**Underage Competition Rules 2023**

**The Home team must confirm with the coordinator no later than 6 days prior to the scheduled date, the time and venue and referee for the game.**

**The Home team must text the result of the game to the coordinator immediately after the game.**

* First named team at home
* Game must be played on or before the date. Games may be played on a date **prior** to the scheduled date only on the agreement of both clubs and the fixtures committee. Where one club does not agree to play on a different date, the county board fixture stands. Games on Friday to be played no later than 7pm, games on Saturday and Sunday to be played at no later than 2pm. All requests for changes to dates must be via email to the fixtures secretary – galwayladiesfixtures08@gmail.com at least seven days prior to the scheduled fixture. Under no circumstances may scheduled dates be changed without prior approval from coordinator/fixtures secretary. If clubs with county players play on dates other than those listed and it clashes with county training or games, then the team must play without their county player/s
* The home team will appoint and pay for a neutral referee. The county board will appoint and pay for the referee for finals.
* Finals will be held in a neutral venue where possible but in the event of a neutral venue not being available then the fixture will be a reversal of the group game. This applies whether group game was played or not. If the finalists did not meet in the group stages, then county executive will draw for home/away.
* If the home teams pitch is not available then the home club are entitled to secure a neighbouring pitch. If none is available then they must travel to their opponent’s pitch.
* **Team lists must be written on the official team sheet book.** If you need a team sheet book please contact the county secretary.
* Unlimited subs allowed in all U12, U14 and U16 games. **Every player to get meaningful game time, no player to left sitting on the bench**
* **At U12 Level, games must be played 13 a side and in 4 quarters and with one hop and one solo.**
* **At U12 level a score over the bar counts as two points and a score under the bar counts as one point. Players are encouraged to score points. Coaches should not allow a large winning margin to develop in a game. U12 is about developing players, if a large winning margin is becoming evident, then players should be coached to play off their weaker foot to develop their skills.**
* All underage games can be played 13 a side to facilitate teams with small numbers, however it is recommended that teams should play 15 a side where possible. If one team has 16 players or less they are permitted to play 13 a side and their opponents must do likewise unless they mutually agree to play 15 a side. If both teams have 17 or more players they must play 15 a side. In the interest of fair play please let your opponents know in advance if you are only able to field 13 a sideIn exceptional circumstances where a player from the lower division is required fulfil a game in the higher division she may be allowed to play with the higher division on no more than **two** occasions while still retaining her right to play with the lower division in the same year. If she plays more than twice with the higher division in the same competition, she will be automatically disqualified from playing with the lower division in the same competition and must remain with the higher grade team
* All players must wear mouth guards
* All players must be registered members of LGFA and Covid Compliant
* **Result on the day for all semi finals and finals.**  If teams are level at full time, then 2 x 10 mins extra time is to be played.

If teams are still level after extra time, then rule 421 applies. –

*Only players remaining on the field of play at the end of extra time are eligible to take the kicks.*

*Each team shall take 5 kicks at point scoring from 30 metres out from goal between the two posts as indicated by the referee. In the case of U14 the kick shall be taken from 20 metres out. If the scores are still tied after each team has taken their 5 kicks, sudden death procedure shall follow, using different players until such time as one team misses and the other team scores on the corresponding kick.*

*The ball must go directly over the crossbar, off the crossbar and over, off the uprights and over to be counted as a point. A ball that bounces off the ground and over the crossbar will not be counted as a point. The referee shall add the points scored in the shoot out to the score at the end of the game in reporting the final score.*

* The County board reserve the right to change any of the scheduled dates where necessary.
* Where a club is unable to field for a fixture, their club secretary must email the fixtures secretary in advance and the fixtures/executive committee will decide on the game.

Three points for a win and one point for a draw. One point will be deducted for failure to field/forfeiting a game.

**A €100 fine per game will be imposed on a team who fail to field for either adult or underage league or championship game or Coen Cup league.**

**Where a fixture has been arranged and a referee has been appointed, should either team cancel within 48 hours of the game they will be responsible for payment of the referee.**

* If a team is disqualified or retires during the course of the competition, the results of games they have already played will stand and their un-played games shall be awarded to the opposing team(s) (Rule 365)
* Where teams finish with equal points in a divisional table, the final placings shall be decided by the following means and in the order specified:

Where **two** teams only are involved, the placing will be determined as follows and in the order specified:

* + The outcome of the head to head game between the two teams concerned will determine the placings.
	+ Should the head to head match between the two teams concerned have finished in a draw the team that finishes in the higher position will be the team that registered the highest number of points i.e. scores converted over the bar, in that head to head match
	+ Should the teams remain equal at this point the team that finishes in the higher position will be the team with the highest score difference throughout the league i.e. score remaining when all scores for team throughout the league are added together (points will have a value of one whilst goals will have a value of three) and all scores conceded are subtracted from that number.
	+ Games against any team that gave a walkover during the league are disregarded in score difference. If the teams remain level after all the above has been applied, a Playoff will take place, only if teams fail to qualify for the semi-finals. Should the teams in question have qualified for a semi final, the placings shall be determined by a toss of a coin.

Where **more than two teams** are level on points the following shall apply:

* + The placing will be decided by score difference i.e. score remaining when all scores for team throughout the league are added together (points will have a value of one whilst goals will have a value of three) and all scores conceded are subtracted from that number.
	+ Games against any team that gave a walkover during the league are disregarded in score difference.
	+ Should any teams still remain level after score difference the outcome of the head to head game between the two teams concerned will determine the placings.
	+ If teams remain level after all the above has been applied, a Playoff will take place.