

Regulations Governing the Organisation and Presentation of LGFA Club Fixtures during the Covid-19 Restrictions

Introduction: These Regulations have been drawn up by LGFA Management Committee as the basis for County Match Regulations during the Covid-19 Pandemic and they are only the regulations relating to Covid-19. Counties should add these to their additional competition regulations.

Sideline Official - A Sideline Official may be appointed by the Committee-in-Charge and it shall be their duty to report any breaches of these Regulations.

The Sideline Official shall include in their report any relevant observations or breaches reported. These will then form part of the Referee's Report.

The Committee-in-Charge may also impose sanctions for breaches of the Regulations brought to its attention by members of the Committee-in-Charge or the Management Committee.

Failure to respect the regulations and follow laid down procedures therein may lead to sanctions being imposed on individuals, teams, County Committees, or Clubs by the Committees-in-Charge.

1. Ground/Pitch Regulations

1.1 Ground Regulations shall apply to all venues considered suitable for club games. They shall include procedures for entry to each ground, designated areas for substitutes and Team Officials and shall be communicated to Teams in advance.

1.2 Only a maximum of 30 players (starting 15 and 15 panel members) shall be allowed within the pitch enclosure during the playing of the game.

1.3 A maximum of 7 Team Officials shall be allowed within the pitch enclosure during the playing of our games as per Rule 325, one of which must be a female liaison officer.

1.4 Each team shall be allocated a side of the pitch in advance of the game by the Committee-in-Charge, where their team officials and panel of players shall be positioned during the game.

The Team Officials and Players Zone shall be positioned between the two 20m lines and both must ensure compliance with Government social distancing guidelines (currently 2 metres).

Dugouts may be used provided the government guidelines around social distancing are observed.

Where facilities in particular grounds allow for the two teams to be positioned on the same side of the pitch and for social distancing guidelines to be followed, alternative arrangements may be made in advance by the Committee-in-Charge and communicated to the relevant units.

1.5 Where the National Anthem precedes a game, Teams shall stand to attention, socially distanced, respectfully facing the flag.

1.6 Ball Girls are not permitted.

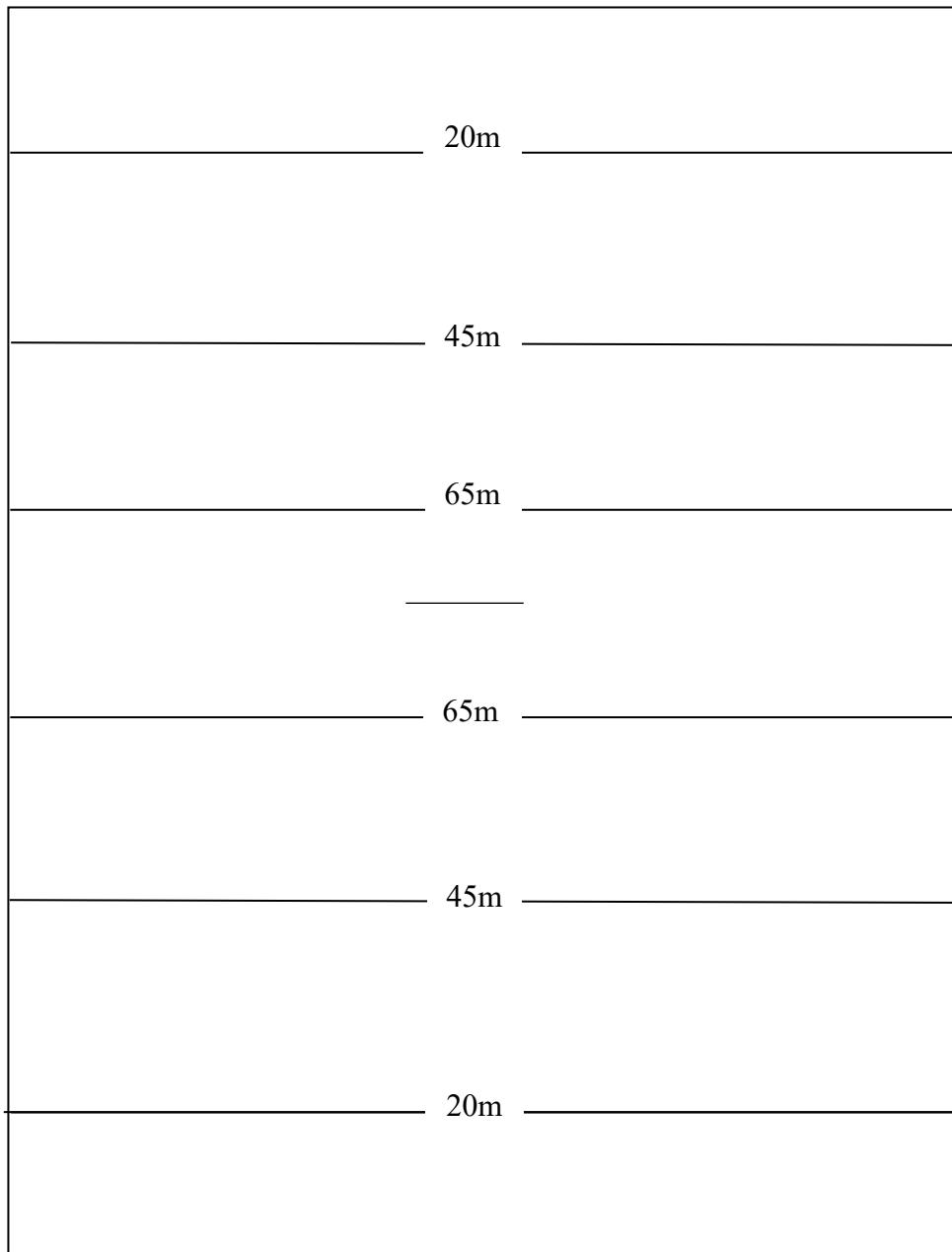
Pitch Layout

Team A

Team B

TEAM A – Team Officials & Players Zone

Substitution
Zone



TEAM B – Team Officials & Players Zone

2. Game Regulations

2.1 The Referee is in overall charge of Game Regulations and shall delegate authority to his/her Linesperson & Sideline Official; they shall include the Sideline Official's report(s) with his/her match report as appropriate. ***The Referee has the authority during the game to send any person in breach of these Regulations to the stand/outside the pitch enclosure and such person cannot be replaced.***

2.2 The Team Covid Supervisor must provide a list of all Team Officials in the designated area to the Referee with the official team list.

2.3 Club Official - Game and ground regulations apply to all players and officials and adherence to the regulations is the responsibility of the Club Official. The Bainisteoir also shares the responsibility of ensuring that game regulations are respected by players and members of team management. They shall also have the responsibility for preparing substitutions slips.

2.4 Bainisteoir - The Bainisteoir shall wear a designated distinctive top and is not permitted to enter the field of play. They may move along the sideline between the two 20m lines as per the "Pitch Layout" on Page 3 of these Regulations. The Bainisteoir may not act in any other capacity (e.g. as Maor Fóirne, etc.).

2.5 Maor Fóirne/Runner - The Maor Fóirne/Runner (who must be a Selector/Coach) must wear a bib and may enter the field of play ***only through the area in front of the team's designated area, and only when the ball has gone out of play following a score, wide or during a stoppage called by the Referee.*** S/He shall exit the field at the nearest point and return to his/her designated area without interfering with play or opposition personnel.

The role of the Maor Fóirne is to deliver messages to players on their team and any disruption to the playing of the game, challenging the authority of the match officials, interference with opposing players, entry onto the field of play not at a time as listed above or breach of match regulations shall result in their removal from the pitch enclosure and they cannot be replaced for the remainder of the game, including Extra Time.

The Maor Fóirne must not be a listed member of the team panel.

2.6 Medics - Medical personnel shall be identified on the officials list provided by the Team Covid Supervisor and shall sit in the areas designated in Ground Regulations; they shall wear clear identification and may only enter the field of play to attend to an injured player(s). Medical personnel while performing their duties are required to wear PPE.

2.7 Water Breaks – One water break will take place between the 12th & 17th minute in each half, which the referee will signal for only when the ball has gone out of play following a score, wide or during a stoppage called by the Referee.

The breaks should last no longer than a minute, with players coming to the area in front of their team zone and drinking from their own clearly marked bottle or a single use water bottle.

The time taken for the break will be added to the end of each half as part of the additional time.

Players are permitted to position their clearly marked water bottle around the outside of the pitch.

Maor Uisce are not permitted.

2.9 Substitutes - Substitutes are not allowed a kick around at half-time. A maximum of three substitutes wearing designated distinctive tops may warm up on sidelines at any one time. A maximum number of 15 substitutes are allowed within the pitch enclosure at any one time. Each substitute should have their own bib and not share with other team members.

2.10 Distinctive Tops – If not wearing the official bib, the distinctive tops as listed above concerning the Bainisteoir shall not clash with the main colour of either team.

3. Breaches

3.1 Sanctions for breaches of Ground/Pitch/Game Regulations shall be at the discretion of the Committee-in-Charge. These may include warnings, fines, the withdrawal of sideline privileges for individuals as outlined in Part 2 of these regulations or suspension of individuals as considered appropriate. These sanctions should be determined and clearly outlined in advance of competitions commencing. Where sanctions for the breaches have not been determined in advance, any breaches should be dealt with as per the CODA Rules.

3.2 The Referee has the authority during the game to send any person in breach of these Regulations to the stand/outside the pitch enclosure and such person cannot be replaced.

3.3 Where Bainistoir sideline privileges have been withdrawn the Bainistoir will be confined to a designated area as decided on by the Committee-in-Charge.

3.4 The frequency and gravity of reported breaches in each game shall be taken into account by the Committee-in-Charge and may lead to next match sanctions.

4. Player & Team Officials Covid-19 Guidelines

The following guidelines are issued to Players & Team Officials to reduce risk and maximise personal safety.

- No handshakes before or after games
- No spitting or nose-clearing
- Team huddles should only take place where social distancing is observed
- Use hand-sanitisers before and after every match
- Players should use their own clearly marked water bottles
- Interaction with opponents & match officials should be kept to a minimum after the match

Players & team officials are reminded that disciplinary issues will be dealt with under CODA Rules.