from wins and draws, to be counted as follows, three points for a win and one point for a draw. Goal difference shall be the deciding factor when clubs finish level on points and where either trophies or relegation are concerned. If the goal difference is equal, goals scored shall be deemed the deciding factor. If clubs are still level then head to head games shall be deemed the deciding factor. If teams still cannot be separated then a test match will decide.

## **RULES OF THE POLIKOFF, RYAN AND DOMESTIC CUPS**

1. The Competition shall be called the Polikoff, Ryan and Domestic Competition and shall embrace Clubs at the discretion of the Management Committee.

2. The Competition shall be confined to Clubs comprising of the Junior Divisions of the Leinster Senior Football League and shall be played as Cup Ties as the Committee may determine.

3. Players in order to be eligible to compete in these Competitions must be bona-fide members of the Club for which they propose to play. A bone fide player of a Club is one who has signed a properly completed registration form and paid the appropriate fee, duly witnessed by the Club Secretary and received by the League. A player is registered for a club if his registration form has been examined and is considered to be properly completed when stamped by the League. The League date stamp shall be the official date of registration. A player is only eligible to play in a league or cup match if there is at least one (1) calendar day between the date of receipt of the registration form by the league and the day of the match. A player, who has played more than four games in the League of Ireland or a Senior League of similar status, shall not be eligible to take part in the competition unless he has been regraded in accordance with rule. Players who play in the F.A.I. Intermediate Cup or Cups of similar or higher status are ineligible to play in the Polikoff Cup or Cups of lower status in the current season. A Player who plays in the Polikoff Cup cannot play in the Noel Ryan Cup, and vice versa.

4. The Clubs which are in each instance first drawn shall have choice of ground. Games finishing level after 90 minutes shall be decided after 10 minutes each way extra time, and F.I.F.A. Penalty Rule if necessary.
5. Any Club or Clubs refusing or failing to play the club against which it has been drawn on the date fixed by the Committee and without sufficient reason for so doing, shall be subject to disciplinary action. Clubs desirous of changing venue must make application in writing or email to the League Secretary three days before the date fixed for playing. The ground on which the match takes place shall be considered the home ground and the home Club shall be responsible for all arrangements.
6. In the Semi-Final and Final ties the committee shall fix dates, venues and appoint Referees and Assistant Referees.
7. Receipts after expenses have been deducted shall be divided as follows: League to take one-third, remaining two-thirds to be divided equally between the two finalists.
8. A player may not play in more than one Junior Domestic Cup in the current season. For competition purposes the Polikoff and Ryan Cups are not Domestic Cups. Players who play in the Polikoff Cup and Ryan Cup may play in their appropriate Domestic Cup applicable to their division. The Management Committee will decide each year the appropriate Cups, whether Senior, Junior or Domestic trophies.
9. All Cups are Domestic Cups except the following: Metropolitan, Cahill, O'Reilly, Polikoff and Ryan.
10. Teams playing in the Tom Carroll Cup, David & Paddy Lanigan Cup or Ryan Cup may not use more than three players who have played in any of the Intermediate section cups or higher in current season.
11. The Management Committee shall have power to deal with any matter that is not provided for in these rules.

## **RULES OF THE UNDER 19 DIVISIONS**

1. All under 19 players shall be registered on an FAI approved player registration form, which will be supplied by the League and which has to be confirmed by a parent or guardian showing their date of birth. Proof of date of birth must be furnished. A Passport or Birth Certificate will suffice. Photographic proof (passport size) must also be produced. These documents must be returned to the registrar of the League. It is the duty of the Club to ensure that players are properly registered before they take part in any competition. Leinster Senior League registration rules will apply. Players in order to be eligible to compete in these Competitions must be bona-fide members of the Club for which they propose to play. A bone fide player of a Club is one who has signed a properly completed registration form and paid the appropriate fee, duly witnessed by the Club Secretary and received by the League. A player is registered for a club if his registration form has been examined and is considered to be properly completed when stamped by the League. The League date stamp shall be the official date of registration. A player is only eligible to play in a league or cup match if there is at least one (1) calendar day between the date of receipt of the registration form by the league and the day of the match.
2. The under 19 division will consist of teams with players who are under 19 years of age on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the year in which the season ends i.e. season 2017/2018 players must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 1999 in order to compete in the Leinster Senior League under 19 Divisions.
3. Under 19 players may play in all Domestic League and Cup Competitions without restriction.
4. The above Rules are to be read in addition to the general rules of the Leinster Senior Football League as amended from time to time.

5. No players under the age of 16 (sixteen) are eligible to participate in the Leinster Senior Football League Under 19 divisions.
6. Five (5) substitutes are permitted to be used in all Under 19 Domestic League and Cup games.