

**CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE LEINSTER FOOTBALL LEAGUE. (Valid from 2014/15 season)**

1. ~ The Leinster Football League (hereinafter called "The League") shall consist of clubs affiliated to Leinster Football League and placed into Divisions as may be decided by the Executive Committee. All matches shall be played under the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Ireland and the Leinster Football Association and according to the "Laws of the Game"

2. ~ All clubs in the province of Leinster shall be eligible for membership subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, provided they possess a private ground with suitable dressing accommodation or are allotted a public ground which must also have suitable dressing facilities From time to time clubs without dressing rooms may be eligible for membership subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Clubs playing their matches in the Phoenix Park must obtain through the approved channels an official Ground/Pavilion card.

3. ~ Each club, their respective officials, representatives, players, or members shall be bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee or the sub-committees appointed by the Executive.

4. ~ Clubs, officials or players, dissatisfied with any decisions of the League have the right of appeal to the Leinster Football Association and afterwards to the Football Association of Ireland, in accordance with the rules of these bodies.

5- The management and control of the league shall consist of a President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, PRO, and not more than 10 members. The positions of Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer may be held jointly by one person.

6.~ The above honorary officers and members constituting the Executive committee shall remain in the office for not more than two seasons and then retire, but be eligible for re-election. The election of two honorary officers together with not more than half the total number of existing members shall take place each year at the Annual General Meeting.

7. ~ Each candidate for election shall be duly nominated on an official form supplied by the Hon. Secretary for which application must be made no later

than 31st of March. Nominations must be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Leinster Football League by the 30th of April in each year. Nominations not on official forms shall be deemed invalid.

8. ~ The propose and seconder of each candidate for election must be Club Hon. Secretaries whose clubs have been duly registered and active members of the League for at least one season immediately preceding the date of nominations. A candidate, when duly elected shall be debarred from acting in an official capacity for any member club.

9- Notification of the date of the Annual General Meeting, together with the Agenda for the meeting (to include details of all resolutions and any proposed alterations and/or additions to this Constitution and/or to the Rules of the League) must be forwarded to the Secretary of each Club by the Honorary Secretary of the League no later than fourteen days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

10. ~ The Annual General Meeting shall be held no later than June 15th each year. Each team in membership of the League shall be entitled to have one representative in attendance. Notice of meeting by daily newspaper sufficient.

The business of the Annual General Meeting shall receive: -

- (a) The Annual report of the League Hon. Secretary.
- (b) Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet, duly audited.
- (c) To elect a President and Vice Presidents.
- (d) To elect Honorary Officers and Executive Committee members to vacated positions in accordance with preceding rules.
- (e) To elect Auditors.

(f) To transact such other business as may arise. No clubs or teams shall be represented by the same person, and no team will be eligible to receive a card of admission unless the club has fulfilled all its financial obligations to the League. The Honorary Officers and members of the Executive Committee may attend and speak on any matter, but shall have no voting power except that as a club representative.

11. ~ At the opening Executive Committee meeting which shall be held no later than 30th of July each year, the Committee may appoint Assistant Honorary officers if it is considered necessary. They may also appoint Managers to each Division of the League and such subcommittees as may be deemed necessary. The Executive may delegate any or all of its powers to such sub-committees. Quorum for meetings of the Executive and sub-committees shall be four. Dates for Executive committee meetings shall be fixed at this opening meeting.

12. ~ The finances of the League shall be controlled by the Executive Committee.

13. ~ The Hon. Treasurer shall take charge of all League accounts and lodge all monies without delay to the credit of the Leinster Football League at the nominated bank. All withdrawals shall be signed by the President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer. Payments must receive the prior sanction of the executive committee. The League Hon. Secretary and the Managers of each Division may be allowed an amount to cover postage.

14. ~ The Hon. Treasurer shall keep such books as required by the Executive Committee. He may enter in a proper Analysis Cash Book the date and receipt of such monies as may be received by him, together with a note and details of each withdrawal from the bank. The accounts shall close on the 30th of June and a copy thereof duly audited shall be submitted to each club for consideration at the AGM

15- League fees must be paid to the Hon. Treasurer who shall issue a receipt for all monies received. All fees must be paid in full before the 31st of October in each season. All park pitch rental fees must be paid in full before a fixture can be played.

Clubs failing to meet their obligations by the date are liable to be held up until such time as the fees are paid. If these are not forthcoming within a time laid down by the Executive, clubs may be removed from the league. New clubs shall not be allowed to play in a league match until all league fees are paid.

Under no circumstances can fees once paid be returned to any club.

16- Upon admission to the League a club, its officials, players, mentors and other representatives agree to be bound by this Constitution and Rules of the League, the application of which shall be deemed final subject to any avenue of Appeal which exists within the League or beyond in the Leinster Football Association and the Football Association of Ireland.

#### 17- Affiliation

The League shall be affiliated through the Leinster Football Association to The Football Association of Ireland.

#### 18- Objectives

The purposes of the League shall be to promote, foster and develop the game of Association Football within its jurisdiction in accordance with the Leinster Football Association, the Football Association of Ireland and the Women's Football Association of Ireland to take all steps necessary to prevent any infringements of the laws of the game and further, to prevent and eradicate any improper practices from within the game.

#### 19- Membership

##### (19.1)

Membership of the League shall be open to any club that falls within its jurisdiction (subject to approval of the Executive of League) and is capable of fielding Youths, Junior, Intermediate or Women's teams.

##### (19.2)

Applications for membership of the league shall be governed by the Rules of the League. Only the Executive Committee of the League is authorised to adjudicate upon the application of a club to join the League. Where the Committee accedes to an application from a club it may attach such conditions (e.g. the fixing of a bond), as it deems necessary to admission.

##### (19.3)

In the event of a club ceasing to be a member of the League, during the season or where a club is expelled or suspended by the Executive of the League, all entitlements to attend, vote or participate at the League A.G.M. or League Management meetings shall also be withdrawn or removed accordingly

## 20- The League Structure

The League shall comprise that number of divisions as are deemed appropriate so as to facilitate the orderly playing of association football throughout the entirety of the Leagues jurisdiction. The number of divisions and the make-up of those divisions may alter from time to time, as the Executive Committee deems best. Football will ordinarily be played on a Saturday and on a Sunday.

## 21- The Executive

### (21.1)

Governance of the League shall lie with the member clubs exercised through an Executive Committee and a Management Committee.

### (21.2)

The Executive may convene as often as its membership deems necessary, but shall meet on at least one occasion in each calendar month of the football season. Any four of the Executive, to include at least one Officer, shall constitute a quorum. At each meeting of the Executive, the Honorary Treasurer shall present a report on the financial affairs of the League since the previous meeting.

### (21.3)

Should any member of the Executive absent himself/herself from three successive meetings without special leave of absence or for such other reason deemed satisfactory to the Executive, he/she shall be deemed to have resigned and may be replaced in the manner set out in these Constitution and Rules.

### (21.4)

The Executive shall have authority to censure any Player, Mentor, Club Representative, Official or Club for an infringement of the provisions of this Constitution, the Rules of the League or the Laws of the Game. The sanctions available shall include a fine and/or a suspension and/or exclusion from a match, competition and/or League.

### (21.5)

The Executive shall as it deems necessary, appoint a Manager/Selector and Selectors under the control of the Executive with the authority to select and manage representative teams of the League.

### (21.6)

Each person sitting on the Executive shall absent himself or herself from every discussion of or vote upon any business relating to an affiliated Club with

which they have or have had a direct or indirect connection.

(21.7)

Every member of the Executive shall be entitled to access to all documentation, books and records of the League within fourteen days of requesting same. Every member of the Executive shall be entitled to such information and explanation from any Honorary Officer or other member of the Executive as the case may be in connection with the foregoing documentation, books and records.

(21.8)

The Executive has sole responsibility to organise competitions (in both league and cup format) within the jurisdiction of the League. Such competitions will be organised in accordance with the Rules of the League.

(21.9)

Every sitting member of the Executive shall be entitled to admission to any fixture played under the auspices of the League free of charge.

(21.10)

Should a vacancy occur in the Office of Chairperson throughout the course of the season, the Vice-Chairperson shall fill the vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting when he/she shall resign or face election.

(21.11)

Should a vacancy occur in the Office of Vice-Chairperson throughout the course of the season, the Executive shall fill the vacancy from amongst their number until the next Annual General Meeting when the person so elected shall resign or face election.

(21.12)

Should a vacancy occur in the Office of Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, PRO or Registrar throughout the course of the season, the Executive shall fill the vacancy from amongst their number until the next Annual General Meeting when the person(s) so elected shall resign or face election.

(21.13)

Should a vacancy occur in both the Office of Chairperson and that of Vice-Chairperson throughout the course of the season, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy of Chairperson from amongst its members. Such an appointment shall only be valid until the next Annual General Meeting when the individual(s) appointed shall resign or face election.

(21.14)

Where at any meeting of the League and equality of votes has been cast on a motion, the chair of the day shall have a casting vote, which shall be his/her second(2nd) vote.

## 22- The Management Committee

### (22.1)

The Management Committee shall be comprised of the Secretaries of the member clubs and the Executive of the League. It shall convene on no less than three occasions throughout the course of the football season. It may be convened at any time by order of the Chairman of the League or in the Chairman absence the Vice-Chairman or by written request made by no less than one third plus one of the affiliated clubs, forwarded to the Honorary Secretary of the League by way of registered post. When convened by the latter method the written request shall include an agenda for the proposed meeting. The meeting shall be held within 14 days of the Honorary Secretary of the League receiving the request.

### (22.2)

Meetings of the Management Committee in their ordinary form will consist of a reading of minutes from the League Secretary, a report from the League Chairman, a financial statement from the Honorary Treasurer and any other business, which may arise.

### (22.3)

Each affiliated club shall send its Secretary to every meeting of the Management Committee. Only persons bearing the authorisation of an affiliated club are permitted to attend. A deputising representative may be appointed in writing if notified to the Honorary Secretary of the League in advance. No representative shall attend any meeting of the Management Committee on behalf of more than one club. Apologies will not be accepted during a season for non attendance from a club at meetings. Clubs not attending Management Meetings will be fined.

### (22.4)

The Executive Committee has the authority to recommend to the Management Committee the censoring of an Honorary Officer or an Ordinary Member of the Executive Committee. The Management Committee, having listened to the arguments of both sides shall make a determination upon the matter.

### (22.5)

The Chairperson, or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairperson or any Honorary Officer shall preside over all meetings of the League at which he/she is present

and shall conduct the business in accordance with the ordinary rules of the League.

(22.6)

Meetings shall be conducted in an orderly and businesslike fashion through the chair of the day. The chair of the day will be the final arbiter of all procedural matters arising by way of a vote if he/she deems necessary.

(22.7)

Should the chair of any meeting within the League be unable to attend, the next available officer of the League shall assume the chair for the particular meeting in question in the following order: the Vice-Chairperson, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the PRO, the Registrar.

(22.8)

Where at any meeting of the League and equality of votes has been cast on a motion, the chair of the day shall have a casting vote, which shall be his/her second(2nd) vote.

(22.9)

Voting at meetings shall be by way of open show of hands other than voting for Officers and Ordinary Members of the Executive at the Annual General Meetings and voting on Notice Motions at the Annual General Meeting and at Extraordinary General Meetings, which shall be by secret ballot.

## 23- Extraordinary General Meetings

(23.1)

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened by the Executive Committee of the League as it deems necessary. When convened in this manner Notice of the Meeting together with an Agenda shall be forwarded to the secretary of each affiliated club by the Honorary secretary of the League, postmarked no later than fourteen days prior to the date proposed for the Meeting.

(23.2)

An Extraordinary General Meeting may also be convened upon receipt by the Honorary Secretary of the League of a Requisition endorsed by the secretary of no less than one third plus one of the affiliated Clubs of the League together with a payment in the amount of €300.00 to assist defray the costs of the proposed meeting. The Requisition must set out in unambiguous terms the



business it is proposed shall be determined at the Meeting. The Meeting must take place within fourteen calendar days of the day upon which the Honorary Secretary receives the Requisition.

(23.3)

The business of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be:

(1) Read the Notice of the Meeting.

(2) Apologies.

(3) Discussion of and voting upon the Notice Motion(s). Discussion and voting shall be confined to the Notice Motion(s). To be passed, a Notice Motion must have the support of two thirds of those present.

## 24- League Finances

(24.1)

The Annual Affiliation fee shall be announced by the incoming Executive Committee and shall be defrayed by each Club when applying for membership of the league.

(24.2)

All penalties and fines incurred by Clubs, Players and/or Mentors shall be defrayed on notification of same. In default of payment of the penalty or fine, the Club in question may have fine doubled or may forfeit fixtures. In exceptional cases only, default on such monies may lead to suspension or expulsion from the League. Player fines payment must be received by the Disciplinary Secretary a minimum of 48 hours before a game for the player to be able to compete in a game.

(24.3)

The Honorary Treasurer is authorised to defray the ordinary and reasonable expenses, as determined by the Executive, incurred by members of the Executive Committee in carrying on the business of the League. Every claimant must submit to the Honorary Treasurer a fully vouched record of expenditure as and when required but in any event no later than the 20th day of March in any given year.

(24.4)

The Executive Committee reserves the right of admittance to any club to the League where outstanding monies are owed or to any club who fails to comply with required League financial compliances as agreed with the Executive.

## Article 12 Club Records and Finances

## 25- Clubs

(25.1)

Every affiliated Club shall keep minutes of each meeting of its Executive Committee and of its Annual General Meeting and of any Extraordinary General Meeting. These minutes shall be retained for a minimum of three years.

(25.2)

The minutes will set out the date, time and venue of the meeting, the names of all who were in attendance, the agenda and shall briefly outline the business dealt with.

(25.3)

Every affiliated Club shall retain details of the election of its officers.

(25.4)

Every affiliated Club shall retain a complete set of books and records in which are noted the details of all income and expenditure of the Club throughout the course of each season.

## 26- Protests

(26.1)

All Protests shall be forwarded by registered post to the Hon. Secretary of the League and to all other interested parties no later than four days (excluding Saturday, Sunday, Bank or Public Holidays), after the date on which the fixture is played. The Notice of Protest shall be accompanied by a fee of €100 in the form of crossed cheque, a bank draft, a postal or a money order made payable to the Leinster Football League and crossed. The Notice of Protest shall set out in full the Grounds for the Protest and all protests must be set out by the official Hon. Secretary of the protesting team. Should cash be submitted it would render the appeal or protest invalid.

(26.2)

The Honorary Secretary shall arrange for the convening of a Protest Board to hear the Protest, such hearing to take place no later than fourteen days (excluding Saturday, Sunday, Bank or Public Holidays) after receipt by the Honorary Secretary of the registered post.

(26.3)

The Protest Board shall number three persons from the Executive Committee all of whom must have no direct or indirect connection with any interested party or the case in question.

(26.4)

At the hearing the Protesting Club must produce the post office receipt for the registered letters and the details of the addresses mailed.

(26.5)

Failure on the part of the Protesting Club to adhere to the procedure outlined

above will render the Protest invalid.

(26.6)

The Protest Board shall have power to grant personal hearings.

(26.7)

The Honorary Secretary of the League shall notify all parties involved in a Protest of the outcome by registered post within four days of the completion of the Hearing. Where the Protest is upheld the protest fee shall be refunded to the Protesting Club.

(26.8)

Any of the parties can appeal the decision of the League Protest Board or Disciplinary Committee to the Leinster Football Association in accordance with the rules of the Leinster Football Association.

(26.9)

In the event of an Appeal being lodged against a decision of the League with the Leinster Football Association, no points shall be awarded and no Cup fixtures shall be played, pending the outcome of such an Appeal or Protest.

(26.10)

When a player protested against is proven ineligible, the points/game may be awarded to the opposing club, providing no ineligibility of a player of the opposing club has been shown, in accordance with the rules and constitution, and subject to the Executives discretion under these rules.

(26.11)

When both clubs are proven to have played ineligible players, no points shall be awarded to either Club. In the case of protests other than against players, the executive shall be allowed to have the power, to award points, order a replay, or make other decisions, as may be deemed by them to be proper.

(26.12)

Objections to grounds, posts, ball or flags, must be lodged in writing, before the start of the game, with the Referee, who shall have the power to remedy, if possible, the objection before commencing the game. If the cause of objection may not be removed, a formal protest in writing must be lodged in accordance with the rules and constitution of the Leinster Football League.

(26.13)

A club failing to appear in answer to a protest, when called upon, or failing to give an explanation to their absence, shall be dealt with as the Executive may determine.

## 27- Fixtures

### (27.1)

All fixtures played under the auspices of the League shall be played in accordance with the Rules of the League and the laws of the game.

### (27.2)

Where a fixture, played under the auspices of the League is abandoned for whatever purpose, the Executive Committee shall have the discretion to award the fixture to either Club, direct that the fixture be replayed at a time and venue to be fixed by the Executive Committee or to direct that the result at the time of the abandonment shall stand.

### (27.3)

The Executive Committee may from time to time arrange fixtures, the net proceeds of which will in their entirety be deemed to be part of the funds of the League.

### (27.4)

When the winners of a competition run under the auspices of the League have been declared, the Executive Committee shall present them with the perpetual trophy. It is also open to the Executive Committee to present winners and runners up medals.

### (27.5)

A winning Club shall sign a written receipt for each perpetual trophy in its possession.

### (27.6)

An affiliated Club shall where requested so to do by the Executive Committee, place its home venue and facilities at the disposal of the League for the purpose of preparation for or the fulfilling of a representative fixture and such other fixture as to the Executive Committee shall be deemed necessary for an appropriate fee.

### (27.7)

An affiliated Club shall when requested so to do by the Manager of a team representing the League, make available to the manager such of its players as are requested for preparation and participation in a representative fixture. Where a player so chosen (or his/her Club), without good and sufficient reason fails to comply with the arrangements of the Executive Committee in respect of representative fixtures, such failure may be adjudged by the Executive Committee to constitute misconduct or incitement to misconduct and both the player and the Club may be dealt with in accordance with the Rules of the League, as the Executive may determine.

### (27.8)

The home team shall, subject to the right of the Executive Committee to

review same, retain the proceeds of the gate in all league fixtures. In all cup fixtures, up to and including quarterfinal stages, the net proceeds shall be divided in equal share between the competing Clubs. The net proceeds of the semi-final and final stages shall accrue to the benefit of the League.

(27.9)

The names of the clubs entered for cup competitions shall be drawn in couples, the first team drawn having home venue for the fixture, except in the case of semi-finals, finals, where the venue will be selected by the Executive. The Executive may draw subsequent rounds before the winners of the previous rounds are declared. The Executive shall have the power to exempt any number of clubs from any number of rounds and byes may be given but the Executive must arrange four teams to compete in the semi-final rounds.

(27.10)

Any club or team suspended from the League shall not take part in any competition under the auspices of the League.

(27.11)

Clubs playing against suspended clubs shall be dealt with by the Executive who shall have the power to fine, suspend or otherwise deal with such offence.

(27.12)

Clubs playing ineligible players in any competition under the auspices of the Leinster Football League shall be fined an amount to be decided by the Executive for each offence and be otherwise dealt with as the Executive may determine.

(27.13)

Clubs who do not wish to enter a particular cup competition must inform the Hon. League Secretary before the 31st of August in the relevant season. If a club withdraws after a draw is made they will incur a fine as set by the executive.

(27.14)

Clubs will be notified of fixtures by publication of the same in a National and/or Provincial newspaper. Clubs will be advised by the Divisional Managers of any alteration to this arrangement. The Divisional Managers may order teams to play midweek and/or evening games if necessary.

(27.15)

All fixtures shall be arranged by the Divisional Managers and shall fix time and venue of kick-off. No club shall have the power to postpone or break fixtures or change the venue or kick-off time without prior consent of the Divisional Managers. Postponements may not be granted.

(27.16)

Any club refusing to fulfil a fixture as directed by the Divisional Managers may be adjudged to have lost the match and be otherwise dealt with as the Executive may determine.

## 28- Tournaments

Clubs/Teams/Players/Organisations or Firms wishing to run/organise or participate in Tournaments must seek the permission of the Executive and the L.F.A. and not until after the 31st May, when the traditional Season should be finished. Parties taking part in unauthorized tournaments may be suspended and otherwise dealt with as directed by the League, The L.F.A and/or The F.A.I.

## 29- Intimidation by Spectators

When it can be proved to the satisfaction of the Executive that the partisans of a club which has a choice of ground systematically interfere with the play of the opposing club by using foul and abusive language or inciting the home club to use violence towards their opponents etc, the Executive on the application of the visiting club shall have the power to order the match to be played/replayed at another ground, neutral if possible, and shall deal with the offending club as they see fit.

## 30- Registration of Players

(30.1)

All players shall be registered on registration forms supplied by the League. This form shall be returned to the Registrar of the League. It is the duty of the Clubs to ensure that forms are in the possession of the Registrar before a player/players take part in competition. All Player registration forms must be accompanied by a current passport photo and correct fee. In the case of youth

players who were never registered with the League these forms must be accompanied by an original of the players Birth Cert, Baptismal Cert, Health Board Cert or Passport along with a current passport photo and the appropriate fee. The Registrar will copy the proof of age and return the originals to the club.

(30.2)

A Player is only eligible to play in a League or Cup match if there is at least one (1) calendar day (24 Hours) between the date of receipt of the registration form by the League and the day of a match. Players may be registered at any time during the season up until the last day of March

(30.3)

A player cannot sign for a second Club without receiving a transfer from his/her first club. (30.4) All Transfers shall be requested on the official form, supplied by the League, with the appropriate fee and shall be granted or rejected by the Executive at their next meeting. If a player is being transferred to or from a different League the transfer fee is paid to the League from which the player is leaving. All transfers are governed by Rule 33 of the FAI Rules.

(30.6)

The Registrar of the Football League shall receive and file all documents in connection with players. A bona fide representative of a club may have access to the registers of his clubs opponents of the previous weeks match; such clubs shall have access to the register of its opponents following the particular match. A charge will be levied for each search, (to be determined by the Executive Committee). A search to mean 4(four) nominations of players for the Football League and 3 (three) nominated players for any other League clubs. In the case of a cross protest, the club protested against shall be afforded the opportunity of inspection.

(30.7)

Any Club/Team deemed guilty of inducing or attempting to induce a player to sign from, or play for another club will be liable to sanction, as may be determined by the Executive.

(30.8)

Clubs must register a minimum panel of sixteen (16) players for each team (2) weeks before the commencement date of the season at a reduced rate to be set by the Executive.

(30.9)

No Player under the age of sixteen (16) may register for any team within the League except for a Youths or Women's team where the minimum age will be

fifteen (15) on the 1st of January of the year of the commencement of the season.

(30.10)

A team in doubt as to the eligibility of its opponents shall be at liberty, before the game starts, at half time or full time to ask the opposition manager to see the ID cards of any or a Maximum of up to (4) four players by first approaching the match official and informing him/her of their suspicions and asking him/her to include these in his/hers match report. The team manager of the day signed on the match card may then ask the match official to accompany them in their approach to the opposition manager also signed on the match card to make their request. Refusal to accede to this or not having the id card available at the time or venue will be taken as an admission of guilt and will be dealt with by the Leagues Disciplinary Committee.

(30.11)

Where a player registers for any team from a previous team who ceases football and that team has defaulted of its League financial compliances, that player may be subjected to a levied registration fee as deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.

(30.12)

If a club disbands during the Season the player registrations shall come under the direction of the League concerned. The players may be allowed, at the discretion of the League, to register with other clubs within that League. The deadline for such registrations shall be the 31st January.

## 31- Referees

(31.1)

All appointments of Referees to the League shall be made by the Divisional Manager.

(31.2)

Referees fees shall be laid down by the FAI Referees Committee and may be changed from time to time.

(31.3)

Referees shall be paid their match fee prior to kick off.

(31.4)

The Referees decision in relation to fitness of ground on match day is final. The Hon Secretary of the League shall have the power to authorize a delegate to



inspect a venue in order to alleviate the necessity of an away team travelling.  
(31.5)

Any Complaints against Referees must be lodged in writing with the Hon. League Secretary within 4 (four) days of the cause of the complaint.  
(31.6)

All match Officials must be treated with the utmost respect by players, officials and supporters before, during and after the game. Any breach of this rule shall be viewed in a most serious manner by the League and shall be dealt with as determined by the Executive.

(31.7)

Any player whom a Referee has reported as guilty of assaulting him before, during or after a game will automatically stand suspended until the next Disciplinary Hearing of the League has decided upon the case and notified the parties involved of their decision. In this context spitting at a Referee is regarded as an assault. This Disciplinary Hearing must be convened within 5(five) working days of the alleged assault.

### 32- Match Cards

Match cards must be in all cases filled in with full names of each player in block capitals, and must correspond with the numbers actually worn by the players on the day.

### 33- Standard Schedule of Fines To be decided by the Executive

### 34- Discipline

A Player sent off has the right to a hearing with the Disciplinary Committee. Their Club Secretary must contact the League Hon. Secretary to arrange this hearing.

35- Players, Club and League officials shall at all times act in the best interests of the game and shall not act in any manner which is improper or brings the game into disrepute or use any one, or a combination of, violent conduct, serious foul play, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behaviour. This includes any interaction or public statements on any social network forum. When this rule has been found to have been breached normal disciplinary sanctions will apply.

### MISCONDUCT BY PLAYERS

35.1. Including the automatic suspension incurred, the overall suspension imposed on any Player receiving a direct red card shall be for:

a) at least one match for denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity (particularly by deliberately handling the ball); b) at least one match for unsporting conduct. c) at least two matches for serious foul play (particularly in the case of the use of excessive or brute force); d) at least three matches for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) an opponent or a person other than a Match Official; e) at least six matches for assaulting by spitting at an opponent or a person other than a Match Official. f) at least 12 months for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, spitting, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) a Match Official.

35.2. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.

35.3. The right is reserved to punish an infringement which has escaped the Match Official's attention.

35.4. A Player whom the Match Official has reported as having committed an assault on a Match Official before, during or immediately after a match shall automatically stand suspended until the disciplinary process has been completed.

#### . MISCONDUCT BY OFFICIALS

.35.5 The overall suspension imposed on any Official shall be for:

a) at least one match for unsporting conduct; b) at least three matches for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) an opponent or a person other than a Match Official; c) at least three months for assaulting by spitting at an opponent or a person other than a Match Official. d) at least 12 months for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, spitting, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) a Match Official;

35.6. An Official whom the Match Official has reported as having committed an assault on a Match Official before, during or immediately after a match shall automatically stand suspended until the disciplinary process has been completed.

35.7. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.

35.8. The right is reserved to punish an infringement which has escaped the Match Official's attention.

### 36- Flood lighting

A club wishing to play under artificial lights must comply with the guidelines as laid down by the FAI. The league requires a minimum lux of 250 for competitive games. Clubs must supply a certificate of lux rating each year to the League

### 37- Miscellaneous

#### (37.1)

The Officers of the League shall for the period of their office hold all the property and income of the League in trust for the benefit of the League and its endeavours, and shall deal with same in accordance with the direction of the Management Committee.

#### (37.2)

Where a Club wishes to leave the League for whatever reason and at whatever time, its resignation must be tendered in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the League setting out in full the grounds for the proposed resignation and enclosing full payment of any sums outstanding from that Club to the League. The resignation is deemed to take effect ten days after receipt by the Honorary Secretary of the correspondence unless monies are outstanding to the League.

#### (37.3)

A Club that fails to fulfil a fixture on three occasions shall be removed from that Division for the remainder of the season and points awarded to all opponents for remaining fixtures. Clubs failing to fulfil fixtures shall be fined a minimum of €100.00

#### (37.4)

Where a Club withdraws a team in the course of a season, Points will be awarded to all opponents for the remaining fixtures. Where a Club is represented by more than one team, it must firstly withdraw that of its teams playing in the lowest division.

#### (37.5)

Where a team representing the Club in question has an outstanding cup fixture, it shall be forfeit to the opposing team.

#### (37.6)

All questions of eligibility of qualification of competitors or of the application of these rules or laws of the game shall be referred to the Executive

Committee whose decision shall be final, subject to the right of appeal.

38- The Executive Committee shall have power to deal with any matter which is not particularly covered by these rules.

39- The Constitution and Rules of The Leinster Football League shall not be amended or added to except in accordance with proper procedure as outlined in the Constitution and Rules.

40- The Leinster Football League is subject to the rules of the Leinster Football Association and The Football Association of Ireland, which are not contained in this rule book. Each club should have at least one copy of both the LFA, WFAI and FAI rule books in their possession and shall be bound thereby. Each club should also have at least one current copy of the Referees Charter and Players Guide to the Laws of Association Football and shall be bound thereby.

41- Any rule in this rule book which contravenes a rule of the LFA or the FAI shall be declared null and void.

42- Each Club should have at least one person with 1st Aid experience present on match day in case of serious injury.

#### 43 Re-grading to Junior Status

Any Player who has played (5) five or more matches in the current season at Senior/Intermediate level may be re-graded by his league to play at junior level.

#### 44 -Artificial Turf

Matches under the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Ireland can be played on an artificial turf surface only where the surface has been certified in accordance with the FIFA/IATS (International Artificial Turf Standard) or FAI Standards appropriate to the relevant competition.

#### 45- BRAWL/FIGHTING

45.1 Involvement in a brawl/fight is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six matches.

45.2. Anyone who has tried merely to prevent a brawl/fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

#### 46- UNIDENTIFIED AGGRESSORS

If it is not possible to identify the perpetrator(s) of an offence, the body may sanction the club to which the aggressors belong.

#### 47. TEAM MISCONDUCT

47.1. The following constitute misconduct by a team and are sanctioned by a fine:

a) when at least five Players are cautioned or sent from the field of play during one match; b) when at least three Players are sent off during one match; c) when several Players together make threats or show force against a Match Official.

c) When determining the amount of the fine, the type of competition shall be taken into account.

#### 48 INCITING HATRED OR VIOLENCE

A Participant who publicly incites others to hatred or violence may be sanctioned with a suspension and/or a fine.

#### 49- PROVOKING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Any Participant who provokes the general public shall be suspended for two matches and sanctioned with a fine.

#### 50- INTIMIDATION / THREATS

Anyone who intimidates a Match Official with serious threats shall be sanctioned with a fine and a suspension.

#### 51- COERCION

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressurise a Match Official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely shall be sanctioned with a fine and a suspension.