

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The Hartford GAA Club, Inc.



132 Commerce Street
Glastonbury, Connecticut

Effective Date April 16, 2024

ORIGIN AND GOAL OF OUR CLUB

The Hartford GAA Club was incorporated in 2011. Its predecessor, the Hartford Gaelic Football Club was incorporated in 1945. The Hartford GAA Club or its predecessors has been active in the Greater Hartford area since the early part of the 20th Century.

It is our objective to promote the Gaelic games and Irish culture and to serve all our Members, old and new. We believe that the Club will serve as the focal point for newcomers to our shores to understand and appreciate our American system of life.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ARTICLE #</u>	<u>ARTICLE TITLE</u>	<u>SECTION SUB-TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>ARTICLE I</u>	– GENERAL		4
	SECTION 1: INTENT		
	SECTION 2: NONPROFIT CORPORATION		
<u>ARTICLE II</u>	– MEMBERSHIP		4
	SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY		
	SECTION 2: PRIVILEGES		
<u>ARTICLE III</u>	– MEETINGS OF MEMBERS		5
	SECTION 1: PLACE OF MEETINGS		
	SECTION 2: REGULAR MEETINGS		
	SECTION 3: SPECIAL MEETINGS		
	SECTION 4: QUORUM		
<u>ARTICLE IV</u>	– OFFICERS		6
	SECTION 1: TITLES		
	SECTION 2: TERM		
	SECTION 3: REMOVAL		
	SECTION 4: VACANCIES		
	SECTION 5: RETURN OF PROPERTY		
	SECTION 6: DELEGATION OF OFFICER DUTIES		
<u>ARTICLE V</u>	– DUTIES OF OFFICERS		7
	SECTION 1: CHAIR		
	SECTION 2: VICE-CHAIR		
	SECTION 3: SECRETARY		
	SECTION 4: TREASURER		
	SECTION 5: ASSISTANT TREASURER		
	SECTION 6: YOUTH PROGRAM OFFICER		
	SECTION 7: PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER		
	SECTION 8: YOUTH PROGRAM SECRETARY		
	SECTION 9: SENIOR FOOTBALL PLAYER REPRESENTATIVE		
	SECTION 10: SENIOR HURLING PLAYER REPRESENTATIVE		
	SECTION 11: PARENT REPRESENTATIVE		
	SECTION 12: SERGEANT-AT-ARMS		
	SECTION 13: MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY		
	SECTION 14: SENIOR LADIES FOOTBALL PLAYER REPRESENTATIVE		
<u>ARTICLE VI</u>	– COMMITTEES		10
	SECTION 1: APPOINTMENT		
	SECTION 2: BYLAWS COMMITTEE		
	SECTION 3: SPECIAL COMMITTEES		

ARTICLE #	ARTICLE TITLE	SECTION SUB-TITLE	PAGE
ARTICLE VII	DUTIES OF COMMITTEES		10
	SECTION 1: BYLAWS COMMITTEE		
ARTICLE VIII	ELECTIONS		11
	SECTION 1: NOMINATIONS		
	SECTION 2: ANNUAL CONVENTION AND ELECTION MEETING		
	SECTION 3: INSTALLATION		
	SECTION 4: SPECIAL ELECTIONS		
ARTICLE IX	DUES AND FEES		11
	SECTION 1: GENERAL		
	SECTION 2: FAILURE TO PAY DUES		
ARTICLE X	DEMISE OF MEMBERS		12
	SECTION 1: FUNERALS AND CALLING HOURS – ATTENDANCE		
	SECTION 2: EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY		
ARTICLE XI	PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES		12
	SECTION 1: ORDER		
	SECTION 2: RULINGS		
ARTICLE XII	AMENDMENTS		13
	SECTION 1: PROCEDURE		
	SECTION 2: EFFECTIVE DATE		
ARTICLE XIII	EFFECTIVITY OF BYLAWS		13
	SECTION 1: PRIOR CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS		
	SECTION 2: EFFECTIVE DATE		
ARTICLE XIV	DEFINITIONS		14
ARTICLE XV	DISTRIBUTION OF THE HGAA MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES		15
ARTICLE XVI	ALL IRELAND TICKET DISTRIBUTION		15
ARTICLE XVII	TRAVEL EXPENSES RELATED TO THE QUALIFICATION OF A LEAGUE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT – APPLIES TO SENIOR TEAMS		16
ARTICLE XVIII	DISCRETIONARY USE BUDGET FOR SENIOR AND YOUTH PROGRAMS		17

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF
THE HARTFORD GAA CLUB INC.**

ARTICLE I – GENERAL

Section 1: Intent

This Constitution and Bylaws of the Hartford GAA Club (these “Bylaws”) are intended to supplement and implement applicable provisions of law and of the Club’s Certificate of Incorporation with respect to the regulation of its affairs. The Hartford GAA Club was incorporated in 2011. It is our objective to promote the Gaelic games and Irish culture and to serve all our Members, old and new. We believe that the Club will serve as the focal point for newcomers to our shores to understand and appreciate our American system of life.

Section 2: Nonprofit Corporation

The Club shall be "nonprofit" as that term is defined in the Connecticut Revised Nonstock Corporation Act and shall not have or issue shares of stock and shall not pay dividends. The organization is organized in accordance with the Connecticut Revised Nonstock Corporation Act, as amended. The organization has not been formed for the making of any profit, or personal financial gain. The assets and income of the organization shall not be distributable to, or benefit the trustees, directors, or officers or other individuals. The assets and income shall only be used to promote corporate purposes as described below. Nothing contained herein, however, shall be deemed to prohibit the payment of reasonable compensation to employees and independent contractors for services provided for the benefit of the organization. This organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income tax. The organization shall not endorse, contribute to, work for, or otherwise support (or oppose) a candidate for public office. The organization is organized exclusively for purposes subsequent to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Eligibility

There shall be four types of membership of the Club:

FULL membership may be granted to persons who having reached the age of eighteen years and subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objects of the Club and the G.A.A.

YOUTH membership may be granted to persons age seventeen and under who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objects of the Club and the G.A.A. This membership automatically includes any registered player competing for the Youth program. Youth members are not eligible to vote or to hold officer positions in the Club.

HONORED membership may be granted to persons who have reached the age of eighteen

years and have rendered exceptional service to the Club or the games or activities of the G.A.A. An Honored member shall have the rights of a Full member but shall be exempt from paying the Club's annual membership fee.

SOCIAL membership may be granted to persons, who have reached the age of eighteen years, subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and the G.A.A., but who do not seek full voting rights and rights to take part in the administrative affairs of the Club or the G.A.A

Section 2: Privileges

Each Member in Good Standing shall be entitled to full membership privileges upon payment of annual dues.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 1: Place of Meetings

Membership meetings shall be held as scheduled and as needed at 132 Commerce Street Glastonbury, Connecticut or at such other place as shall be designated in a Written Notice.

Section 2: Regular Meetings

Regular membership meetings (“Regular Membership Meetings”) shall be held as needed or as scheduled.

Section 3: Special Meetings

The Chair shall call a special membership meeting (“Special Membership Meeting”) upon receipt of a written request for a Special Membership Meeting signed by five or more Members in Good Standing. The Chair shall schedule each Special Membership Meeting. In the event that a Regular Membership Meeting is scheduled within fourteen days of the receipt of such a request, no Special Membership Meeting shall be called, but the business that would have been addressed at the Special Membership Meeting shall be placed on the agenda for the upcoming Regular Membership Meeting. Written Notice of all Special Membership Meetings shall be mailed by the Secretary not later than ten days prior to the date of such meeting and such notice shall specify the time, place and reason for such meeting.

Section 4: Quorum

Five Members in Good Standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any Membership Meeting. Except as otherwise provided herein, the affirmative vote or consent of a Majority Vote present at any such meeting shall be necessary to institute a course of action.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Section 1: Titles

The Officers of the Club shall consist of a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Youth Program Officer, Public Relations Officer, Youth Program Secretary, Parent Representative, Senior Football Player Representative, Senior Hurling Player Representative, Membership Secretary, and Senior Ladies Football Player Representative. All officers must be Members in Good Standing in the Club. No Member shall hold more than one office simultaneously.

Section 2: Term

Each Officer shall serve a period of one year. Officers are limited to no more than five consecutive years in any one officer position.

Section 3: Removal

Any officer may be removed for good cause upon a two-thirds vote of the Members present at any Membership Meeting. No motion to remove any officer shall be made unless notice of the intention to make such a motion shall have been made at the previous Membership Meeting and Written Notice of such intention shall have been sent to the Members at least ten days prior to the Membership Meeting at which the motion is made. Upon notification by any Member of the intention to move for the removal of any officer, the Secretary shall promptly notify all Members of such intention.

Section 4: Vacancies

In the case of a vacancy in any office, the Officers shall call a Special Membership Meeting at which a Majority Vote shall elect an officer to serve out the remainder of the term of the vacant office.

At any time between the vacancy and the Special Membership Meeting, the Chair may, in good faith discretion, appoint a Member in Good Standing to perform the duties of the vacant office until a successor officer is elected and installed.

Section 5: Return of Property

At the expiration of an officer's term of office for any reason, all property of the Club in possession or control of that Officer shall be turned over to the Chair. At the expiration of the Chair's term of office, for any reason, all property of the Club in the Chair's possession or control shall be turned over to the Vice-Chair.

Section 6: Delegation of Officer Duties

In the event that an Officer cannot perform his or her duties, as set out in Article V, for a period of time (for example, due to travel or vacation), the Officer will endeavor to delegate duties temporarily to an Officer or a Member in Good Standing of the club. Such delegation

shall be notified promptly to the Chair and can be disallowed by the Chair, if in his or her judgment, such delegation is not in the club's best interests.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1: Chair

The Chair shall be charged with the direction and management of the affairs of the Club and, in the performance of the duties, shall exercise such authority over the other officers as may be necessary and appropriate, to implement the objectives and policies established by the Members.

The Chair shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) preside over and preserve order at all Membership Meetings; and
- b) appoint the members and leaders of each committee; and
- c) be a non-voting member of all standing and special committees; and
- d) administer and carry out all decisions of the Members; and
- e) be responsible for the routine operations of the Club; and
- f) approve for release to the various media all publicity and other information released by and/or on behalf of the Club; and
- g) be a member with full voting rights of any committee or group involving legal matters, Club expansion, or acquisition or disposition of Club assets; and
- h) countersign all Club checks jointly with the Treasurer; and
- i) report to Members the results of any and all accounting, legal and other activities undertaken by the Board; and
- j) perform such other activities as shall be required by the Members.

In the event of the Withdrawal of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair until such time that a successor Chair is elected. In its discretion, the Members may delegate any or all such duties to a Member in Good Standing (including without limitation the Vice-Chair) until such time that a successor Chair is elected and installed.

Section 2: Vice-Chair

The Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair when the Chair is, for any reason, unable to carry out the duties of the chair or the office is declared vacant. The Vice-Chair also shall perform such additional duties as shall be required by the Chair and/or the Members.

Section 3: Secretary

The Secretary shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) maintain a copy of Robert's Rules of order for use at Membership Meetings and committee meetings; and
- b) perform other duties as shall be required by the Chair or Members; and
- c) maintain and keep current notices and correspondence of the Club; and

- d) read current correspondence at Membership meetings; and
- e) keep and maintain the minutes of all club membership meetings.

Section 4: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) receive all funds of the Club and deposit same within five business days of such receipt; and
- b) keep a written account of all Club funds received or disbursed; and
- c) render a current financial statement at each Regular Membership Meeting; and
- d) counter-sign all checks jointly with the Chair; and
- e) pay all bills authorized by the Club; and
- f) filing of state and federal taxes; and
- g) perform such other duties as shall be required by the Chair and/or the Members.

Section 5: Assistant Treasurer

The Assistant Treasurer shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in performing the responsibilities under Section 4 of Article V.

Section 6: Youth Program Officer

The Youth Program Officer shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) serve as Chair of the Club's Youth Program Committee; and
- b) oversee activities of the Youth Program Committee; and
- c) report activities and expenditures of the Youth Program Committee to the general membership at membership meetings; and
- d) Perform such other duties as shall be required by the Chair and/or the Members.

Section 7: Public Relations Officer

The Public Relations Officer (PRO) shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) promote the activities of the Club in the media; and
- b) Disseminate press releases and all publicity as approved by the Chair.

Section 8: Youth Program Secretary

The Registrar Youth Program Secretary shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) register all youth players in a timely manner; and
- b) represent the Club in all matters related to membership in the USGAA Northeast Division Minor Board; and
- c) in conjunction with the membership secretary, youth program officers and other

designated club members, coordinate registration activities at the annual Open House.

Section 9: Senior Football Player Representative

The Senior Football Player Representative shall be a member of the senior Gaelic football team and be at least 18 years of age and have the following responsibilities:

- a) assist with effective communication between the team and the Officers on all matters requested to be brought to either party's attention; and
- b) encourage players to take an active role in the affairs of the club, including practice, coaching, administration, fundraising and social activities; and
- c) assist with game scheduling in coordination with the team manager and Secretary, as appropriate.

Section 10: Senior Hurling Player Representative

The Senior Hurling Player Representative shall be a member of the senior hurling team and be at least 18 years of age and have the following responsibilities:

- a) assist with effective communication between the team and the Officers on all matters requested to be brought to either party's attention; and
- b) encourage players to take an active role in the affairs of the club, including practice, coaching, administration, fundraising and social activities; and
- c) assist with game scheduling in coordination with the team manager and Secretary, as appropriate.

Section 11: Parent Representative

The Parent Representative shall be the parent or legal guardian of a youth Gaelic football or youth hurling player.

Section 12: Sergeant-at-Arms

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be appointed by the Chair at the Annual Convention and have the following responsibilities:

- a) take charge of the door at the Annual Convention and verify that all attendees are Members in Good Standing; and
- b) supervise the nomination and election of officers; and
- c) perform such other duties as shall be required by the Chair and/or the Members.

Section 13: Membership Secretary

The Membership Secretary shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) maintain a system of membership information collection; and
- b) compile and maintain membership lists; and

- c) welcome new members and issue membership cards; and
- d) explain privileges and obligations of membership; and
- e) in conjunction with the Treasurer, record receipts of membership dues and contributions; and
- f) in conjunction with the Public Relations Officer, promote club membership through various marketing techniques and media.

Section 14: Senior Ladies Football Player Representative

The Senior Ladies Football Player Representative shall be a member of the senior Gaelic football team and be at least 18 years of age and have the following responsibilities:

- a) assist with effective communication between the team and the Officers on all matters requested to be brought to either party's attention; and
- b) encourage players to take an active role in the affairs of the club, including practice, coaching, administration, fundraising and social activities; and
- c) assist with game scheduling in coordination with the team manager and Secretary, as appropriate.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

Section 1: Appointment

The Chair shall appoint the leader and members of each committee.

A Super Majority Vote of the Members may overrule the Chair's appointments of committee members and make alternative appointments.

Section 2: Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee shall consist of no less than three and no more than five Members in Good Standing. Two-thirds of the number of Bylaws Committee members minus one shall constitute a quorum of the Bylaws Committee. The act of two-thirds of the members of the Bylaws Committee present at a meeting shall constitute the act of the whole Bylaws Committee.

Section 3: Special Committees

The Special Committees shall consist of the Nominating Committee, the Election Committee, the Youth Program Committee, the Nationals Committee and any such other committee the Chair shall deem appropriate. Each Special Committee member shall serve until replaced by the Chair, or until the Chair, upon completion of its tasks shall discharge the entire committee.

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEES

Section 1: Bylaws Committee

This committee shall be responsible for a review of these Bylaws for reporting to the membership in the event such review results in a recommended amendment and for the review of all amendments proposed by the Members. The Bylaws Committee shall also render interpretations of the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII – ELECTIONS

Section 1: Nominations

Immediately after the regular order of business at the Annual Convention, the Sergeant-at-arms shall accept nominations for all offices from the floor. Each individual nominated must be a Member in Good Standing and must have enjoyed such status for at least twelve months prior to the convention date. Each Nominee must either be present at such meeting or have presented to the Chair, prior to such nomination, a letter indicating willingness to serve in the capacity for which nominated.

Section 2: Annual Convention and Election Meeting

The annual convention and election meeting shall be held on or about the third Sunday in January. The Election Meeting will be held in addition to the Annual Convention Meeting. The Officers for the ensuing year shall be elected at this meeting. Elections to all positions shall be by referendum vote and shall be supervised by the Sergeant-at arms, who shall tally the votes and announce the results of the balloting. Each Member in Good Standing shall be entitled to cast one vote for each position for which a candidate has been nominated. In the event that an election is uncontested (i.e., there is a single Nominee for a position), the Secretary shall cast a single vote in favor of such Nominee and such Nominee shall be considered duly elected.

Section 3: Installation

Installation of Officers shall take place immediately following their election.

Section 4: Special Elections

A Special Election may be called in the manner that Special Membership Meetings are called; provided, however, a Special Election may only be called in the following circumstances: (i) there is a vacancy in an Officer position that will extend for over one month in the absence of a Special Election; (ii) an Officer position is held, or purported to be held, by a Person who has not been duly elected to such position pursuant an Annual Convention Meeting or a Special Election; or (iii) in conjunction with the removal of an Officer in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

Special Elections shall be conducted as provided for in the case of the Annual Election except that the Chair shall supervise the election. All nominations shall be from the floor.

ARTICLE IX – DUES AND FEES

Section 1: General

The Annual Dues of the Club shall be established from time to time by the Members, subject to the approval of a Super Majority Vote. A recommendation for a change in the Annual Dues shall require the approval of a Super Majority Vote to approve a proposed change in the Annual Dues. One year's dues must accompany each application for membership. Annual Dues for each calendar year are due on or before the date of the Annual Convention Meeting.

Section 2: Failure to Pay Dues

Membership privileges for each Member in arrears for greater than two calendar months shall be suspended. Dues must be paid by the Annual Convention Meeting date to be eligible to vote in the Annual Election. Members in arrears may be reinstated by paying annual dues.

ARTICLE X – DEMISE OF MEMBERS

Section 1: Funerals and Calling Hours – Attendance

Members are encouraged to attend the funeral services of or pay their respects during the calling hours for deceased Members and their families. A delegation of the Club shall pay their respects, wearing the prescribed emblem of the Club. In the event that such a delegation cannot attend others may attend on their behalf.

Section 2: Expressions of Sympathy

In the event of the death of a Member, a floral piece shall be sent to the funeral home or, if flowers are specifically not requested or are otherwise impractical, another appropriate expression of sympathy shall be utilized. In the event of the death of one of the immediate family of a Member, a Mass Card or sympathy card shall be sent to the bereaved Member. The Members shall annually establish the maximum amount to be expended for each such floral piece or other expression of sympathy.

ARTICLE XI – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

Section 1: Order

All Membership Meetings and Committee meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, unless such rules conflict with the terms of the Club's Certificate of Incorporation, these Bylaws, or the Connecticut Non-Stock Corporation Act, in which event the Certificate of Incorporation, these Bylaws or the Connecticut Non-Stock Corporation Act, as the case may be, shall control. Compliance with Robert's Rules of Order may be waived at any committee meeting at which the respective Members present unanimously vote to waive such compliance.

Section 2: Rulings

Upon the request of the Chair, the Bylaws Committee shall render an interpretation of these

Bylaws or of Robert's Rules of order. The Bylaws Committee shall vote on an interpretation in accordance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 1, which such interpretation shall be binding on all Members with respect to the matter giving rise to the request, unless the interpretation is questioned by a Majority Vote. In such event, the Chair shall request an opinion of Counsel for the Club as to the correctness of the interpretation rendered by the Bylaws Committee. Such opinion of Counsel shall be binding on all Members as to its contents.

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Procedure

These Bylaws may be amended as follows:

- a) Each proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing to the Chair at any Membership Meeting. The Chair shall promptly forward the proposed amendment to the Bylaws Committee for its review and recommendation and shall direct the Secretary to notify all Members that the amendment has been proposed and forwarded to the Bylaws Committee for report and discussion at the next Regular Membership Meeting. The Secretary's Written Notice to Members shall briefly identify the nature of the amendment.
- b) At the first Regular Membership Meeting following the submittal of the proposed amendment, the Bylaws Committee shall present to the membership its recommendations as to the adoption or non-adoption of the proposed amendment in the form proposed, and the reasons for its recommendations. The Bylaws Committee shall have no power to alter the form of the proposed amendment, but may recommend changes to the membership, which may, in turn, move to alter the form of the amendment. If the amendment is further altered by motion from the floor to any substantial degree not recommended by the Bylaws Committee, the amendment shall again be considered by such Committee and reported out to the membership at the following Regular Membership Meeting. If the amendment is further altered by motion from the floor, and after proper discussion and debate on each motion, a vote shall be taken for each motion to amend. When all votes have been made the Secretary will read the amended amendment and the adoption of the amendment may be moved. Upon such motion the proposed amendment shall be placed on the agenda for the next Regular Membership Meeting for adoption or rejection at that time. All Members shall be notified that the proposed amendment has been moved.
- c) At the first Regular Membership Meeting following the meeting at which the proposed amendment is moved for adoption, the membership shall vote upon the adoption or rejection of the proposed amendment. A Super Majority Vote shall be required for the adoption of the proposed amendment.

Section 2: Effective Date

Each adopted amendment to these Bylaws shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

ARTICLE XIII – EFFECTIVITY OF BYLAWS

Section 1: Prior Constitution and Bylaws

These Bylaws shall supersede, in their entirety, all prior Constitutions and Bylaws of the Club.

Section 2: Effective Date

These bylaws shall be effective immediately upon adoption at the Membership Meeting at which they are adopted, and thereafter.

ARTICLE XIV – DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise stated, capitalized terms used in these Bylaws have the meanings set forth in this Article XIV, as follows:

“Annual Convention Meeting” has the meaning set forth in Article VIII, Section 2.

“Bylaws” has the meaning set forth in Article I.

“Club” means the Hartford GAA Club Inc.

“Election Meeting” shall mean and include any Annual Convention Meeting and any Special Election, as the case may be.

“Majority Vote” means the affirmative vote or consent of a majority in number of the Members in Good Standing present at any regular meeting of the Members.

“Member(s)” means each person who has been admitted to the Club in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth in these Bylaws. Each Member’s membership in the Club shall continue until a Withdrawal occurs with respect to such Member.

“Member(s) in Good Standing” means each Member who satisfies his or her obligations.

“Membership Meeting(s)” means and includes each Regular Membership Meeting and/or Special Membership Meeting, as the case may be.

“Officer(s)” shall mean each individual duly elected and installed as an officer of the Club, as further set forth in these Bylaws.

“Regular Membership Meeting(s)” has the meaning set forth in Article III, Section 2.

“Special Election” shall mean an election conducted pursuant to the provisions of Article VIII, Section 4.

“Special Membership Meeting(s)” has the meaning set forth in Article III, Section 3.

“Super Majority Vote” means the affirmative vote or consent of two-thirds in number of the Members in Good Standing present at any Regular Membership Meeting or Special

Membership Meeting.

“Withdrawal” means a Voluntary Withdrawal or Involuntary Withdrawal, as the case may be.

“Written Notice” means notice mailed to each Member in Good Standing via United States Mail or other means mutually agreed to by the Member in Good Standing and the Club (i.e., Members can agree to receive Written Notice via electronic mail, et al.)

ARTICLE XV – DISTRIBUTION OF THE HGAA MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES

The secretary is responsible for announcing to the current membership the meeting date, time, and location, at least seventy-two hours in advance of the scheduled meeting. The secretary is responsible for distributing a proposed agenda at least seventy-two hours prior to the membership meeting. The secretary is responsible for distributing the minutes of the membership meeting within seven days of the meeting. The distribution of membership meeting agendas and minutes should take place electronically, through the HGAA secretary email address, and only be sent to current members in good standing.

The meeting minutes will contain the monthly starting and ending balance of the club’s financial accounts as reported and approved by the treasurer’s report. A full line-item treasurer’s report will be made available to any member in good standing who makes a formal request to view the report.

ARTICLE XVI – ALL IRELAND TICKET DISTRIBUTION

In the event that the HGAA acquires a club ticket for the All Ireland Football and/or Hurling championship(s) the following procedure will be followed. Only individuals who have been full members (social members do not qualify) of the HGAA on or before July 1st of the given year are eligible to participate in the following procedure.

- As soon as the ticket has been acquired an electronic notification will be sent to all full members in good standing in the club. Efforts will also be made to communicate with members who may not receive electronic communication.
- Due to the timeliness of distribution, a short timeframe (i.e., twenty-four to forty-eight hours) will be provided for members to express interest in using the ticket for him/herself.
- Any full member who plans to use the ticket to gain entry to the match for him/herself is eligible to enter the draw.
- If only one eligible full member demonstrates interest in using the ticket for him/herself, they will receive the ticket and pay the club for the face value of the ticket.

In the event that two or more members express interest in using the ticket for him/herself, the following procedure will be carried out:

- All eligible full members will be entered into a random drawing.

- The draw will be held at the discretion of the Chair, and at least one other club member will be present to witness the live drawing.
- The winner of the draw will be announced as soon as the draw is made, and they will receive the ticket and pay the club for the face value of the ticket.

In the event that no member expresses interest in using the ticket for him/herself, the following procedure will be carried out.

- All eligible full members will be allowed to enter a random drawing.
- The draw will be held at the discretion of the Chair, and at least one other club member will be present to witness the live drawing.
- The winner of the draw will be announced as soon as the draw is made, and they will receive the ticket and pay the club for the face value of the ticket.
- The member will then be allowed to distribute the ticket but may not sell the ticket for any value greater than the value of the ticket itself.
- Any member caught selling a ticket for greater than the face value will have their All Ireland ticket privileges revoked for life.

A full member who receives a ticket to the hurling or the football final will not be eligible to receive a ticket in the following year, unless there are no current full members in good standing interested in using the ticket for themselves to attend the match.

For example, if member X receives a ticket for the 2016 final and uses it to attend the match, they are not eligible to receive a ticket in 2017 if another member of the club in good standing is interested in using the ticket to attend the match themselves. Member X would then be eligible again to receive a ticket in 2018. However, in the event that member X receives a ticket for the 2016 final and uses it to attend the match, and NO other club members in good standing are interested in using the ticket to attend the match themselves, member X would be eligible to receive the ticket.

ARTICLE XVII – TRAVEL EXPENSES RELATED TO THE QUALIFICATION OF A LEAGUE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT – APPLIES TO SENIOR TEAMS

No later than the February monthly meeting of each year, an aggregate sum to be allocated per senior team that qualifies for (or is invited to participate in) the national league finals that year shall be determined. The sum shall be used to support the travel and lodging of team players and the team manager and assistant manager. *For the year 2024, the sum shall be approved and allocated no later than the May 2024 monthly meeting.*

In the event that any senior team qualifies for (or is invited to participate in) the national league finals that year, the following procedure will be followed regarding the disbursement of funds to support the travel expenses accrued by the team due to their travel to participate in the tournament:

The team manager (or their delegate) will be responsible for submitting a final roster to the Chair and Treasurer along with the written request for support funds no less than five days before the beginning of the tournament.

The team manager (or their delegate) is responsible for the distribution of the support funds. The team manager (or their delegate) is responsible for the team's travel arrangements and accommodations.

Only players in good standing (membership dues and registration paid prior to August 1st of that year) are eligible to receive support funds.

Disclaimer: Teams who expect to qualify for a tournament that would require airfare to be purchased should consult players prior to the beginning of the league season to determine if they can fulfill the financial responsibility of attending the final if they were to qualify. Any team that enters the league season and indicates that they will attend the national tournament if they qualify and does not fulfill their responsibility to attend will be expected to help recoup the costs of all league fines associated with this infringement. If a team fails to help recoup the total value of the enforced fines, they will not be eligible for travel support for the national tournament the following season.

ARTICLE XVIII – DISCRETIONARY USE BUDGET FOR SENIOR AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

No later than the February monthly meeting of each year, a budget shall be approved and allocated to each senior and youth program for each program's Discretionary Use from the time the budget is set through the time a new budget is set the following year. *For the year 2024, this Discretionary Use budget shall be approved and allocated no later than the May 2024 monthly meeting.*

The following limitations and procedures will be followed regarding use of each program's budget:

- a) The program manager (or their delegate) is responsible for use of the program's budget. The program manager (or their delegate) shall request funds from the Treasurer as needed. It shall be the Treasurer's responsibility to keep track of each program's budget.
- b) If funds are used for travel support, only players in good standing (membership dues and registration paid as of the time of travel) are eligible to receive funds.
- c) In the event that a program spends its entire budget before the time that a new budget is set the following year, additional expenditures must be brought to the membership for approval.

Discretionary Use includes, but is not limited to, travel expenses, gameday nourishment, team building activities, non-alcoholic beverages and tournament entry fees. However, the budget provided for in this section is separate from and unrelated to the purchase of team equipment, payment for indoor training sessions each winter/spring, and payment for player/manager entry fees for championship matches.