



Kilkenny LGFA Competition Rules 2026

Table of Contents

Fixtures.....	3
Referee.....	5
Final League Standings.....	6
Second Teams.....	7
Teams.....	8
Other.....	8
Promotion and Relegation.....	8
Fixtures Committee.....	9
Appendix A – Official Guide.....	10
Appendix B CODA.....	11
Appendix C - Go Games Structure.....	12
Appendix D - Competition Rules Summary Matrix.....	13

NOTE: Kilkenny Competition Structures and Competition Rules were presented to and agreed by the County Board at a County Board Fixtures Meeting in Nowlan Park on Thursday 5th March 2026.

Fixtures

1. The fixtures committee shall draw up a final fixture list to be distributed to the club secretaries 14 days prior to the first fixture. The final fixtures list will then constitute notification of a match for all clubs.
Where the fixtures committee are required to make changes to the overall schedule, 14 days' notice shall be provided to clubs, where possible.
2. Games to be played on the play **on** date. Games can be changed to a date before or 3 days after the play **on** date, provided both clubs agree and the Fixtures Committee have approved the change. By agreement fixtures may be brought forward to any extent but must be agreed by the fixtures coordinator.

The Fixtures Committee shall be informed of the new fixture date, in writing to fixtures.kilkenny@lgfa.ie, 3 days prior to the agreed date/play **on** date, whichever is the earliest.

The home team to get agreement with the appointed referee for the rescheduled date.

If clubs fail to agree on a change the fixture reverts to the original date.

3. A fixture can be postponed for the following reasons:
 - a) Due to an unplayable pitch as determined by a groundskeeper.
 - b) Orange or above weather warning.
 - c) A bereavement of a close family member of a player, mentor or club official, and provided the Fixtures Committee and the opposing team have been informed. A close family member is defined as a guardian/parent/child, sibling or grandparent.

The game will be re-fixed to be played in agreement with the fixtures committee within 7 days of the original fixture date. In the event both clubs cannot agree on a date and time, then the default date and time for the fixture will be 7 days from the original fixture date and time.

Where the reason for the postponed fixture is "a" as above, if the home club cannot provide a pitch for the re-fixture, the fixture will move to the

opposing team grounds. If neither club can provide a location, then the Fixtures Committee shall endeavour to appoint a location.

4. Any changes to the fixtures schedule shall be the responsibility of the fixtures committee with approval from the County Board Executive (National LGFA Quorum rules apply).
5. Both teams must confirm to fixtures via email (fixtures.kilkenny@lgfa.ie), from the Club Secretary, their intention to fulfil a fixture within 3 days of the fixture schedule. Failure to provide this notification by one team will result in the match and points being awarded to the opposition. Failure to provide notification by both teams will result in the fixture being deemed null and void.
6. In the event of a club not fulfilling a fixture and giving a walkover, the club conceding the game must email both the opposing Club Secretary, Fixtures at fixtures.kilkenny@lgfa.ie and County Secretary to notify them of the walkover within 3 days of the fixture.

Any team that fails to fulfil a fixture by giving a walkover, on the date specified by the fixtures committee shall forfeit the points for the match concerned and have 3 points deducted (League).

A club that concedes a match shall also incur a fine. The first walkover shall incur a €50 fine and €100 for 2nd and subsequent walkovers. If a team concedes any final, they will incur a fine of €150. The County Treasurer will issue the fees via email. As per LGFA Official Guide, Payment of monetary sanctions shall be made within 13 weeks of notification thereof. Failure to do so may result in suspension from Association activities.

Teams conceding a match in Championship will not be allowed to play in a final (whether cup or shield).

A team that gives two walkovers is NOT permitted to play in a semi-final or final in that competition (U14-Adult).

If the fixture is conceded within 3 days of the agreed play on date, the club conceding the match must cover the referee's fee in full.

If both teams fail to fulfil a fixture, both teams will cover the referee's fee in full.

7. A club giving a walkover or multiple walkovers, may be subject to CODA Rules.
8. Clubs will incur a fine (€100) for withdrawing from competitions within 2 weeks of the first match scheduled or during the competition.
9. Players Jersey numbers must correspond with the numbers on the Team Sheet. [If a jersey is missing, the original number should be crossed off and a replacement number inserted in its place].
10. All matches where a programme is provided (e.g. All finals, Adult Championship Semi Finals) the players number must correspond to the match programme. Team lists must be submitted to the Fixtures Committee 5 days prior to the fixture date in order for programmes to be produced.
11. Extra time to be played in all quarter finals, semi-finals and finals in Championship and Shields. (Adult Championship finals will go to a replay if still level after extra time). All knockout games will be result on the day.

Referee

12. The home team is responsible for organising a neutral referee.
13. The Fixtures Committee will endeavour to appoint referees for all league finals and all Championship semi-finals and finals (at all grades).
14. Referees to be drawn from approved County Board and LGFA lists only.

Referee fees are €40 for grades up to and including Minor and €50 for adult games, each club to pay half of the relevant fee (except where there is an admission fee for entry to a game, in which case, the referee is paid from same).

15. Two copies of up to date Foireann Team Sheet must be given to the referee before each game begins.
16. The County Board reminds **all** Clubs that they are responsible for ensuring that referees, officials and the opposition are treated with respect at all times by everyone with or supporting their Club, whether members of the Club or not.

17. All challenge games must be approved by the County Secretary, an official LGFA referee must be appointed for challenge games. The proposed fixture must be approved by the County Secretary and Provincial/National LGFA where applicable, a minimum of 48 hours prior to the fixture.

Results

18. The home team is responsible for communicating the result to the fixtures committee by email to fixtures.kilkenny@lgfa.ie within 24 hours of completion of the game.

Final League Standings

19. Three points are awarded for a win and one point for a draw.

20. In the event of two teams finishing level on league points then their head to head result will be taken into account, with the winner of that game ranked higher. If the head to head result was a draw, then the team with lowest score aggregate conceded, will rank higher. If the aggregate conceded is level, then a playoff will take place.

21. In the event that three teams finish level on points then the team with lowest score aggregate conceded will rank higher. If the score aggregate conceded is level, then playoff(s) will take place.

22. In a competition where scores conceded are needed to determine the final positions and a team (Team A) involved in that competition did not fulfil all games, then:

- If one or more of the teams that are level on points received a walkover from Team A then match scores for all other games involving Team A will be ignored and registered as zero, when calculating aggregate score conceded.
- If all of the teams finishing level on points had played Team A then the scores in the games, will be used to calculate aggregate score conceded.

23. Where three teams finish level on points and cannot be separated by rules 20, 21, 22 above, the three teams will be entered into a draw, the first team drawn will be entered into the final, the remaining two teams will play a semi-final.

24. Where two teams finish level on points and cannot be separated by rules 20, 21, 22 above, the two teams will play a play-off, to determine which team ranks higher.

Second Teams

25. Clubs with a second team in the league must nominate a minimum of 15 players who will only be permitted to play with their first team and notify the County Secretary and Fixtures of same 7 days in advance of the start of the competition.
- If a player plays all or part of a league game with the first team then they can no longer play with the second team even if they are not part of the named 15 players.
 - Fixtures and the County Secretary must be notified when a player not on the original list plays with the first team with an updated first team list.
26. Clubs with a second team in the Championship must nominate a minimum of 15 players who will only be permitted to play with their first team and notify the County Secretary and Fixtures of same 7 days in advance of the start of the competition.
- If a player plays all or part of a Championship game with the first team then they can no longer play with the second team even if they are not part of the named 15 players.
 - Fixtures and the County Secretary must be notified when a player not on the original list plays with the first team with an updated first team list.
27. At **u12 level**, where a club enters 2 teams the following shall apply:
- Clubs with 29 or less registered u11/u12 members, shall name 2 panels of 10 of the oldest players. The remaining younger squad members may remain available to both squads.
 - Clubs with 30 or over registered u11/u12 members, shall name 2 panels of 13 of the oldest players. The remaining younger squad members may remain available to both squads.
 - When calculating the numbers of players to form the basis of 2 panels only players born 2014 and 2015 will be considered.
 - The list of both teams must be submitted to the County Secretary by email for circulation to all clubs 7 days in advance of the start of the competition.
 - Failure to provide team lists will result in all matches being awarded to the opposition until such a list is provided.
28. At **U12 level**, when a club has 2 teams that reach a final, there can be no crossover of players from the team listed in the higher graded final to the lower graded final. Team lists for both finals are to be submitted in advance to the County Board.

Teams

29. For under 14 and above, each team must have at least 11 players to commence a match, but a match may be continued or finished with less than 11 players. The full complement of players may be added during the course of the game, upon notifying the referee. The opposition is not compelled to match the playing number of the reduced team.
30. For u14 and above where a club is entering a team in a competition, they must identify a minimum of 11 eligible players to enter a single team.
31. Where a club withdraws from a competition due to lack of numbers, they may be subject to CODA.

Other

32. For all u12 games all scores count as 1 point (3 points for a goal does not apply).
33. For u12 only, 2 movements apply i.e. one hop and one solo OR 2 solos.
An additional movement will be considered over carrying.
34. Volunteer rule
Where a club is not represented on the County Board Executive, clubs that have entered a team in club competitions (u14 to Adult), must be represented by at least 1x adult on a County Board Sub Committee (Match Volunteers / Fixtures / Development). Clubs in their 1st year of establishment are exempt for that year only. All clubs must comply with this rule by the start of Championship Competition.

Promotion and Relegation

Having regard to the small number of Clubs participating at adult level and with a view towards maintaining an appropriate number of teams at Senior/Intermediate and Junior levels, it is proposed to review the introduction of relegation for the 2027 Championship at the 2027 Fixtures Review Meeting based on the number of adult teams participating in Championship.

Fixtures Committee

- Adults Regina Moran 087 9144368
- U18s John Leamy 086 2462901
- U16s Pat McDowell and Martin Patterson 087 7907852
- U14s Kate Falconer 085 8363939
- U12s Orla Roche 087 3155275
- U10s and U8s Kevin Cunningham 087 9146229
- Other Kay Phelan 087 4124815

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Email fixtures.kilkenny@lgfa.ie

Kilkenny LGFA competition Rules are to be read in conjunction with the LGFA Official Guide

Official Guide LGFA Official Guide is in one booklet but divided into Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3. The full Official Guide is available as follows:

Official Guides are available to purchase from the LGFA Office on 01 8363156 for €10 or available to download here

<https://ladiesgaelic.ie/resources/official-guide/>

Appendix B CODA

COMPLAINTS, OBJECTIONS, DISCIPLINARY AND APPEALS

Rules relating to CODA are located in Part 3 of the official guide, linked in Appendix A

All clubs should familiarise themselves with these rules.

All clubs should refer to the CODA rules when dealing with any complaint, objection, disciplinary or appeal.

The Kilkenny CODA officer can be contacted on

coda.kilkenny@lgfa.ie

Appendix C - Go Games Structure

Guidelines available here

2025 Go Games links below - NOTE: Go Games are National Policy (not Kilkenny LGFA policy)

<https://ladiesgaelic.ie/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Go-Games-Policy.pdf>

https://www.gaa.ie/api/images/image/upload/t_q-best/prd/w602r6gkg4ekh3nmqg0h.pdf

Go Games Policy Document



Go Games FAQ Final

Appendix D - Competition Rules Summary Matrix

	Adult	Minor/u16/u14	U12
Playing Rules	Normal rules as per LGFA Official Guide	Normal rules as per LGFA Official Guide	Normal rules as per LGFA Official Guide with below modifications No sin bin Two movements
No. of players	15-a-side	15-a-side	13-a-side
Substitutions	Unlimited for group games and then 5 substitutions for knockout games	Unlimited	Unlimited
Pitch size	Full Pitch	Full Pitch	Length is 21m to 21m lines and full width
Match Duration	30 mins per half	30 mins per half	20 mins per half
Ball size	Size 4 match ball	Size 4 match ball	Size 4 match ball