

**Cumann Lúthchleas Gael**



**Coiste Chontae Aontroma**

**ANTRIM COUNTY BYE-LAWS 2025**

**To be Read in Conjunction with the Official Guide and the GAA Official Codes 2024**

# Coiste Chontae Aontroma

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### **Mission Statement for the County**

Antrim County Committee's aim is to establish and sustain Antrim as a strong county unit in inter-county competitions, based on a vibrant club structure and to ensure that the administration of county affairs is carried out in an effective and efficient way.

Jan 2025

## **Coiste Chontae Aontroma**

### **County By-Laws and Regulations**

#### **1. General Organisations / Structures**

##### **1.1 Administration Structure of the county shall be:**

- County Committee
  
- Sub-committees:
  - A. County Management Committee
  - B. County Competitions Control Committee
  - C. County Fixtures Analysts Committee
  - D. County Hearings Committee
  - E. County Safety and Facilities Committee
  - F. County Planning and Training Committee
  - G. County Referees Administration Committee
  - H. County Coaching and Games Development Committee
  - I. County Cultural Committee
  - J. County PR and Marketing Committee
  - K. County Youth Committee
  - L. County Finance Sub Committee
  - M. County Information Technology Committee
  - N. County Teams Management and Panels Committee
  - O. County Audit and Risk Committee
  - P. County Demographics Committee
  - Q. County Health & Wellbeing Committee
  - R. Divisional Sub Committees
  - S. General Rule

## **2. County Convention**

**2.1** Annual County Convention shall be held, before December 18<sup>th</sup>, on a date and at a venue set by County Management Committee. It shall consist of the officers and members of the outgoing County Committee (voting rights as on the Committee) and 2 delegates from each Club which competed in a Junior or higher-grade championship of the current year.

**2.2** In accordance with R. 3.9 (a), the Annual County Convention shall elect the following officers of County Committee for the ensuing year having firstly been duly nominated in accordance with Rule 3.11:

Chairperson

Vice-Chairperson

Assistant Secretary

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

Coaching Officer

Officer for Irish Language and Culture

Public Relations Officer

Under R. 3.9 (a), T.O. County Convention shall appoint the following Officers on the recommendation of the outgoing County Committee:

I. Planning and Training Officer

II. Demographics Officer

III. Children's Officer

All of whom shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual Convention.

In accordance with R. 3.9 (d), Annual County Convention shall further elect 2 representatives on Provincial Council and 1 representative on Central Council.

**2.3** The County Management Committee shall act as the Standing Orders Committee for County Convention.

The Standing Orders Committee shall have authority:

- a). To examine motions submitted for County Convention and decide whether such motions are in order.

- b). Put a motion in order where there is a failure to quote the reference numbers of rules affected, where the wrong reference numbers are quoted or where there are minor clerical errors.
- c). Classify a motion as a Bye-Law or otherwise.

Notwithstanding the above, the County Chairperson, *acting within the rules of the Association*, shall retain the authority to rule a motion out of order.

### 3. County Committee

#### 3.1 The County Committee shall consist of:

Chairperson	Elected at Co. Convention
Vice-Chairperson	Elected at Co. Convention
Secretary (non- voting)	Full Time
Assistant Secretary	Elected at Co. Convention
Treasurer	Elected at Co. Convention
Assistant Treasurer	Elected at Co. Convention
Public Relations Officer	Elected at Co. Convention
Coaching Officer	Elected at Co. Convention
Officer of Irish Language & Culture	Elected at Co Convention
2 Representatives Ulster Council (ex officio)	Elected at Co. Convention
Central Council Representative	Elected at Co. Convention
Planning and Training Officer	Appointed at County Convention
Demographics Officer	Appointed at County Convention
Children's Officer	Appointed at County Convention
CCC Chairperson	Appointed by Co Committee
CHC Chairperson	Appointed by Co Committee
County Safety and Facilities Officer	Appointed by Co Committee
County Referees' Administrator	Appointed by Co Committee
Health & Wellbeing Officer	Appointed by Co Committee
HR Committee Chairperson	Appointed by Co Committee

The Chairperson of each of the 3 Divisional Committees.

One named representative of each affiliated club in the County (Elected at Club A.G.M.)

One named representative of the County Handball Committee

One named representative of the Primary Schools' Committee

One named representative of the Post-Primary Schools' Committee

- all of whom shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Convention with the exception of the representatives on Central and Ulster Councils who shall hold office respectively for the term of the Central and Ulster Councils.

**3.2** The Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the County Committee shall be ex-officio members of all county sub-committees properly constituted in the county *with the exception of the Co. Hearings' Committee*

#### **4. Sub-Committees**

The County Committee shall appoint the following Sub-Committees whose powers and functions shall be as detailed in R.3.18 T.O.

All members of sub-committees shall be named

Where a quorum for meetings is not stated in these Bye-Laws, Rule 4.2 T.O. 2024 shall apply.

##### **4.1 Management Committee**

Its membership shall consist of the following:

County Chairperson

County Vice-Chairperson

County Assistant Secretary

County Treasurer

County Assistant Treasurer

Public Relations Officer

Coaching Officer

Officer of Irish Language & Culture

Three Divisional Board Chairmen

2 Ulster Council Representatives

Central Council Representative

County Secretary (Non-Voting)

CCC Chairperson (Non-Voting)

Children's Officer (Non-Voting)

Planning and Training Officer (Non-Voting)

Demographics Officer (Non-Voting)

**4.1.1** County Management Committee shall have powers as defined in R. 3.18 (i), T.O. except any matter, which in general rules, is reserved to the County Committee.

**4.1.2** The County Management Committee shall meet as often as is deemed necessary by the County Chairman.

**4.1.3** Not less than 7 members attending a duly summoned meeting of the County Management Committee shall constitute a quorum.

**4.1.4** County Management Committee shall nominate for appointment by the County Committee the appropriate representatives from Antrim on

- a) Ulster Provincial Hurling Committee;
- b) Ulster Provincial Referees' Committee;
- c) Coiste Gaelige agus Oidhreachta Uladh;
- d) The Ulster Scór and Cultural Committee.

## **4.2 Competitions Control Committee**

**4.2.1** County Committee, by nomination, shall appoint the Chairperson of the County Competitions Control Committee.

**4.2.2** The Chairperson of the CCC shall forthwith select and recommend the following members for appointment by County Committee: -

- Joint secretaries to the CCC, one of whom shall service the organisation and arrangements for all competitions and games as determined by and within the jurisdiction of County Committee, and the other shall service the administration of matters of Discipline appropriate to the CCC arising from such competitions and games.
- At least Five (5) additional named members, one of whom shall be the designated vice-chairperson and providing always that no two members of the County CCC shall be members of the same club.
- The County Referees' Administrator (appointed previously by County Committee) who shall be entitled to vote only on the appointment of referees.
- One fixtures analyst nominated previously by the County Management Committee for appointment by County Committee).

**4.2.3** County Committee shall, at its first meeting after County Convention, formally appoint all the members of the CCC.

**4.2.4** County Committee shall delegate plenary powers to the CCC to act for and on its behalf on matters properly under its jurisdiction. Appeals against any decision of the CCC, with the exception of appeals on Transfers and on applications for re-grading by players, may therefore, only be made to the Ulster Provincial Council.

Recommendations from CCC, with regard to the Grading of clubs must go to the County Committee for final decision.

Decisions of the CCC on the regrading of players may be appealed to the County Hearings Committee in accordance with Code 10.8 GAA Official Codes.

**4.2.5** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

### **4.3 Fixtures Analysts**

- 4.3.1** At least one fixture Analysts shall be nominated by the County Management Committee annually for appointment by County Committee.
- 4.3.2** Fixtures Analysts shall be responsible for the monitoring and analysing of the County Fixtures programme on an annual basis.
- 4.3.3** Fixture analysts shall present a report to Annual Convention on Fixtures played in all club competitions and make recommendations for changes in the fixture schedule were appropriate.

### **4.4 Hearings Committee**

- 4.4.1** County Committee, by nomination, shall appoint annually the chairperson and 4 other named members of the County Hearings Committee (CHC), one of whom shall be the designated vice-chairperson, and another the secretary.
- 4.4.2** No member of the CHC may be a member of County Management Committee nor of any County Competitions Control Committee
- 4.4.3** It shall adjudicate on all disciplinary affairs where a hearing is prescribed and requested relating to the Enforcement of Rules arising from competitions and games under the control of County Committee and/or Divisional sub-committees.
- 4.4.4** Appeals against any decision of the CHC – excluding those referred to in 7.5 below – may therefore be made only to the Ulster Provincial Council
- 4.4.5** It shall hear appeals against the decisions of Divisional sub-committees.
- 4.4.6** Video evidence - Any club submitting video evidence to Antrim CHC must provide the video/ video link 48 hours prior to the starting time of the hearing.

### **4.5 Safety and Facilities Committee**

- 4.5.1** The Committee shall consist of six members, to include The Safety and Facilities Officer (as Chairperson), a Qualified Event Controller. The remaining members, nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee, should be suitably qualified in areas relevant to the terms of reference of the Committee as outlined in R. 3.18 (v) T.O.
- 4.5.2** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

### **4.6 Planning and Training Committee**

- 4.6.1** The Committee shall consist of five members, the Chairperson of which shall be the County Planning and Training Officer. All members shall, upon appointment, complete the necessary training as prescribed by The National Officer Development Committee.

**4.6.2** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.7 Referees' Administration Committee**

**4.7.1** County Committee, by nomination, shall appoint annually a Referees' administrator who shall act as Chairperson of the Referees' Administration Sub-committee.

**4.7.2** The appointed Referees' Administrator shall forthwith select and recommend for appointment by County Committee

- A secretary to the committee
- Three (3) additional named members,

**4.7.3** County Committee shall then formally appoint all the members of the Referees Administration Committee.

**4.7.4** The Referees' Committee shall be responsible for the recruitment, training, development, and classification of referees

**4.7.5** The Referees' Committee shall meet as often as is deemed necessary by its Chairperson and shall cause a record to be kept by way of formal minutes of all matters dealt with.

**4.7.6** 3 Members attending a duly summoned meeting of the Referees Committee shall constitute a quorum.

**4.7.7** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.8 County Coaching and Games Development Committee**

**4.8.1** Upon election at County Convention the Coaching Officer will act as Chairperson of the County Coaching and Games Development Committee.

**4.8.2.** The Coaching Officer, acting as Chairperson of the committee shall forthwith, and in collaboration with the County Management Committee, select and recommend for appointment by County Committee:

- a.** A member of the County Coaching staff who shall act as secretary to this sub-committee.
- b.** Four (4) additional named members of the committee.

**4.8.3** County Committee shall then formally appoint all members of the County Coaching and Games Development Committee.

**4.8.4** The County Coaching and Games Development Committee shall be responsible for drawing up and implementing coaching programmes, training and monitoring coaching personnel, and the implementation of games development activities at club and school level.

**4.8.5** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.9 County Cultural Committee**

- 4.9.1** Upon Election at County Convention the Officer for the Irish Language and Culture will act as Chairperson of the County Cultural Committee.
- 4.9.2** The Officer for the Irish Language and Culture, acting as Chairperson of the Committee, shall forthwith, and in collaboration with County Management Committee, select and recommend for appointment by County Committee:
- A secretary to the committee.
  - Four (4) additional named members of the committee
- 4.9.3** County Committee shall thereupon formally appoint all members of the County Cultural Committee.
- 4.9.4** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.10 Public Relations/Marketing Committee**

- 4.10.1** Upon Election at County Convention the Public Relations Officer will act as Chairperson of the County Public Relations/Marketing Committee.
- 4.10.2** The Public Relations Officer, acting as Chairperson of the committee, shall forthwith, and in collaboration with the County Management Committee, select and recommend *for appointment* by County Committee:
- a) A secretary to the committee.
  - b) Five (5) additional named members of the committee,
- 4.10.3** County Committee shall thereupon formally appoint all members of the County Public Relations/Marketing Committee.
- 4.10.4** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.11 Youth Committee**

- 4.11.1** Upon appointment, at County Convention, the Children's Officer will act as Chairperson of the Youth Committee.
- 4.11.2** The Children's Officer, acting as Chairperson of the committee, shall forthwith and in collaboration with the County Management Committee, select and recommend for appointment by County Committee:
- a) A secretary to the committee.
  - b) Four (4) additional named members of the committee.
- 4.11.3** County Committee shall thereupon formally appoint all members of the Youth Committee.
- 4.11.4** The County Youth Committee shall be responsible for the initiation and coordination of all youth activities in the county.
- 4.11.5** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.12 County Finance Sub-Committee**

- 4.12.1** Upon Election at County Convention the County Treasurer will act as the Chairperson of the County Finance Committee.
- 4.12.2** The Chairman shall forthwith select and recommend for appointment by County Committee:
- a)** A secretary to the committee
  - b)** Four (4) additional named members of the committee
- 4.12.3** The County Committee shall thereupon formally appoint all members of The Finance Committee.

#### **4.13 Information Technology Committee**

- 4.13.1** County Committee shall appoint a chairman and four (4) other named members of the IT sub-committee.
- 4.13.2** The IT sub-committee shall be responsible to County Committee for the development and maintenance of an IT Strategy for the County and for its subsequent implementation, all within the parameters of the County's overall Strategic Plan.
- 4.13.3** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.14 County Teams Management and Panels' Sub-Committee**

- 4.14.1** The membership of the County Teams' Management and Panels' Committee shall be as outlined in the Charter for Committee/Player relationships as approved by Ard Comhairle from time to time. The functions of this Committee will be as outlined in Rule 3.18 (xiv) T. O.

#### **4.15 Audit and Risk Committee**

- 4.15.1** The Committee shall consist of no more than five named members including a Chairperson nominated by the Management Committee and approved by the Provincial Audit and Risk Committee and up to four members nominated by the Management Committee. The Treasurer shall not be a member.

#### **4.16 Demographics Committee**

- 4.16.1** The Committee shall consist of at least five named members and its role shall be as per R. 3.18 (xvi) T.O.
- 4.16.2** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **4.17 Health and Wellbeing Committee**

**4.17.1** County Committee, by nomination, shall appoint the Chairperson and three other members of the County Health & Wellbeing Committee.

**4.17.2** The Health & Wellbeing Committee shall be responsible to County Committee for the development and maintenance of a Health & Wellbeing Strategy for the County and for its subsequent implementation, all within the Parameters of the County's overall Strategic Plan.

**4.17.3** It shall submit a written Report to County Convention

#### **5. Divisional Sub-Committees**

**5.1** The county is divided into three divisions, viz. North, South-West and South Antrim.

**5.2** Each Divisional Committee shall elect at its Annual General Meeting a  
Chairman,  
Vice-chairman,  
Secretary,  
Treasurer,  
and 5 other named members who shall act as an Executive Committee.  
They shall hold office until the conclusion of the following year's A.G.M.

**5.3** Each Divisional Committee shall consist of its Executive Committee members (9) plus 2 named representatives of each affiliated club in the respective division.  
Representation at Divisional AGM shall be as for Divisional Committee, plus one named additional delegate from each club in the Division.

**5.4** Divisional Committees shall have a Divisional Competitions Control Committee  
Requests for hearings shall be to the County Hearings Committee.  
The DCCC shall consist of a Chairperson and 6 other named members drawn from the membership of the Divisional Committee, one of whom shall be the designated vice-chairperson and another designated Secretary. Its functions shall be the same, within its jurisdiction, as those of the CCC at County level.

**5.5** A Divisional Committees shall have the following powers within its respective area:

- a)** To arrange, through its Competitions Control Committee, divisional Hurling and Football competitions at all levels subject to the approval of County Committee.
- b)** To draft Regulations subject to their submission to, and approval by County Committee.
- c)** To invoke, through its Competitions Control Committee, all rules of the Official Guide dealing with playing offences appropriate to that committee.

**Note:** *For the avoidance of doubt, Divisional Committees are not empowered to deal with 'conduct considered to have discredited the Association' which is to be a reserved power of the County's Competitions Control Committee for games' related offences, and Management Committee for non-games related offences.*

- 5.6** A Divisional Committee shall delegate plenary powers to its CCC to act for and on its behalf on matters properly within its jurisdiction.  
Appeals against a decision of a Divisional CCC may therefore only be made to the County Hearings Committee
- 5.7** Each Divisional Committee shall submit an Audited Financial Report annually for inclusion with the County Treasurer's own Report to County Convention. This divisional financial report shall be provided in a format and within a timeframe laid down by the County Management Committee
- 5.8** Each Divisional Committee, through its chairman, shall submit an Annual written report for inclusion in the County Secretary's report to County Convention.

## **6. Transfers, Playing Permissions & Grading**

- 6.1** In addition to Rule 6.4 T.O. the following are to apply:
- (i) The closing date for the receipt of properly completed transfer application shall be the last day of February in any year.
  - (ii) All applications for transfer are to be submitted to the County Secretary.
  - (iii) A player who has played with a club at any grade from under 12 to under 16 grades in Championship or League may only transfer to another club if the player's family residence has changed to the catchment area of the club he wishes to be transferred to.

**Exception:**

- a) A player whose family residence is changed to a catchment area common to two or more clubs and is presently a player of a club other than those in the area of his family residence, shall be entitled to transfer to a club of his choice in the area of his family residence or to opt to play for his first Club.
- b) An application shall be submitted and accepted only on the form as currently approved by County Committee.  
The application shall be completed in the prescribed manner as indicated on the form and in accordance with the current Treorai Oifigiuil and these Bye-Laws
- c) Application forms submitted incomplete and/or otherwise not satisfying the requirements of *the current* Treorai Oifigiuil and these Bye-Laws shall be deemed not to have been received.

Such forms shall be returned to the applicant for the necessary completion or amendment. The effective date of application shall then, in such cases, be in accordance with (a) above.

- d)** It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is properly completed as required by the current Treorai Oifigiuil and these Bye-Laws, and submitted by the closing date.  
This may be done personally, or through the applicant's current club secretary.  
Applications shall not be accepted from the recipient club through club officers and/or members and, if so, shall be deemed invalid.
- e)** The applicant's club shall be required to respond in writing to the County Secretary within 10 days of the date of a request.
- (i)** The reply received will be considered by the County Competition Control Committee who will then adjudicate upon the transfer application.
- (ii)** Failure to reply within 10 days will result in the approval of the transfer application at the expiry of the 10-day period, provided that all other aspects of the transfer application satisfy the requirements of the current Treorai Oifigiuil and these Bye-Laws.  
(this is not applicable to the exceptions as set out in (c) above)
- f)** A list of decisions on transfer applications shall be presented by the County Secretary for noting, to the meeting of County Committee immediately subsequent to the transfer closing date and at such meetings thereafter as required.

**6.2** The following criteria were agreed, as being required to permit the granting of Permissions to Play under Rule 6.7 T.O:

[Available to both codes - Football & Hurling]

- a)** Requests for "Permission to Play" will be considered only where a player is with a single code club and wishes to avail of that code not currently available to him at a competitive level.
- b)** The maximum number of "Permissions to Play" into a club, for underage competitions in any 1 year is capped at 5 (at each age group / Code)  
At u21 Level, 2 playing permissions per club may be granted for each code.
- c)** Permission to play will be for the playing of 1 nominated code and age group only.
- d)** Applications for Permission to Play must be applied for and granted between 1st January and 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.

**Exception:**

Applications for under 21 competitions must be submitted 2 weeks prior to the commencement of the competition.

- e) Permissions to Play are applicable for one year only and must be renewed annually.
- f) Any player returning to their parent club after having had a playing permission the previous year cannot seek a transfer for the incoming year provided their parent club is fielding a team at the respective age group/code in which the player is eligible to play.

**6.3** All applications for regrading (by individuals or Clubs) must be made to the County Secretary, in writing, prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> of January in any given year.

## **7** General Rule

### Club Accounts

**7.1** Each club, with a licensed social centre, must furnish audited accounts to the County Secretary on or before the **15th January** each year.

**Penalty** – Fine of £2,000.

Failure to pay the fine on or before the **15<sup>th</sup> January** each year will result in the club being excluded from the championship draws at all adult levels (Adult levels being- u21, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior) in the year in which the fine is due to be paid and in each subsequent year in which the fine or a cumulative of fines for this particular failure remain unpaid.

**7.2** Each Non-Licensed club shall submit to the County Secretary a statement of Financial Accounts and Balance Sheet, together with a report of the club's AGM on or before the **15<sup>th</sup> February** each year.

**Penalty** – Fine of £100

Failure to pay the fine on or before 15<sup>th</sup> February will incur an additional £100 per month for each subsequent month outstanding.