



# Club Manual

## Membership and Registration

[www.gaa.ie](http://www.gaa.ie)

GAA



## Membership and Registration

All Club officers should be familiar with the rules governing Club membership and the rules governing registration of members and players. Membership is a very important consideration for clubs and every effort should be made to comply with all of the rules governing this important topic.

Membership of the Association, membership of the Club, registration of players and members and other topics are now discussed in more detail.

## 1: Membership of the Gaelic Athletic Association

**Membership of the Association can only be granted to a person through a GAA Club. Therefore, to become a member of the GAA, a person must become a member of a Club in the first instance. Club membership is discussed later.**

**There are two types of membership of the Association, outlined in rule 2.1 (a) of the Official Guide as follows:**

2.1 (a) There shall be two types of Membership of the Association: -

- (i) Full Membership, for persons who have reached the age of eighteen years.
- (ii) Youth Membership, for persons who have not reached the age of eighteen years.

Full membership, once granted, continues for life unless the person resigns in writing or is expelled. Youth membership continues until the persons 18th birthday when they then apply to their Club for Full Membership. The rights of any member are conditional on the member complying with the rules and regulations of the Association and the Club, including the payment of Club fees and levies as decided by the Club Executive. The rules governing membership of the Association are outlined in full in rules 2.1 (a) to (f) of the Official Guide.



## 2: Membership of the Club

**There are four types of Membership of the Club, as outlined as in 5.1.1 to 5.1.4 of the Club constitution. As already stated, when Full or Youth membership of a Club is granted, a person also becomes a Full or Youth Member of the Association.**

The category of Social Membership in the Club covers those who wish to be part of the Club, but do not wish to have any involvement in administration, voting etc. This type of membership will typically be found in clubs with a gym, bar etc. Honorary membership of the Club is granted to those who are considered to have given exceptional service and an Honorary Member is considered to have the rights of a Full Member.

**The four categories of Club membership are outlined as follows (rule 5.1.1 to 5.1.4 of the Club constitution):**

- 5.1.1 Full Membership may be granted to persons, who having reached the age of eighteen years, subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objects of the Club and the G.A.A..
- 5.1.2 Youth Membership may be granted to persons, not having reached the age of eighteen years, who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objects of the Club and the G.A.A..
- 5.1.3 Honorary Membership may be granted to persons, who have reached the age of eighteen years, have rendered exceptional service to the Club or the games or activities of the G.A.A. An Honorary Member shall have the rights of a Full Member, but shall be exempt from paying the Club's Annual Membership Fee.

- 5.1.4 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..

As with membership of the Association, once granted, Full Membership of the Club continues for life unless the member resigns or is expelled (rule 5.3 of the Club constitution). However, the rights of any member of the Club are conditional upon the member complying with the provisions of the Club Constitution and the Official Guide, including payment of any annual membership fees (rule 5.4 of the Club constitution). Therefore, only Full Members, who have paid their fees as laid down by the Club on a date prior to March 31st as laid down by the Club and are registered, receive the benefits of membership, including the right to vote at Club meetings, including the Annual General Meeting (rule 9.1 of the Club constitution).



### 3: The Membership Year

**The GAA membership year runs from April 1st to the following March 31st. Persons must have their Club fees paid on a date prior to March 31st as laid down by the Club, and be registered in order to have a vote at any Club meeting in the upcoming membership year. Therefore, if the Club has a special general meeting in June, it is those who paid their fees prior to the previous deadline and have been registered that are entitled to vote. If a person pays their Club fees in January for the first time, or following a lapsed membership period, he/she will not have a vote in the Club until the following membership year on April 1st.**

#### **Rule 2.1 (F): Official Guide**

The Membership of the Gaelic Athletic Association shall run from April 1st to March 31st in the following year.

#### **Rule 6.2: Club Constitution**

The determined Annual Subscription shall be payable on election and thereafter annually, in advance of the date in the manner decided by the Executive Committee. The date set shall be a date prior to March 31st each year.

“Persons must have their Club fees paid prior to March 31st and be registered in order to have a vote at any Club meeting in the upcoming membership year.”

## 4: Applying for Membership of a Club

**There are procedures laid down in the Club constitution for persons who wish to seek membership of a GAA Club. It is important that the rules on this matter are adhered to and that the membership application forms are completed and kept on record. This process is laid out in 5.6 to 5.10 of the Club constitution.**

When the Application for Membership has been accepted by the Executive Committee, the new Member's particulars are registered with the GAA, he/she is allocated a personal membership number. The official membership application forms are included at the end of this chapter and are also available on the GAA website, [www.gaa.ie](http://www.gaa.ie).



## 5: Rates of Membership

**The Club Executive has the authority to set the rates of Full, Youth and Social membership in the Club and can also decide on the method of payment (rule 6.1 of the Club constitution). A Club can decide on any special discounts that may be offered on the membership rates. For example, a Club may offer a student rate and an OAP rate of Full membership. A Club may also offer a rate of family membership i.e. a certain figure to cover both parents/guardians as Full Members and the children under 18 in the family as Youth Members.**

It is important that the Club clarifies exactly what is meant by each rate of membership. For example, a Club may specify that the family membership rate covers both parents/guardians as Full Members and all the children under 18 as Youth Members. The Club must still register the parents/guardians as Full Members and the children under 18 as Youth Members. As already outlined, both parents/guardians then have the right to vote at Club meetings including the AGM. In the case of students, the student rate could cover all those in the Club who are over 18 and who are in full time education. As they are over 18, they are registered as Full members.

“A Club can decide on any special discounts that may be offered on the membership rates.”

## 6: Registration of Players and Members

**Each year, all clubs must complete a registration of their Full Members, Youth Members (rule 2.2 of the Official Guide) and a registration of their adult and juvenile players (rule 2.3 of the Official Guide). This is catered for on the online GAA Registration system and this is now the only acceptable method of registration in the GAA.**

**The following information is required to complete registration:**

Full Members: Name, full address

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Youth Members: Name, full address,  
date of birth

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Players (adult and juvenile): Name, full address,  
date of birth

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Clubs must register all those who have paid their Full and Youth membership fees on the online registration system on a date before April 1st each year (rule 2.2a and 2.2b of the Official Guide). Players are required to have paid their Club fees for registration purposes and are required to be registered as Full or Youth members (rule 6.2 of the Official Guide). Players must be registered at least three days before a game, the penalty for not doing so as per rule 2.3 of the Official Guide.

Clubs must forward a fee of €2 to Croke Park through the County Secretary for each Full Member registered.

In the case of two adult clubs who join at Juvenile level to form an 'independent unit', each adult Club is required to carry out the player registration and the Youth Member registration of the juvenile players associated with the Club. There is no requirement for a separate 'independent unit' registration.



## Cumann Lúthchleas Gael- Full Membership Application Form

Ainm/Name:

Seoladh/Address:

  
  
  


Phone/Fax/Email (if available):

Signature of Full Member proposing New Member

Síithe/Signed:

Dáta/Date:



Print Name:

Signature of Full Member Seconding Proposal

Síithe/Signed:

Dáta/Date:



Print Name:

I hereby apply to:  Club

For Membership of the above Club and Membership of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael (The Gaelic Athletic Association)

I subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael (The Gaelic Athletic Association), and to abide by its Rules, and I attach herewith the appropriate membership fee as determined by the above Club.

Síithe/Signed:

Dáta/Date:



Print Name:

### FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Membership/approved by Club Executive on Dáta

Síithe:

Club Runaí:



Registered in Central Membership Database on

Membership Identification Number:

Upon election, your membership details will be entered on the G.A.A. Membership database in accordance with rule 2.2. This information will be used by the GAA for the purpose of administration only.

## Cumann Lúthchleas Gael - Youth Membership Application Form

Ainm/Name:

Seoladh/Address:

  
  
  


Phone/Fax/Email (if available):

Date of Birth: Day  Month  Year  (e.g. 06 02 1990)

I hereby apply to:  Club

for Membership of the above Club and Youth Membership of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael (The Gaelic Athletic Association)

I subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael (The Gaelic Athletic Association), and to abide by its Rules, and I attach herewith the appropriate membership fee as determined by the above Club.

Sínithe/Signed :

Dáta/Date:

 

Print Name:

Parent(s)/Guardian(s), on behalf of the above named:-

We/I consent to the above Application and to undertakings given by the Applicant.

Sínithe/Signed (Parent/Guardian):

Dáta/Date:

 

Print Name:

Signature of Full Member proposing New Member

Sínithe/Signed:

Dáta/Date:

Print Name:

 

Signature of Full Member Seconding Proposal

Sínithe/Signed:

Dáta/Date:

Print Name:

 

### FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Membership/approved by Club Executive on Dáta

Sínithe:

Club Runaí:

 

Registered in Central Membership Database on

Membership Identification Number:

Upon election, your membership details will be entered on the G.A.A. Membership database in accordance with rule 2.2. This information will be used by the GAA for the purpose of administration only.