

USGAA YOUTH COMMITTEE
2020 REGULATIONS
www.usyouthgaa.com

1. JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION YOUTH COMMITTEE

The United States Gaelic Athletic Association Youth Committee (“USGAAYC”) shall be the Governing Body of the Youth Gaelic Games in North America excluding the areas under the jurisdiction of the Canadian County Board and the New York County Board. The USGAAYC is a subcommittee of the United States Gaelic Athletic Association (“USGAA”).

2. YOUTH COMMITTEE OFFICERS

a) *The Committee*: The USGAAYC shall consist of the USGAA Youth Officer as its Chair and up to eight (8) other elected officers. Elected officers shall hold office until the end of the next USGAAYC Annual General Meeting (“AGM”). The Youth Officer shall appoint an NCGAA Liaison who shall not have voting rights on the Committee.

b) *Election of Youth Officer*: The Youth Officer shall be elected at the USGAA Convention

c) *Election of Youth Committee*: Youth Committee officers shall be elected at the USGAAYC AGM from candidates nominated by registered youth clubs throughout the USGAA.

i. All officers must be involved in a registered youth program in their Division.

d) *Current Elected Positions*: The Youth Committee AGM shall elect the following officers:

Vice-Chairperson
Secretary
Treasurer
Public Relations Officer
Registrar
Development Officer

3. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

a) *AGM Location*: The hosting of the USGAAYC AGM will be on a rotational basis. Starting in 2014 the rotation shall be in the following manner:

Northeast
Western
Philadelphia
Central
Southwest
Midwest
Heartland

b) *Timing of AGM*: The youth AGM shall be held within three months of the USGAA Convention.

c) *Attendance at AGM*: Those entitled to attend the USGAAYC AGM are the outgoing committee, delegates from each Divisional Youth Committee, delegates from each registered youth club, the Games Development Administrators, the USGAA Officers, and the USGAA Games Development Officer.

d) *Voting*: Those entitled to vote are the outgoing committee officers, delegates from each registered youth club, and delegates from each Divisional Youth Committee. Each registered youth club must have played competitive games in the playing year prior to the AGM in order to have a vote. Each Divisional Youth Committee and registered youth club is entitled to two (2) votes and may cast its two (2) votes through one delegate when it does not have its full quota of delegates at the AGM.

e) *Nominations and Motions*: Nominations must be sent in to the USGAAYC Secretary, on the official nomination form, no later than four weeks prior to the AGM.

i. Individuals nominated for the USGAAYC must be present at the AGM to run for a position. If exigent circumstances arrive, a candidate may seek approval to appear by phone or Skype at AGM. Approval must be sought from the Chair and Vice Chair at least 48 hours in advance of AGM. If approval is not granted, the nominee will not be permitted to run for a position.

ii. Motions to amend, add or delete USGAAYC Regulations must be sent in to the USGAAYC Secretary, on the official motions form, no later than four weeks prior to the AGM.

iii. The USGAAYC shall forward a list of the approved Regulations to Central Council for examination and approval by Management on behalf of Central Council.

iv. Regulations which have not received the necessary approval have no standing.

f) *Failure to attend AGM*: A \$200 fine will be imposed on all clubs that fail to send a delegate to the AGM. Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances.

4. DIVISIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEES

a) *Divisional Youth Committee*: Each Divisional Youth Committee shall be administered by a Committee elected at a youth, divisional AGM held by the outgoing Divisional Youth Committee, including the Divisional Youth Officer, and delegates from clubs which competed in the most recent youth competitions.

b) *Entitlement to Vote*: Those entitled to vote are the outgoing committee and two (2) delegates from each youth club entitled to attend.

b) *Timing of the Division AGM*: The Divisional AGM shall be held no later than February 1st, the names and e-mails of the elected officers must be submitted to the USGAAYC Secretary by February 1st.

c) *Election of Division Youth Committee:* The AGM shall elect the following officers who shall hold office until the end of the next AGM:

- Chairperson
- Vice-Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Public Relations Officer
- Registrar

d) *Additional Committee Members:* Each Divisional Committee shall consist of (i) the Officers and (ii) two (2) delegates from each registered Youth Club.

e) *Division Regulations:* Each Divisional Youth Committee shall have regulations in place and submitted to the USGAAYC for review and approval thirty (30) days after their divisional AGM.

f) *Divisional Responsibility:* Each Divisional Youth Committee shall be responsible for the organization, promotion, development, control, discipline and management of Youth Hurling, Football, Ladies' Football and Camogie within its Division.

- i. It shall conduct its business in accordance with the Current Official Guide, the USGAAYC Regulations, and any other regulations drawn up by the Divisional Youth Committee and approved by the USGAAYC and Central Council.

- ii. No divisional regulation shall be contrary to any Rule in the Official Guide other than where deviation has been granted to the USGAAYC by Central Council.

g) *Code of Best Practice:* Divisional Youth Committees must implement the code of best practice to all clubs in their Division.

h) *Failure to Function:* If any Divisional Youth Committee fails to function the Divisional Board shall assume responsibility for youth activities.

5. AFFILIATION AND REGISTRATION

a) *Registration of Divisional Youth Committee:* Divisional Youth Committees shall register their elected officers through the USGAAYC online registration system located at www.usyouthgaa.com. The Divisional Youth Registrar will register these officials no later than February 1st.

b) *Affiliation of Youth Clubs:* A Youth Club is affiliated to the USGAA through their Divisional Youth Committee and is considered developmental until such time as they compete at local, national or Continental Youth Championships (CYC) Competition.

- i. Where there is only one affiliated youth club within a Division, that youth club is recognized as the Divisional Youth Committee. Where there is no Divisional Youth Committee in place, a youth club will affiliate through the USGAAYC. Affiliation shall take place no later than June 1st.

c) *Youth Club Registration*: Each youth club shall register through the USGAAYC online registration system located at www.usyouthgaa.com. The Youth Club Registrar will register its officials and club no later than June 1st. All registering clubs shall be required to register at least thirteen (13) eligible players.

i. The USGAAYC registration fee will be \$10.00 per player.

ii. No club registration shall be accepted by the USGAAYC unless the proper registration fees accompany it.

d) Clubs SHALL NOT be able to compete in local, national or CYC Competitions unless registration fees are paid.

6. TRANSFERS

a) *Application for transfer*: An application for transfer between clubs under the jurisdiction of the same Divisional Youth Committee must be lodged with the Divisional Youth Committee Secretary on or before April 30th, in any year, and a copy e-mailed to USGAAYC Secretary.

i. An application for transfer between clubs in different Divisions must be lodged with the Secretary of the USGAAYC on or before April 30th in any year.

ii. Inter-County Transfers from clubs in New York County Board, Canadian County Board or Overseas Units areas to clubs in USGAA jurisdiction may only be granted by Croke Park on an Inter- County Transfer Form.

b) *Required form*: Application for all transfers between clubs under the jurisdiction of the USGAA must be made on an Official Transfer Form which has been prepared by USGAAYC and can be obtained from the USGAAYC Secretary.

7. PARTICIPATION IN GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS OUTSIDE THE DIVISION

a) *In Another USGAAYC Division*: To participate in a game and or tournament within the USGAA Division but outside your own Division, the traveling club secretary must notify, in writing, the USGAAYC Secretary.

b) *Outside USGAAYC Jurisdiction*: To participate in a game and or tournament outside the USGAAYC jurisdiction the traveling club secretary must notify, in writing, the USGAAYC Secretary. Failure to do so will result in a \$500.00 fine.

c) *New York County Board*: No member of a USGAAYC club may play for any team under the jurisdiction of the New York County Board or Canadian County Board, unless prior approval is received from the USGAAYC. Penalty according to Rule 6.7 TO 2013 (48 weeks suspension).

d) *Club Amalgamations*: All USGAA Youth Clubs must request permission from the USGAAYC to amalgamate for any tournament outside their division. An amalgamation is defined as one or more players from a different club being rostered as a guest for a tournament.

i. For tournaments outside a club's division, requests to amalgamate must be submitted to the USGAAYC Secretary at least one month prior to the tournament. Amalgamations will be reviewed by

the USGAAYC. Final decisions will be communicated by the USGAAYC Secretary at least one week prior to the tournament.

ii. For CYC amalgamations, USGAA club amalgamation requests must be submitted no later than one week prior to the CYC registration deadline.

iii. Any amalgamations that occur without prior approval of the USGAAYC may result in a \$200 fine for each USGAA club involved in the amalgamation.

8. YOUTH GRADES

a) *Maximum age of players*: Players must be under 18 years of age on January 1st of the current year (Birth Certificate or Passport to be used as proof of age).

b) *Co-ed Teams*: U6, U8, U10, & U12 girls can participate on boy's teams.

9. RESIDENCY

Players must be residents in the area of their local youth club on January 1st of the current year. (Passports or Official school ID to be used as proof of eligibility to play).

10. COUNTY TEAMS

a) *Governance of County Teams*: County teams are governed by the USGAAYC. Managers will be selected for each County Teams each year by the USGAAYC.

b) *Eligibility*: Players selected for any U18 County Team must be at least 15 years old on January 1st of the playing year.

i. Selected players must be registered with an USGAAYC club and have come through the youth program in their respective cities.

11. INSURANCE

a) *Liability Coverage*: All Youth Clubs must have a general sports liability policy in effect. The USGAA have secured a policy that is available to all clubs.

i. If a club chooses not to take the USGAA policy they must provide a certificate of insurance on or before May 1st, to the Secretary of the USGAAYC naming American Gaelic Games as an additional insured.

ii. Divisional Youth Committees do not have to pay the insurance fee.

b) *Individual Health Insurance*: Any player participating in USGAAYC competitions must have their own health insurance coverage, provided by the parent or club. The USGAA or the USGAAYC will not be responsible for any players' medical expenses. If there is no coverage, a player shall not be able to register unless a waiver is signed.

12. COACHING REQUIREMENTS

a) *Background Requirement:* All officers, board members and youth coaches must complete a background check through www.ncsisafe.com (National Center for Safety Initiatives), or any alternate background check system utilized by the USGAAYC, before participating with youth. The background check is completed through the link on the USGAAYC website.

- i. All coaches are responsible for payment of the background check fee which is valid for a two year period.
- ii. Failure to complete the background check as required will result in suspension of the coach from the USGAA and render the club's liability insurance null and void.

b) *Foundation Course:* All coaches must attend or be in process of attending a Foundation Level Course within the first year of coaching in order to coach youth players. Coaches must participate in any up skilling, as required. Failure to do so will disqualify the coach from coaching at Divisional Level and at the CYC.

c) *Head Coaches:* An Award 1 Course is required in order to be a head coach at tournaments, including CYC.

13. MOUTH GUARDS

a) *Mandatory rule:* Mouth guards are mandatory for players in all age grades and must be worn in all Gaelic football and ladies football practice sessions and games.

b) *Refusal to Comply:* If a player refuses to comply with a Referee's instruction to wear a mouth guard, he will incur the penalty as outlined in (Rule 6.2, Rules of Foul Play, The Playing Rules of Football, Official Guide, Part II, 2012) 'Caution the offender; order off if he persists'.

14. GAMES AND CUL CAMP CALENDAR

a) *Games Schedule:* Divisional Youth Committees must submit to the USGAAYC Secretary their games calendar for the playing year no later than May 1st.

b) *Cul Camp Schedule:* Clubs must submit to the USGAAYC Development Officer their date(s) for Cul Camp no later than May 1st.