



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael/Gaelic Athletic Association European Competition Regulations 2016

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1. General

- a. All gaelic games in Europe including international, national, regional, tournament or club fixtures shall be subject to the authority of the ECMC and the CCC.
- b. In accordance with the Official Guide and Bye-Laws, the CCC: *shall be responsible for all arrangements, for control of, and any matters arising from Games under the jurisdiction of the County Committee. Membership of this Committee shall be appointed from members of the County Committee and/or other suitable personnel, together with the County Referees' Administrator, who shall be entitled to vote only on the appointment of referees.* The Assistant County Secretary shall normally be convener of this Committee, which shall normally be chaired by the ECMC Vice-Chairperson, unless the ECMC decides otherwise.
- c. A Competition Control Officer (CCO), nominated by the CCC, shall be present at all competitive fixtures and will be responsible for ensuring that the provisions of the Official Guide, County Bye-laws and these Regulations are applied and for ensuring that these Regulations are communicated to Referees. The host club shall also obtain, and make available at tournaments, a copy of the Official Guide, County Bye-laws and these Regulations. The CCC will inform the host club of the name and mobile phone number of the appointed CCO for a particular tournament at three days before the game/tournament.
- d. In the absence of a specific rule, bye-law or regulation, the CCO shall have the authority to make any decision s/he deems appropriate. Tournament organisers, ECMC members or Referees (other than in relation to playing rules) shall not have the authority to overturn such a decision. Players, clubs or teams who dispute such decisions should lodge an appeal to ECMC in accordance with the Official Guide.
- e. The CCO, clubs, tournament organisers, or ECMC members shall not attempt to influence any decision of a referee with regard to Playing Rules.
- f. Attendance at a European Competition Round by a team automatically implies they will comply with the Official Guide, County Bye-laws and these Regulations. All teams must confirm participation to the CCC and the host club at least seven days before all tournaments. This is to enable the draw to take place and a schedule drawn up, to communicate same to participating clubs three days before the tournament round and to monitor use of authorisations, permits, transfers.
- g. Each team must produce and send a "team list" produced from the Servasport Management System (Servasport) to the CCO and ECB Secretary, at the latest, on the Wednesday before the tournament. This is to enable the Board to ensure that players are properly registered by validating team lists against player registration database. Teams consisting of players from more than one club must forward a "team list" from each club (unless the players concerned are already included on a "team list" submitted).
- h. The CCO will be contactable by mobile phone on the day of the tournament. Should any club face emergency issues, such as meeting their match throw in time, the CCO must be informed one hour prior to the throw-in. The CCO will have powers to reschedule or award a game. If possible, the CCC will ensure that the CCO on the day of the tournament is not registered to play or referee in that same tournament.
- i. The multi-purpose astro-turf (GAA size) pitch at Sports Park West, Malberg, Maastricht, Netherlands is to be considered the home/county ground for the purposes of inter-county matches and other representative games.

2. European Competitions

- a. A Pan European Championship(s) shall be held annually in football, hurling, camogie and ladies football. In addition, other competitions may be organised.
- b. Subject to ratification, and/or amendment, by the ECMC:
 - i) The CCC shall decide on the structure and format of all Pan-European competitions. Competitions at a regional or other levels may be organised by the appropriate unit subject to final approval of the CCC.
 - ii) The CCC shall draw up an annual calendar of competitions and/or other fixtures as appropriate

no less than 12 weeks before a tournament is held. Only definite dates & venues shall be confirmed to allow clubs to plan their participation accordingly.

- iii) The CCC shall establish the criteria for the hosting of fixtures whether in a tournament, series of tournaments (“rounds”) or otherwise.
 - iv) The CCC shall award the hosting of fixtures, or rounds, to clubs who comply with the criteria and have applied to host same. Host clubs for the Regional Competitions to be determined by the CCC no later than 1st of November each year for the subsequent season. The final calendar dates to be confirmed by the CCC.
 - v) Host clubs should inform the ECMC and the CCC of any material changes in circumstances, which may impact on their hosting, so a decision can be made, as soon as possible, as to whether the club should continue to be a host.
 - vi) If a club does not continue to fulfil the criteria for hosting, the CCC may award the round to another club, and the original club may be subject to sanction by the CCC. The replacement club shall make a submission to the CCC and shall fulfil all criteria.
 - vii) Any changes in venues/fixtures/rounds shall be communicated to relevant clubs at least six weeks before the change would take effect.
- c. The Final Decision as to whether a tournament qualifies as a European Competition Round will be made by the CCC.

3. European Competition Round Requirements

General

- a. In relation to the Regional or Pan- European (including grading) Championships and European Champions League competitions, a competition round shall be a ‘tournament’ or a single fixture in the context of 15-a-side competitions.
- b. The CCC shall determine the minimum number of registered European teams competing in a competition round for it to be regarded as an official round.
- c. A registered team is defined as a team having a specified number of registered players participating in the tournament or fixture.
- d. Qualified Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Administrator for all competitions under the auspices of the ECB. The CCO and the Referees will communicate as required to ensure that competitions run to schedule.
- e. The CCO, in consultation with the Referee and the host club, will ensure that ‘umpires’ are provided for all games. The CCC, through the CCO, will ensure all teams have been sent a copy of the schedule for the day and the teams providing umpires will be clearly indicated on that sheet.
 - i) Five minutes before the scheduled starting time, the Referee will stand in the middle of the pitch and blow a ten second whistle. Should **four** persons, from the team scheduled to provide same, not be present and ready to umpire by throw-in time, the Referee will note this and report it to the CCO either immediately or later in the day,
 - ii) A penalty of the loss of three tournament points will be applied to the team concerned in respect of each game where umpires are late or not present.
 - iii) Where possible umpires and linesmen should wear bibs.
 - iv) Clubs shall ensure that umpires are aware of the Rules. The referee shall briefly explain their duties to the umpires.
 - v) Should a team wish to object to the club designated to provide umpires for a particular game, this must be raised with the CCO, at least 15 minutes before the game concerned. The CCO, will, if necessary, designate another club(s) to provide umpires for the game concerned.

- f. Prior to the start of each game, the referee should confirm the duration of the game with the captains of both teams, ideally at the time of the coin toss. In the event of a disagreement, the referee shall consult the CCO who shall decide based on published schedule and/or emerging circumstances such as poor light, adverse pitch conditions or restrictions imposed by owners of the venue such as closing times etc.
- g. Round and Competition Points shall be calculated on the day by the CCO and will be announced at the end of the Round but shall be subject to confirmation by the CCC.
- h. A competition round shall follow the rules set out in the relevant Official Guide unless amended in European GAA Bye-laws or these Regulations.
- i. If a club is entering two, or more, teams in the same competition the teams must be designated as "A", "B", "C" etc.
- j. A "Player of the Tournament" award will be decided upon and presented by the referee(s) for each competition.
- k. The maximum fee per day, per player, which may be charged by a host club in a European or Regional competition shall be determined by ECB Convention. Teams are required to pay a deposit of EUR 100 two weeks prior to a tournament. No refund will be made if a team withdraws within the period of seven days prior to the competition round/fixture.
- l. In the event that that host clubs are unable to cover their organisational costs within the standard maximum fee, they may apply to the ECMC, at least one month before the date of the tournament concerned, for permission to increase the fee and in doing so shall supply a detailed budget to support their application. Such application will only be approved by the ECMC in exceptional circumstances.

Tournament lunch

- m. The tournament lunch should be as per the guidelines below (failure to comply may result in a fine of not less than 100 EURO).
 - An isotonic/sports drink (min. 0.5l) (carbonated/fizzy drinks are not permissible).
 - A substantial sandwich/roll with high carbohydrate/low fat contents - lean meats, chicken, turkey or fish as main component (salty meats such as bacon/rashers, sausages etc are not recommended and please ensure there are some vegetarian options available)
 - high-energy (low fat) sports bar or similar (whole grain, muesli based)
 - fresh fruit (min. 2 pieces) (required for protein/potassium, bananas are recommended as they assist in prevention of cramping)

NOTE: chocolate bars, potato crisps/chips and suchlike are not recommended.

Clubs with players with special dietary requirements or medical conditions (diabetes, gluten intolerance, allergies) should inform the hosting club as far as possible in advance of a game/tournament, in order to avoid any preventable medical events.

Each player/attendee should have the liberty to choose whether they wish to purchase a lunch (or dinner) from the organizers provided that they express their preference to the organizers before a pre-defined deadline.

Venues

- n. It is the host club's responsibility to ensure that adequate medical assistance is present. At least one qualified doctor, nurse or first aid officer (or equivalent) must be present from the start to the end of all tournaments (such person(s) may not be a player/team mentor/referee or CCO. Whenever possible an ambulance should be provided. In addition, host clubs must also ensure that an appropriate sport's first aid kit is available to teams for minor injuries. Failure to uphold this rule may result in the host club being fined not less than €100.
- o. Where there are two or more separate venues in use adequate medical assistance (as specified above) must be provided at each venue.

- p. Host clubs must ensure that there are:
- i) adequate changing facilities for competing teams
 - ii) adequate supplies (*1.0-1.5 litres per player for a full-day tournament*) of bottled (non-carbonated) water and/or access to a supply of potable water at the venue (*in which case teams should be advised in advance*) and the host club should supply at least four suitable containers.
 - iii) appropriate catering/refreshment arrangements for players and spectators
 - iv) adequate indoor facilities for non-playing teams in case of inclement weather
 - v) A notice board in a prominent location for notifying teams of fixtures, results and cards issued by referees.
 - vi) other requirements as listed in the "Tournament Hosting Guidelines" of the EMMC
- q. All of the above requirements shall be in place before a tournament commences and CCO will verify.

4. Pitch Requirements (all Competitions)

- a. The host club and CCC shall agree the number and type of pitches to be used at a competition round.
- b. **Pitch surface** - Host clubs shall ensure that all participating teams shall know at a minimum of two weeks' notice if any games are to be played on surfaces other than grass e.g. astro-turf.
- c. **Playing Field**
 - i) **Football and hurling** (all non 15 a-side competitions) must be played on pitches that fulfil the minimum requirements of Rugby (up to 100m long X up to 70m wide) or Soccer (90-120m long X 45-90m wide) pitches. However, the minimum size soccer pitch of 90m X 45m is not acceptable **for 11-a-side hurling**.
 - ii) **Ladies football and Camogie only** - for a 7-a-side camogie games and 9-a side ladies football games, pitches and line markings should be proportionately *2/3rds* of normal GAA size (*which is 130-145 x 85-90m*). Thus, pitch dimensions should be approx. 75m x 45m regardless of whether teams are playing 7 or 9 a-side. The 13/20/45 metre lines should be approximately 8.5/13/30m from the end line. The pitches and the penalty areas must be clearly indicated.
 - iii) For 11-a-side ladies football, or 9-a-side camogie, games the pitch requirements are the same as in 4.b (i) above.
- d. **Goals - hurling and football:** It is recommended that wherever possible Senior Gaelic Goals as specified in the Official Guide are used in all football and hurling games.

Rugby posts (5.6m wide X 3m high) are acceptable provided that nets are fitted and crossbars adjusted to the official GAA height of 2.5m.

Soccer goals (7.3m wide X 2.4m high) are not encouraged but acceptable where no other option is feasible, if using soccer goals, the upright must be a minimum of 4.5m high and be capable of withstanding direct contact by ball/sliothar and be secure enough to ensure player safety.

Crossbars - Where a rugby crossbar is adjusted and the original crossbar cannot be adjusted/removed then it is considered to be a point if the ball/sliothar hits the rugby crossbar.
- e. **Goals - ladies football and camogie:** portable (juvenile) goalposts may used in Ladies football and Camogie games. They must be of a metal or timber construction, capable of withstanding direct contact with a football or sliothar, secured to the ground and strong enough in every other respect to ensure player safety at all times. The minimum size of ladies football and camogie goals is 4.57m wide X 2.3m high (*15' x 7'*).

- f. **Nets** – Nets (as specified in the Official Guide) must be fitted to all goalposts used in competitions
- g. **Pitch Markings** - Pitches shall be marked correctly subject to the specific provisions in 4.b(ii) above
- h. In exceptional circumstances, and only where the official markings cannot be applied to the pitch surface, the following lines should be clearly indicated by other temporary measures e.g. flags (or cones) at the intersection of internal pitch lines and boundary lines, the use of flour or chalk for temporary lines etc.
- i) Boundary lines (i.e. side and end lines)
 - ii) Small Rectangle (in front of the goal area)
 - iii) Penalty spot (11m from centre of goal area)
 - iv) Large rectangle (in front of the goal area and joined to 13m line)
 - v) 13 metre line
 - vi) 20 metre line
 - vii) 45 metre line (for men's and ladies football and camogie)
 - viii) 65 metre line for hurling, which will normally be located in opposite half.
 - ix) Any existing markings within +/- 2 metres can be used (i.e. certain rugby pitch markings),

[NOTE:

Generally soccer "penalty" area lines are not very suitable as they extend 16.5m out from the end-line (i.e. *halfway between the GAA 13m & 20m lines*), and 16.5m from each goalpost, a total of 16.5m X 33.3m wide (*the GAA large rectangle is 13m X 19m wide*).

The soccer "goal area" is acceptable as it extends out 5.5m from end-line and 5.5m from each goalpost, a total of 18.3m wide (*the GAA "small rectangle" is 4.5m from the end-line and 3.75m from each goalpost, a total of 14m wide*).

The rugby "5m" line is acceptable for marking the outer line of the "small rectangle" and the "22m" line is acceptable for the GAA 20m line, however the "10m" from halfway line is too close to the end-line to act as the GAA 45m line.]

- i. Non compliance, in relation to Regulations 4.(a)-(g) above, may result in a fine for the hosting club of not less than 100EUR.
- j. Should a club need to change pitch(s), at short notice, and this results in compliance issues in relation to Regulations 4.(a)-(g) above, the issue should be communicated to the CCC immediately, failure to do so may result in a fine of a sum of not less than 100EUR.

5. Player Requirements

- a. All players shall be registered on the Servasport Management System in accordance with the relevant provisions of the various Official Guides. Player Registration on the day of a competition round or other fixture is NOT permitted. Players who have previously played with a club in any country at any time must be properly transferred to the club they intend to play for, or hold an official permit/sanction or authorisation.
- b. Teams shall submit a list of their players on Official Team List(s) (*produced from the Servasport Management System*) to the European Secretary, the CCO and the host club Secretary before 19:00hrs CET on the Wednesday before the tournament.
- c. An Official Team List which shall include each player's jersey number and shall be handed to the Referee before each game commences. Where there is more than one club providing players for a single team in a game, each club shall supply an Official Team List.

- d. The Team Lists shall be collected by the CCO at the end of each game. The Referees Match Report shall be submitted to the CCC no later than three days after the competition round.
- e. A player who is pursuing a full-time course of study in a European country (outside of Ireland and Britain) may play with a club in that country, or the nearest club to his/her place of study, provided s/he is participating in a recognised programme of study, or work experience, of a minimum of 12 weeks duration, and s/he obtains a Permit from the Central Council of the relevant Association..
- f. The European County Board Secretary shall provide an outline summary of the transfer procedures on the ECB website.

6. Team Requirements

- a. Teams must be registered with the ECMC. The ECMC is the only organisation that has the right to register Teams.
- b. Non-European Teams are allowed to participate in European tournaments, at the invitation of host clubs and subject to prior permission being sought from the CCC at least seven days before the tournament. These Non-European teams will not receive any points for their participation in a tournament & will not feature in the European League table. Furthermore, such teams may not contest the semi-final or finals stage of the tournament.
- c. All Teams must have full playing kit with numbers (no two numbers shall be the same).
- d. Two registered European clubs may compete together in European Competitions as one entity provided that they register the combined team at the start of the competition.

7. Competition Rounds

Round Structure

- a. Each Round must be organised as a single group league if five or less European teams are competing.
- b. The teams finishing in the top two positions will play off in a final.
- c. Rounds with six or more teams will be organized into two, or more, groups. A draw will take place to decide which teams play in each group.
- d. The winners of each group will play the runners-up in the other group in the semi-finals. The winners will then play in a final, and the losers will play off for third place.
- e. All scheduled playoff games must take place where a minimum of one team wishes to play the game. A team, which refuses to play a play-off game, will forfeit all tournament points. The only exception being where a CCO issues a contrary ruling on the day (e.g. due to insufficient time/facilities).
- f. The management and/or team captain of a team conceding or forfeiting a game, or games, on the day of a tournament, must declare in writing (in a prescribed format provided by the CCO) that they have done so and that this written declaration is counter-signed in approval by the opposing team and the CCO on the day. The signed declaration of forfeiture is to be retained by the CCO.
- g. In the event that a team concedes or forfeits a game in advance of the match day, the club secretary must confirm forfeiture in writing in advance to the relevant club secretary(-ies) and to the ECB secretary. Acknowledgement of receipt of said declaration must be returned prior to the match day.
- h. In the case of Pan European Championships & Shield rounds, and when there are three teams or less in a particular competition, Championship and Shield teams may be combined at the group stage, provided that separate semi-finals/finals, as appropriate, are played in each competition.

The Draw

- i. Draw will be carried out before the tournament by an independent (not representing a playing team) member of the CCC.

- j. The draw will be communicated to the concerned teams 2 days before the tournament.
- k. Should a team not be present on the day or the draw needs to be redrawn for any reason the appointed CCO officer will perform the draw on the day in the presence of the team captains.
- l. The Draw for each competition will be a seeded draw if there are groups involved.

Where there are six to eight teams:

The teams will be seeded as follows

Group "A" – Teams ranked 1 – 4 – 5 - 8

Group "B" – Teams ranked 2 – 3 – 6 – 7

Top two teams in group progress to semi-finals; remainder to play-off's

Where there are nine to eleven teams:

Group "A" – Teams ranked 1 – 6 – 7

Group "B" – Teams ranked 2 – 5 – 8 – 11

Group "C" – Teams ranked 3 – 4 – 9 – 10

Top team in each group progress to semi-finals along with best runner-up (based on points then score difference); remainder to play-off's.

Where there are twelve or more teams:

Group "A" – Teams ranked 1 – 8 – 9 – 16

Group "B" – Teams ranked 2 – 7 – 10 – 15

Group "C" – Teams ranked 3 – 6 – 11 – 14

Group "D" – Teams ranked 4 – 5 – 12 – 13

Top team in group progress to semi-finals; 2nd to play-off's for 5-8th places, 3rd to play-off's for 9-12th places

Where there are groups with unequal numbers of teams, the CCO shall ensure that each team is scheduled to play games where the total length of games will be the same for each group.

- m. Rankings from previous year are used for the opening (first) rounds in all competitions. Rankings for rounds thereafter are based on current standings (cumulative) until the end of that competition,
- n. CCC will decide on a ranking for new and therefore unseeded teams.

8. Playing Rules & Clarifications

Unless stated below - all competitions will follow the rules as stated in the appropriate Official Guides.

Substitutions (all codes)

- a. Unlimited rolling substitutions from (within the teams listed squad) may be used but these must take place from the middle of the playing field. The replacement player shall enter the playing area from the half-way line only after the player being replaced has left the playing area. The total number of players used in a game may not exceed the maximum specified for the competition, i.e. 15 in men's 11 a side. In ladies' football from 2009 a baton will be used see annex C.

Helmets (Hurling and Camogie only)

- b. All players shall wear a helmet conforming to the GAA approved standard (NSAI). These helmets include a full face guard.

Discipline

- c. A maximum of 2 players who received a black card can be ordered off, miss the next game of that tournament but can be replaced by substitutes. No other players from the same team who receive a black card during that tournament will be allowed to be replaced by a substitute.
- d. If a player receives a yellow card and then a black card or vice versa, a player will be shown a red card and ordered off and not replaced. The player will miss the next game of that tournament.
- e. A player receiving two yellow cards in one game will be then shown a red card and shall be ordered off and not replaced, except for where the game enters extra time. The player will miss the next game of that tournament.
- f. Should a player receive a second yellow card over 2 consecutive games in a tournament round the player will automatically miss the next game of that tournament. Yellow cards therefore will carry until the next game in any one tournament.
- g. Should a player who has received a yellow card in a tournament round then receive a further yellow card in a subsequent game, the second yellow card of the tournament will be immediately followed by a red card and the player ordered off and not replaced. The player will miss the next game of that tournament.
- h. The tracking of cards will be coordinated by the CCO, the host club and the referee and forwarded to the CCC for record keeping and monitoring.
- i. In ladies football (only), a 5 minutes 'sin bin' will apply for a first yellow card the points (g) and (h) above will also apply. Note the examples below –
 - (1) If a ladies player receives a yellow in game 1 = 5 minutes sin bin, no sanction in game 2 and then a yellow in game 3 she would receive a second sin bin of 5 minutes in game 3. However,
 - (2) if she receives a yellow in game 1 = 5 mins sin bin and then a yellow in game 2 rule (g) above applies.
- j. Straight Red Cards
 - i) Players receiving a straight red card are ordered off and automatically banned from playing for the remainder of the tournament, and disciplinary sanctions will follow.
 - ii) In all cases of a straight red card the CCC will investigate the offence upon receipt of the referee's report and will decide on the appropriate suspension, in line with the appropriate Official Guide. In line with the Official Guide the following sanctions will apply as minimum guidelines.
 - 1. Category III offences as detailed in the Official guide: European Minimum sanction will be 4 weeks suspension inclusive of 1 tournament even if the next tournament falls outside the 4 weeks suspension window, the tournament where the player was dismissed will not count as the above mentioned tournament.
 - 2. Category IV offences as detailed in the Official guide: European Minimum sanction will be 8 weeks suspension inclusive of 2 tournaments even if the tournaments fall outside the 8 weeks suspension window, the tournament where the player was dismissed will not count as the above mentioned tournament.
 - iii) The Referee's decision on the day is final concerning yellow and red cards and no further discussion shall be allowed.

9. **Rounds – Ranking**

Groups

- a. Should two teams have an equal number of points at end of a preliminary group stage, the winner, or higher placed team, will be determined by (whichever applies first);
 - i) the winner of the game between the teams
 - ii) aggregate score difference
 - iii) a points shootout
- b. In the case of two teams who have not played each other (i.e. from different groups), the higher-ranked team will be decided by playoff or a series of playoffs. These playoffs may be a series of shortened games depending on time available but will be a minimum 5 minutes a side.
- c. All group or preliminary games will follow the following Guidelines
 - i. Games shall have two halves
 - ii. Total time of preliminary games shall be a minimum of 20 minutes.
 - iii. If scores are equal then the game will be considered a draw.
- d. Points awarded in groups are as follows:
 - Win = 2 points; Draw = 1 point; Loss = 0 points

Finals/Play-offs

- e. Pan-European Championship round Finals (e.g. ladies and men's football) shall not be played concurrently. This does not apply to Shield finals. Finalists in any competition shall be allowed at least a 30-minute break before the start of a final.
- f. All Semi-Finals, Finals and positional play-off's will follow the following Guidelines.
 - i. 15 minutes per half, this can be reduced if all teams who reach this stage of the competition agree. However, a minimum of 10 minutes per half shall be played. In the event of one team disagreeing, 15 minutes per half will be played.
 - ii. If scores are equal at the end of normal time, extra-time will be played consisting of two five-minute halves.
 - iii. If scores are equal after the first period of extra-time then another two halves of five minutes each will be played. The first team to score will be the winner.
 - iv. If scores remain level after two periods of additional extra time then the winner shall be decided on penalties.

Penalty Shoot-outs

- k. Five penalties shall be taken alternately by each team (following guidelines for penalties as set out in the Playing Rules/Ladies Football Playing Rules), if scores remain level, each team shall take one penalty each, until one team scores and the other does not in the same cycle of penalties.
- l. Only scores in the "goal" area shall count. Only direct scores shall count, i.e. second attempts (rebounds) from saves or striking the goalposts shall not count.

Points Shoot-outs

- m. 5 shots for points from the 30m line. Players have the option of taking the kick off the ground or from the hand. The ball has to be kicked before the player crosses the line. Only points count. Should the teams

be still tied, taking of points will continue under the sudden death procedure by using the remaining members of the panel. No player can take a second shot until every other member of the panel has.

- n. Shots are to be taken into goals already in use for competition. Only direct scores shall count, i.e. second attempts (rebounds) from striking the goalposts shall not count. There will be no keeper on the goal-line.

10. European Competition Points System

- a. Points are only awarded to registered European teams.
- b. The CCC shall decide the right of any European team to be awarded points in a European Competition and that decision is final and no further discussion will be entered into.
- c. The European clubs present at a European round will be awarded points on the following basis:

Winners	25 points
Beaten finalists	20 points
3rd	16 points
4th	13 points
5th	11 points
6th	10 points
7th	9 points
8th	8 points
9th	7 points
10th	6 points
11 th (and below)	5 points

- d. If it is not possible to distinguish between two clubs e.g. two beaten semi-finalists (when no play-off is played, and the teams were in different groups), then the teams will be considered as finishing in an equal position and points divided accordingly.

11. European Competitions - Ranking

- a. Should two teams have an equal number of points at end of a competition, the winner, or higher placed team, will be determined by (whichever applies first);
 - i) The total number of wins against each other during games in that Competition throughout the season.
 - ii) The total score difference against each other during games in that Competition throughout the season will determine the ranking.
 - iii) Overall average score difference across all rounds against all opposition.

Annex A - Men's Football

1. Structure

- a. The European competition structure in 2016 shall consist of the following competitions:
 - Regional and sub regional Championships, where sub regional championships also act as qualifiers for the Regionals.
 - A European 15 a-side Competition.
 - Two rounds of Pan European Championship;
 - European Champions League Tournament.

2. General (Pan European Championship, grading tournaments or Regional Championships)

- a. The CCC shall authorise rounds and make arrangements for the appointment of Control Officers who shall represent the CCC at each round.
- b. A registered team is defined as having at least nine registered players participating in the round.
- c. Teams shall consist of eleven players in all rounds, except in the case of the European 15 a-side competition.
- d. 15 players maximum can be used per 11 a side game - total squad size is limited to 18.
- e. 21 players maximum can be used per 15 a side game – total squad size is limited to 30.
- f. A maximum of 2 players are permitted to move between teams of different grades from the same club during a tournament. For example, a player playing at Senior level will not be allowed to play at Intermediate and/or Junior level on the same day unless 'nominated'. Where clear gradings do not exist, e.g. in a regional tournament, the same principle will apply to any 'Championship' or 'Shield' team a club enters.
 - If a club has 25 players or more present at a tournament, no movement is allowed.
 - If a club has 24 players, they may 'nominate' two players if they want to move them between their two teams.
 - No games will be delayed or re-scheduled at any time during the tournament to facilitate teams awaiting such 'nominated' players who are playing on another pitch.

3. Qualification for Points

- a. In order to receive points there must be a minimum of five registered players present at the Round.
- b. If an 11-a-side team is made up of nine or more players registered to one European club they will receive all the points.
- c. If a team supplies between 5 to 8 players and the rest of the team is made up of players who do not qualify for points they will receive 50 % of the points awarded for the round.
- d. If two teams join and both supply 5 or more (up to a maximum of 8) registered players the points awarded to the combined team will be split 50-50 between the two registered clubs.
- e. If a registered European Team has 5 players present at the round but they are distributed around other participating teams or join a team with 9 or more players. They will receive 50% of the points if they had played but finished last. (for example if six European teams compete in the round, the relevant team would receive 50% of the points for finishing 7th = 3 points)

4. Pan European Championship

- a. Pan European Championship rounds will be organised in such a way that every 4 teams entering are competing for a trophy at Junior, Intermediate and Senior level. This will not apply in round one where every team will be unclassified and eligible to compete at Senior.
- b. It is required to have a minimum of three pitches available for a Championship round tournament.
- c. All Pan European Championship rounds should have at least three qualified Referees who shall be appointed by the CCC.
- d. As a guideline there should be a minimum of four registered European teams competing in a Championship round tournament for it to be regarded as an official round and once a tournament is determined to be a Championship round tournament points will be awarded.
- e. The senior, intermediate and junior teams with the most points in the Pan European Championship round will be deemed to be the senior, intermediate and junior European Champions.

5. Format for 2016 Men's 11-a-side Pan European Football Championship

Part A – Applicable to all grades

- a. The Championships will be held over two rounds.
- b. In the first round all European teams will be invited and it will not be graded but will be treated as a qualification tournament to the Senior Championship with points being carried to round two at all grades. Teams shall be seeded in round one.
- c. Participating teams in round one will receive points towards the Senior Championship as per the current system with exceptions relating to those entering the Intermediate and Junior Championships.
- d. The top 8 teams from round one will be eligible to play in round two of the Senior Championship.
- e. The top 6 teams from round one will be compelled to compete in the Senior Championship at round two. Teams finishing in 7th and 8th, upon application to the CCC no later than two weeks before round two, will be allowed to drop to the Intermediate or Junior Competitions. In the case of dropping a grade these teams will only be permitted to carry a maximum of 7 points to round two otherwise they will carry the points won in round one.
- f. A maximum of 8 teams will be permitted to play in round two of the Senior Championship.
- g. If the top 8 teams from round one wish to compete in the Senior Championship in round two, then no other applications will be considered.
- h. In the case where a team has qualified for the Senior Championship in round one but are unable to enter round two in any grade then their points will be cancelled and all teams finishing below them in round one will move up one position with the corresponding number of points. (Exception: If this results in a team moving into the top 6 then that team shall be offered the same opportunity to drop down a grade as the teams finishing 7th and 8th before the change.)

In the event that the Senior Championship does not meet the 8 teams required then the CCC will offer the vacancy to ALL teams and will make a draw for the winner(s). This can occur right up to the point that the CCC draws up the schedule

- i. Any team that did not participate in round one but have accepted an entry offer by the CCC to be one of the 8 teams to compete as Senior in round two shall do so carrying zero points.
- j. In the event of more than one team finishing top with equal points after round two in any grade, the team(s) that travelled to both rounds shall be classified higher with the same points. If this does not determine a Senior Championship winner then a Senior Championship Final must be played at round two (separate to the round two final) – the duration of which will be twenty minutes and will be played after the

round two final with a minimum break of 30 minutes if either team from that game are involved - or earlier if both teams agree.

- k. A round robin competition shall be played after the round two final if the tie involves three teams with score difference in the round robin competition being used if teams cannot be separated by points. If four teams are involved then they shall be played as two semi-finals (open draw) and a final, each of 20 minutes duration.
- l. In the eventuality that that either a Senior Championship Semi-Final/Final or Senior Championship Round Robin competition is required, for the purposes of any disciplinary issues, it shall be treated as part of the round two tournament.

Part B - Specific to Intermediate and Junior Championships

- a. In the event that two teams finish level on points after two rounds (including tied champions) the team travelling to both rounds will be ranked one place higher but with the same number of points. If this does not separate the second placed and below teams then they shall be ranked equally. (No other scenario is possible for there to be tied champions.)
- b. Teams finishing outside the top 8 in round one will carry the points they won in round one to round two. The maximum being 7 and the minimum being 5 points in all circumstances.

6. European Regional Championships

- a. European Regional Championships will be held in regions as defined by the ECMC
- b. In 2016 these shall be as follows:
 - Iberia (Spain, Portugal, and Gibraltar)
 - North-West Europe (France & Channel Islands)
 - Benelux (Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Western Germany & Switzerland)
 - Central & East Europe (Switzerland, Northern and Southern Germany, Italy, Austria, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia & Hungary)
 - Nordic (Denmark, Norway, Finland, Estonia and Sweden)
- c. If entries are received from clubs outside of these regions, the ECMC, in consultation with the club concerned and the CCC shall decide the most appropriate region for the club to compete in.
- d. European clubs from outside the appropriate region may compete in a round but may not contest the final or be awarded points in the Regional Championship.
- e. Each Regional Championship shall normally consist of three or four rounds (tournaments), in exceptional circumstances the CCC may allow a region to compete over just two rounds.
- f. The CCC shall appoint Regional Officers to co-ordinate arrangements in each Region. The Regional Officers shall consult with clubs within their regions and make proposals to the CCC for venues, dates and ancillary matters by March 1st.

7. European Champions League Tournament

- a. Qualification will be based on Regional Championship final standings with the winners and runners up of each Regional championship and sub-region (Brittany and Galicia) to participate in a single day tournament.
- b. For 2016 edition, the host club will be permitted to participate in this tournament.
- c. The format of the tournament will be determined as a function of the number of teams who enter the competition.

- f. If either of the top two teams from any region do not confirm their participation at least 6 weeks before the event then their place will be offered as follows:
 - i. to the team finishing third in that region.
 - ii. to the team finishing third in the region in which the tournament is being hosted.
 - iii. all other regional third placed finishers will be offered the opportunity to enter an open draw to be held no less than 4 weeks before the tournament and will be notified immediately and have 48 hours to accept. Otherwise it will be offered to the next team drawn and the process continues.
 - iv. to the sub regional third placed finishers (the logic being that these are likely to be weaker teams than the regional teams and this is a “Champions” competition as opposed to an Open one”)
- e. If the sub regional and regional qualifiers are the same team then that extra place will be offered to the third place finishers in that region and follow the process thereafter as in (d).

8. European Regional Championship Round Requirements

This section describes the criteria that must be fulfilled in order for a tournament to be considered a European Regional Championship round. If during the course of the season a round does not fulfil the requirements set out below it will lose its status as an official Regional Championship round.

- a. As a guideline there should be a minimum of three registered European teams competing in a Regional Championship Round for it to be regarded as an official round, this is a guideline and once a tournament is determined to be a Regional Championship round points will be awarded.
- b. All European Regional Championship rounds should have at least one qualified Referee who shall be appointed by the Referees Administrator (A round host club may supply additional referees subject to approval of the CCC)
- c. It is required to have one pitch available for a Regional Championship round.
- d. The results of each European club from their participation in all Regional Championship rounds will be used to calculate the final European Regional Championship tables. All rounds with a minimum of three (two in Iberia & North/East European Regions) teams from the region competing shall count.
- e. The team with the most points in each region will be deemed to be the European Regional Championship winners for that region.

Annex “B” – Hurling

1. Structure

- a. The results from all rounds will be used to calculate the final Pan European Championship positions. The team with the most points will be deemed to be the European Champions.
- b. There should be a minimum of two registered European Clubs in a round to be a Pan European Championship Round. Once a round is designated as a round it qualifies for points. Playing time that equates to at least 1 hour of hurling must be played for a round to be considered a Pan European championship round.
 - i) There must be at least one game of two full 9-a-side teams played.
 - ii) If the host team do not participate in an away tournament, their points gained at their home tournament will not be counted. (See point 3.f. below)

2. General (Championship Rounds)

- a. A registered team is defined as having at least four registered players from the same club participating in the round.
- b. Teams shall consist of nine players. Total squad size may be up to 18.
- c. If a club has 19 or more players, they are encouraged to field 2 teams.
- d. 15 players can be used per game when playing in eleven-a-side format (rolling substitutions allowed) 13 players can be used per game when playing in nine-a-side format. (rolling substitutions allowed)
- e. Teams (including combined teams) who have sufficient players may play 11-a-side and this will be encouraged whenever possible.
- f. In cases where a club wishes to field two teams at a tournament, the club must be able to field at least a 9-a-side A and B teams simultaneously if required.
- g. Where 2 teams are fielded by one club at a tournament that club is allowed to name in advance of the days play 2 players registered with their B team who will then be allowed to move up to play with the A team and return to the B team freely throughout that competition round.
- h. Clubs wishing to field 2 teams in any competition are required to submit squad lists for both A and B teams to the Hurling Officer no later than the Wednesday before the tournament round. These lists may be changed until final registration on the morning of the round.
- i. Total time of preliminary games in the Hurling Championship shall normally be 12.5 mins per half and the semi-final and finals shall be 15 mins per half. CCO and Referee have the authority to change this due to unforeseen circumstances.
- j. Where 2 teams are fielded by one club at a tournament, that club is allowed to name, in advance of the day's play, 2 players registered with their B team who will then be allowed to move up to play with the A team and return to the B team freely throughout that tournament round. Names should be submitted to both the Hurling Officer and CCO on the Wednesday before the tournament.

3. Qualification for Points

- a. In order for a club to receive points there must be a minimum of four registered players present at the round.
- b. If a 9-a-side team is made up of 7 or more players registered to one European club they will receive all the points.
- c. If a club supplies between 4 and 6 players and the rest of the team is made up of players who do not qualify for points they will receive 50 % of the points awarded for the round.
- d. If two clubs join and both supply 4 or more (up to a maximum of 6) registered players the points

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awarded to the combined team will be split 50-50 between the two registered clubs.

- e. If two clubs combine and each provides 7 or more registered players to the team, they will share the points in a 50-50 split.
- f. If a registered European club has 4 players present at the round but they are distributed around other participating teams or join a team with 7 or more players. They will receive 50% of the points if they had played but finished last. (for example if six European clubs compete in the round, the relevant team would receive 50% of the points for finishing 7th = 4.5 points)
- g. If a club hosting a tournament fails to travel to any other tournament the points they have accrued in their "own" tournament shall be withdrawn and awarded to next highest placed team in that tournament, with a consequent re-allocation of points to other teams who shall move up one place in the rankings for that tournament.
- h. One extra tournament point will be awarded to a club that fields a non-Irish born player or players in every tournament game in a hurling tournament. The maximum number of extra points which may be awarded is **two**. Both players (who must be advised to the referee in advance) must complete the entire first half of each tournament game.

Annex “C” - Ladies Football

1. Structure

- a. The European competition structure in 2016 shall consist of the following competitions.
 - A Pan European Championship of two rounds and a series of Regional and Sub-Regional Championships. The team with the most points will be deemed to be the European Champions and Regional (or Sub-Regional) Champions respectively.
- b. Points will only be awarded in a Pan European Championship round when there are at least four ECB affiliated teams competing, For Regional Championships a minimum of two teams must be present for points to be awarded.
- c. Preliminary games in the Ladies Championship shall be 12.5 mins per half and the semi-final and finals shall be 15 mins per half. For Regional or Sub-Regional Championships the duration of games will be decided based on the number of teams attending.
- d. If there are sufficient teams, a Pan European Championship round may be divided into Championship and Shield levels.
- e. A 15 a-side tournament is to be played in July with the winners to play the winning team from the British Championship and enter the All-Ireland Junior Club Championship competition.

2. General (Championship and Regional Championships)

- a. A registered team is defined as having at least five registered players participating in the tournament.
- b. Teams shall normally consist of nine players (seven and/or eleven in exceptional circumstances, see below).
- c. Substitutes must enter from the centre of the field, where they will collect a baton and must hand it to the player being substituted. No player can enter the pitch without a baton’.
- d. In ladies football a 5 minutes ‘sin bin’ will apply for a first yellow card subsequent yellow cards will follow the points (g-h) under the general discipline section above.
- e. All Pan European Championship and Regional Championships should have a qualified ladies football Referee who shall be appointed by the CCC.
- f. A Round shall follow the rules of Cumman Peil Gael na mBan unless amended in County Bye-laws or these Regulations.
- g. Teams should consist of nine players. If a team has 10 players or more they must play 9-a-side (unless playing against a 7-a-side team). Exceptions:-
 - (i) If a team has 7 (or 8) players they may compete and their matches will be 7-a-side, even if another team has more players– this fact must be notified to organisers before play commences.
- h. Ladies football teams must be defined as being either 7 or 9 a-side in the morning before a tournament commences
- j. Teams (including combined teams) who have sufficient players may play 11-a-side and this will be encouraged whenever possible.
- i. 15 players can be used per game when playing in eleven-a-side format (rolling substitutions allowed)
13 players can be used per game when playing in nine-a-side format. (rolling substitutions allowed)
11 players can be used per game if playing seven-a-side format. (rolling substitutions allowed)
Total squad size may be up to 18.

- j. If a club has 18 or more players they are encouraged to field 2 teams.
- k. In cases where a club wishes to field two teams at a tournament the club must be able to field at least a 7-a-side A and B teams simultaneously if required.
- l. Where 2 teams are fielded by one club at a tournament that club is allowed to name in advance of the days play 2 players registered with their B team who will then be allowed to move up to play with the A team and return to the B team freely throughout that tournament round.
- m. Clubs wishing to field 2 teams in any competition are required to submit squad lists for both A and B teams to the Ladies Officer no later than the Wednesday before the tournament round. These lists may be changed until final registration on the morning of the round. The squad lists submitted before the first round of a Championship will be regarded as squad lists for the season, and should include players temporarily unavailable or injured who would be expected to join the squad later in the season.

3. Qualification for Points

- a. In order for a club to receive points there must be a minimum of three registered players present at the Round.
- b. If an 11-a-side team is made up of nine or more players registered to one European club they will receive all the points. If a 9-a-side team is made up of seven or more players registered to one European club they will receive all the points. If a 7-a-side team is made up of five or more players registered to one European club they will receive all the points.
- c. If a team supplies between 3 or 5 players and the rest of the team is made up of players who do not qualify for points they will receive 50 % of the points awarded for the round.
- d. If two teams join and both supply 3 or more (up to a maximum of 8) registered players the points awarded to the combined team will be split 50-50 between the two registered clubs.
- e. If a registered European Team has 3 players present at the round but they are distributed around other participating teams or join a team with 7 or more players. They will receive 50% of the points if they had played but finished last. (for example if six European teams compete in the round, the relevant team would receive 50% of the points for finishing 7th = 3 points)

Annex “D” – Camogie

1. Structure

- a. The European competition structure in 2016 shall consist of the following competition:
 - A Camogie Junior Championship of five rounds.
- b. The 4 best results of each European club from their participation in Pan European Championship rounds will be used to calculate the final Pan European Championship positions. The team with the most points will be deemed to be the European Champions.
- c. All Pan European Championship rounds must be refereed have a qualified Camogie Referee who shall be appointed by the CCC.
- d. There should be a minimum of two registered European teams in a round to be a Pan European Championship Round. Once a round is designated as a round it qualifies for points.
 - i) There must be at least two full games played between two teams consisting of at least 7 players each.
 - ii) If the host team do not participate in an away tournament, their points gained at their home tournament will not be counted.
 - iii) Playing time that equates to at least 1 hour of camogie must be played for a round to be considered a Pan European championship round.

2. General (Championship Rounds)

- a. A registered team is defined as having at least five registered players participating in the round.
- b. Tournaments will be structured in a 7 a side format. When possible, the format can be increased to 9 a side. This must be communicated to clubs at least 7 days in advance before a round.
- c. If a team has 10 players or more, they must play 9 a-side.
- d. 11 players maximum can be used per game - total squad size is limited to 15.
- e. Total time of preliminary games should be a minimum of 30 minutes with a maximum of 60 minutes.
- f. Where 2 teams are fielded by one club at a tournament that club is allowed to name in advance of the day's play, 2 registered players with their B team who will then be allowed to move up to play with the A team and return to the B team freely throughout the tournament round.
- g. Clubs wishing to field 2 teams in any competition are required to submit squad lists for both A and B teams to the Camogie Officer no later than the Wednesday before the tournament round. These lists may be changed until final registration on the morning of the round. The squad lists submitted before the first round of a Championship will be regarded as squad lists for the season, and should include players temporarily unavailable or injured who would be expected to join the squad later in the season.

3. Qualification for Points

- a. In order for a club to receive points there must be a minimum of 3 registered players from the club present at the Round.
- b. If a tournament is 7-a-side team: A team made up of five or more players registered to one European club they will receive all the points.

If a tournament is 9 a side: A team is made up of 7 or more players registered to one European club they will receive all the points.

- c. If a tournament is 7 a side: Where a club supplies between 3 and 4 players and the rest of the team is made up of players who do not qualify for points they will receive 50 % of the points awarded for the round.

If a tournament is 9 a side: Where a club supplies between 4 and 6 players and the rest of the team is made up of players who do not qualify for points they will receive 50 % of the points awarded for the round.

- d. If a tournament is 7 a side: Where two teams join and both supply 3 to 4 registered players, the points awarded to the combined team will be split 50-50 between the two registered clubs.

If a tournament is 9 a side: Where two teams join and both supply 4 to 6 registered players, the points awarded to the combined team will be split 50-50 between the two registered clubs.

- e. If a tournament is 7 a side: Where a registered European team has 3 players present at the round but they are distributed around other participating teams or join a team with 5 or more players. They will receive 50% of the points if they had played but finished last. (for example if six European teams compete in the round, the relevant team would receive 50% of the points for finishing 7th = 4.5 points).

If a tournament is 9 a side: If a registered European team has 3 players present at the round but they are distributed around other participating teams or join a team with 7 or more players. They will receive 50% of the points if they had played but finished last. (for example if six European teams compete in the round, the relevant team would receive 50% of the points for finishing 7th = 3 points).

- f. If a team hosting a tournament fails to travel to any other tournament the points they have accrued in their "own" tournament shall be withdrawn and awarded to next highest placed team in that tournament with a consequent re-allocation of points to other teams who shall move up one place in the rankings for that tournament.

Annex “E” – CCO Job Description

CCO Role

1. To collect all official teamsheets per match and retain these for forwarding to the CCC.
2. To record and keep all scores, and ensure that host club communicates them to the Results and Standings Co-ordinator on the evening of the tournament.
3. To answer queries on the rules and regulations to know what happens if a group finishes level on points or a final goes to extra time etc. The CCO must have a copy of these rules with him/her.
4. To reallocate umpires to a game where a team has raised a legitimate objection on the grounds of impartiality.
5. In the unfortunate event of bad weather - to rule a pitch unplayable in consultation with tournament referee(s) – the Final decision is a matter for the Referees).
6. To inform the Referee(s) that there is a player of the tournament award.
7. To inform Referee(s) of any particular rules in Europe, e.g. with modified goals, score awarded when ball hits the rugby crossbar, length of games, etc.
8. To inform the referee that he/she should confirm the length of the match with a representative of each team before that match begins.
9. To brief teams of the tournament structure prior to start and answer any questions.
10. To ensure all teams have a copy of the schedule of the day and the teams providing umpires be clearly indicated on that sheet, and to advise teams of the consequences of not having umpires in place in time (loss of a tournament point).
11. To award a game to a team in conjunction with Referee in the case of late arrival or no show, to reschedule a game in the case of a team arriving late due to emergency where this has been communicated as per tournament guidelines.
12. To verify adequate medical standards are in place before tournament begins.
13. To verify a baton is in place for ladies substitutions and bibs are available for umpires and linesmen.
14. To ensure with Referee and the host club that all yellow, red and black cards are being tracked at tournaments and reported back to the CCC for monitoring and record-keeping.
15. To ensure that lunches provided to players conform to the rules set by the County Board.

Glossary of Terms/Acronyms

Term/Acronym	Interpretation
Bye-laws	The Bye-Laws of the European County Board – as adopted and approved by Central Council of the GAA
CCC	Competitions Control Committee
CCO	Competition Control Officer (appointed by the Competitions Control Committee of the European Co. Board)
ECB	European County Board
ECMC	European County Board Management Committee
GAA	Gaelic Athletic Association (Cumann Lúthcleas Gael)
Ladies Football Playing Rules	Relevant rules of Cumann Peil Gael na mBan Constitution & Playing Rules
LGFA	Ladies Gaelic Football Association (Cumann Peil Gael na mBan)
Official Guide	Official Guide (as published by the Central Council of the Gaelic Athletic Association) and/or Central Council interpretations (and if relevant, the Official Guides of the Ladies Gaelic Football and Camogie Associations)
Playing Rules	Part 2 of the Official Guide of the GAA, containing Playing Rules of Hurling and Football, revised and corrected up to date, and published by the Central Council (and if relevant, the Playing Rules/Official Guides of the Ladies Gaelic Football and Camogie Associations).

Document History

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