



The

Inishowen Football League

Rules & Constitution

2017 – 2018

Includes amendments made in **2017** – errors and omissions excepted
All due care has been given to the compilation of this document,
in the event that an error is found please inform the League secretary immediately

All persons connected with the Inishowen Football League should familiarise themselves with the rules and procedures of the League and should conduct their affairs with the league accordingly

Contents listing

Section 01	Page: 07 to 11	CONSTITUTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Title of League• Area of jurisdiction• Management Committee		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Duties & Functions of Management• Insurance
Section 02	Page: 12 to 13	MEETINGS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual General meeting• Special general meeting• Disciplinary Committee meetings		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance Requirements for Meetings• Voting Rights
Section 03	Page: 13 to 14	CHANGES TO RULES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When changes are made• Notification of changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voting on Changes
Section 04	Page: 14	GENERAL RULES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Man of the match• Match reports		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm Animals on pitch
Section 05	Page: 15	APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Date of application• Application forms• Fees and Money Due		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Withdrawal from the League• Failure to re-apply
Section 06	Page: 16 to 18	REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Registration Forms• League Registrar• Fees to be paid with form• Deadline prior to any match		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Last date in season for Registering• Officers of clubs to register• Players of same name with club

Section 07	Page: 18 to 19	TRANSFER OF PLAYERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earliest transfer date• League registrar• Transfer only at Monthly Meeting		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Player Transfer Forms• Fees payable• Latest date each season for transfer
Section 08	Page: 19 to 20	RE-GRADING OF PLAYERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who needs to re-grade• When to re-grade• Re-grading form		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Re-grading only at Monthly Meeting• Latest date for re-grading
Section 09	Page: 20 to 22	MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cup-tied players• Reserve players• Strengthening of teams• Eligibility for Fr. O’Gara Cup		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior players in Inishowen team• Movement of players from Reserve team to higher team
Section 10	Page: 22 to 23	ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Registration with only one Association• Playing in Knock-out cups		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playing in League Cup• Senior Clubs (Derry City & Finn Harps)
Section 11	Page: 23 to 24	ESTABLISHING PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proof may be demanded• Signatures can be requested• Management Committee rights		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clubs can inspect register• Clubs right to information• Filling of Match Cards
Section 12	Page: 24 to 27	PLAYING OF MATCHES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee to organise matches• Arrangements of fixtures (Date/Time)• Duration of games• Responsibility of clubs/Supporters etc.• Club requirements: Ball/Linesmen/etc.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Substitutes• Failing to field• Seeking postponement• Changes from previous match• Procedures for inspection of pitches

Section 13	Page: 27 to 28	CLUB GROUNDS/ CONDITION/PLAYING KIT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lining of pitches • Changing accommodation • Unfavourable weather: Procedures • Management Committee right to inspect grounds 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing colours • Players Numbers • Medical Kit
Section 14	Page: 29	PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resignation procedure • Suspended Clubs • Points for games of clubs resigning/suspended • Players of above clubs 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs/Individuals winning trophies • Club Facilities and players at League Management disposal • Playing of ineligible player
Section 15	Page: 30	REFEREES & CLUBS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of referee • Absence of appointed referee • Referees not available for appointment 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filling/Returning Match Card • Payment of Referee's fees
Section 16	Page: 31 to 32	DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of Discipline • Appointment of Discipline Committee • Discipline guided by Rules/Discipline Code • Appealed cases 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing of Protests, Appeals etc. • Personal hearing • Punishing of offenders • Appeals rights
Section 17	Page: 33	LODGING PROTESTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for protests • Protest requirements 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counter-protests
Section 18	Page: 34	LODGING APPEALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for appeals 		Appeal requirements

Section 19**Page: 35****PAYMENT OF FINES**

- Deadline for payment of fines
- Failure to pay by deadline
- Doubling of fines
- Non-payment of doubled fine
- Suspension of clubs

Page: 36

- Arrangements for players joining the Inishowen Football league from outside the jurisdiction of the Football association of Ireland

Page: 37

- Procedures for applying for International Transfer Certificate

Page: 39

- Quick Reference to: **Cup Competitions –**
 - **Father O’Gara Cup**
 - **Top Four Challenge Cup**

Section	Rule	Section - 1 Constitution	Year
01	01	This association shall be known as the: Inishowen Football League	
01	02	The Inishowen Football League shall be affiliated to: The Football Association of Ireland and The Ulster Football Association .	
01	03	<p>The league shall foster and develop the game of Association Football in the Inishowen Electoral Area, The Ulster Football Association passed a resolution defining the jurisdiction of Inishowen Football League(s) as follows:</p> <p><i>The Ulster FA supports the constitution of the Inishowen Football League, Inishowen Youth and Schoolboys League, Inishowen Women’s League, Donegal League Organisation, Donegal Youth League and Donegal Women’s League. The boundaries of those bodies are defined as the Inishowen Electoral Area for Inishowen and the remainder of Donegal for the Donegal League Organisation. Clubs located within these areas may not play outside these areas without the mutual consent of the named governing bodies</i></p>	2004
01	04.1	<p>The control of the Inishowen Football League shall be vested in the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall consist of:</p> <p><i>[as circumstances may dictate]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Chairman, • Vice-Chairman, • Secretary or Secretaries, • Treasurer or Treasurers, • Competition Secretary or Secretaries, • Public Relations Officer or Officers • Registrar or Registrars. 	

01	04.2	The Management Committee may co-opt TWO non-office-bearing members as circumstances may dictate,	
01	04.3	The Management Committee may fill by co-option, any vacancies arising in the committee during their term of office.	
01	05.1	<p><i>[Clauses covering games and sporting exemption from tax under the provisions of section 235, taxes consolidation act 1997]</i></p> <p>Income and Property</p> <p>The income and property of the association (league) shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its main object(s) as set forth in this constitution. No portion of the associations income and property shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the members of the association. No officer shall be appointed to any office of the association paid by salary or fees or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the association. However, nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the association of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) reasonable and proper remuneration to any member of the association (not being an officer) for any services rendered to the association; b) interest not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent by officers or other members of the association to the association; c) reasonable and proper rent for premises demised and let by any member of the association (including any officer) to the association; d) reasonable and proper out of expenses incurred by any officer in connection with their attendance to any matter affecting the association; e) fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to any company of which an officer may be a member holding not more than one hundredth part of the issued capital of such company. 	2006 2007

01	05.2	Winding-up If upon winding up or dissolution of the association there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever; it shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the association. Instead, such property shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having main objects similar to the main objects of the association. The institution or institutions to which the property is being given or transferred shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the association under or by virtue of clause 1 hereof. Members of the association shall select the relevant institution or institutions at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provisions, then the property shall be given or transferred to some charitable object	
01	05.3	Additions, alterations or amendments No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to or in the provisions of this constitution for the time being in force unless the Revenue Commissioners shall have previously approved the same in writing	
01	05.4	Keeping of Accounts Annual audited accounts shall be kept and made available to the revenue commissioners on request.	
01	06	All league funds received by the honorary treasurer shall be deposited in a financial institution approved by the Committee.	
01	07	All cheques shall be signed by two members of the Management Committee of the League.	
01	08	The Management Committee shall appoint a three-person trustee committee who shall act on behalf of the league under the direction of the Management Committee.	

01	<i>09</i>	The Trustees for the time being shall be for all intents and purposes the owners of all Cups, Trophies, Monies and Property of the League and shall deal with the same according to the direction of the Management Committee.	
01	<i>10</i>	The Management Committee may from time to time lend, and or, invest or otherwise deal with money of the league not required for immediate use in such a manner as may, from time to time be determined by them in such a securities as may be approved by them and it may from time to time vary any such securities.	1990 1991
01	<i>11</i>	The Management Committee may from time to time Purchase, Build, Rent, Lease, Hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property, including Lands, Buildings, Houses or other property, the possession, use or occupation of which may be considered beneficial or advantageous to the League	1990 1991
01	<i>12</i>	The Management Committee may from time to time Borrow, Raise, or secure the payment of money for the purpose of the league in such a manner or in such terms as may seem expedient, provided always that it shall not borrow in excess of ten Thousand Euro (€10,000) without the sanction of the League at a delegate meeting.	1990 1991
01	<i>13</i>	No affiliated member of the Inishowen Football League may take legal action against the League or any of its affiliated members or any member of the officer board on any issue relating to the application of the league rules or constitution.	1990 1991
01	<i>14</i>	This league and its members of the Management Committee accept no responsibility for any member of the public or this league for public liability insurance on any club ground whatsoever.	2000 2001

01	15	Every affiliated club must have appropriate Public Liability Insurance which must cover their grounds, matches, dressing-rooms, stands, buildings and also club functions organised and/or participate in by the club.	
01	16	Every affiliated club must have appropriate Personal Accident Insurance to cover all players signed by the club.	
01	17	The Management Committee must ratify the appointment of a Parks Committee on a yearly basis.	2000 2001
01	18	The Parks Committee shall administer the day to day running of league headquarters and all financial decisions will be undertaken by the management committee only.	2015 2016
01	19	Regular progress reports will be furnished to the league Management Committee by the Parks Committee for delegate information.	
01	20	The financial year of the Inishowen Football League will run from 1st January to 31st December each year.	
01	21	The Inishowen Football League and the clubs/teams affiliated to the league will not discriminate against, or exclude individuals on the basis of their religion, ethnic group, class, gender or age	

Section	Rule	Section - 2	Meetings	Year
02	<i>01</i>	Notification of the date of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and all matters it is intended to include in the agenda together with details of resolutions and proposed alterations must be sent in writing or by email to each club by the honorary Secretary.		
02	<i>02</i>	Each affiliated club shall be entitled to representation at the AGM by two (2) delegates.		
02	<i>03</i>	No two clubs may be represented by one and the same delegate.		
02	<i>04</i>	Members of the retiring League Committee shall have full voting powers.		
02	<i>05</i>	A Special General Meeting may be called for by the Committee as they may deem necessary.		
02	<i>06</i>	A Special General Meeting shall also be called, upon receipt by the Honorary Secretary of the league of a requisition, signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the secretaries of all affiliated clubs .		
02	<i>07</i>	No business shall be transferred at such meetings except that specified in the requisition to, or contained in, the agenda issued by the Honorary Secretary of this League		
02	<i>08</i>	Seven days' notice shall be given by the secretary to all clubs.		
02	<i>09</i>	Management Committee and/or Club Delegates shall meet each month during the season.		
02	<i>10</i>	Meetings will take place each month during the season with the exception of January and May .		1998 1999
02	<i>11</i>	Only one delegate per club will have the right to vote in matters requiring a vote.		2014 2015
02	<i>12</i>	Clubs must be represented by at least one delegate , regardless of the number of teams, at the monthly meeting.		2011 2012

02	<i>13</i>	All club representatives will sign an attendance record at Monthly Meetings	2012 2013
02	<i>14</i>	The Disciplinary Committee will meet at its own discretion.	
02	<i>15</i>	At these meetings the referee reports will be read and decisions will be made accordingly	
02	<i>16</i>	Any club shall be entitled to appeal against the decision initially made by the Disciplinary Committee to the Ulster Football Association.	
02	<i>17</i>	Any member of the Management Committee who is absent from two successive meetings without good and acceptable reason may be understood and taken to have given implicit resignation from the Management Committee.	
02	<i>18</i>	All League meetings are to be non-smoking	

Section	Rule	Section - 3	Changes to Rules	Year
03	<i>01</i>	Changes to rules and constitution may be dealt with separately from the Annual General Meeting		
03	<i>02</i>	If any alteration or addition to league rules or constitution is deemed necessary, notice of the proposed alteration or addition must be sent in writing to the Honorary Secretary signed on behalf of the club secretary of the club concerned.		
03	<i>03</i>	A suitable date for the final receipt of proposed alterations or additions will be decided by the Management committee as circumstances may dictate.		
03	<i>04</i>	Clubs will be issued with forms on which to make their proposals and will be notified as to the final date for the acceptance of proposals.		
03	<i>05</i>	No change of a rule may be made unless supported by two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the meeting.		

03	<i>06</i>	Rules currently in use which may be made obsolete or inoperative by proposals adopted for rules at the meeting and not having been specifically included in the agenda for the meeting may, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be altered, excluded or otherwise dealt with in order that the rules in the rulebook are logical with each other	
03	<i>07</i>	Notice of such changes will be made at a delegate meeting	
03	<i>08</i>	The Management Committee shall have the power to deal with any matter arising which is not particularly covered by rules.	
03	<i>09</i>	The rules are to be read in conjunction with the Laws of the Game.	1990 1991
03	<i>10</i>	Clubs, members and players of this league and the officers thereof are bound by all resolutions and decisions of the Council of the Football Association of Ireland.	
03	<i>11</i>	Each club shall be supplied with a copy of the rules and shall be bound thereby	

Section	Rule	Section - 4	General Rules	Year
04	<i>01</i>		All correspondence for the Inishowen football league must be forwarded to the league secretary only and to no other league officer (unless otherwise stated)	
04	<i>02</i>		Match reports: the home team must give the result immediately after the match to the Competition Secretary.	2012 2013
04	<i>03</i>		No farm animals are permitted on any pitch registered with the Inishowen Football League	1995 1996

Section	Rule	Section - 5 Application for Membership	Year
05	<i>01</i>	Teams seeking admission to the league are required to do so not later than the date of the Annual General Meeting.	
05	<i>02</i>	An application form will be supplied for the purpose of making an application for entry to the league.	
05	<i>03</i>	No application will be accepted unless made out on the form provided and within the specified time.	
05	<i>04</i>	Any application form received after the closing date may be considered by management but will be subject to additional entry fees.	
05	<i>05</i>	The club or team must ensure that any changes to their club details on their information sheet or application form is made known to the league secretary in writing and also read out at a monthly meeting.	1993 1994
05	<i>06</i>	Entry to the league will require affiliation fees to be paid in full with application	
05	<i>07</i>	All outstanding money and fines due to the league must be paid before the application will be considered.	
05	<i>08</i>	New teams will be confined to the lower division in their first year of membership and thereafter promotion and relegation will apply.	
05	<i>09</i>	The management Committee has the power to accept or reject any application to the league.	
05	<i>10</i>	Any team which fails to re-apply or withdraws from the league may not have an application for readmission considered until a minimum of two seasons has elapsed	2000 2001
05	<i>11</i>	ALL monies MUST be paid by cheque or Postal Order to the league. NO CASH will be accepted under any circumstances	

Section	Rule	Section- 6 Registration of Players	Year
06	<i>01</i>	In order to register a player a Player Registration Form will be supplied for the purpose.	
06	<i>02.1</i>	The Player Registration form must be Fully completed and contain the players full name and postal address in block letters and the player must sign his own signature.	
	<i>02.2</i>	New players coming from outside the jurisdiction of the Inishowen League or signing for the first time in the league must produce their driving licence or passport along with their registration form (with the exception of players progressing from Inishowen Youth League)	2010 2011
06	<i>03</i>	The registration form must also be duly signed by the club secretary.	
06	<i>04</i>	All sections of the form are to be completed and delivered to the league register or such other person nominated by the management committee.	
06	<i>05</i>	The league registrar will sign and date the counterfoils and return them to the club, He will also record the player's name.	
06	<i>06</i>	A membership fee is payable to the league in respect of each person wishing to become a player for any club or team in the league.	1990 1991
06	<i>07</i>	On receipt of the Registration Form the player named on the registration form becomes a member of the Inishowen football league.	2012 2013
06	<i>08</i>	The amount of the membership fee is as per the schedule of fees as laid down at the start of the season.	1990 1991
06	<i>09</i>	The club concerned will be responsible for collecting and paying the fee when making the registration.	
06	<i>10</i>	A club may register a player after the start of the competition by having his completed registration form with the league registrar a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the game in which he plays.	2014 2015

06	11	Any player signed in the Inishowen League can only leave within a transfer window- Any player not abiding by this rule cannot re-sign in the league for one full season after the end of the season in which he left.	2013 2014
06	12	Officers of affiliated clubs are deemed to come under the jurisdiction of the Management Committee on the same basis as players	1990 1991
06	13.1	In the event that a club registers more than one player with the same name: The club must make a distinction between players on the registration card and also use the same distinction when the players are named on the referee's card for any match e.g. 1. John Doe (A) 2. John Doe (B)	
	13.2	This applies each time each player plays. Not only if both players are on the card at the same time	
	13.3	If a player is subsequently transferred, the same distinction will carry through.	
06	14	A player can be registered up to the 31 st March in any season.	2015 2016
06	15.1	Any player from outside the jurisdiction of the Inishowen Football League must secure a clearance from their own league or association and complete an Inishowen League Transfer Form before being registered with the Inishowen Football League. (<i>reference: International Transfer Certificate</i>)	
06	15.2	Any player from outside the FAI jurisdiction must secure an ITC (International Transfer Clearance/Certificate) before playing in the Inishowen League.	2015 2016
06	16	A club registering or transferring a player from outside the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Ireland must forward an International Clearance Certificate	
06	17	It is the responsibility of all clubs to ensure that their players are registered properly. On discovery of any signing irregularity the club will lose points for all games the player played in retrospectively	2012 2013

06	18.1	Premier Division Teams must sign a minimum of 16 (sixteen) players who must be registered before the season commences. The Management Committee must approve the list of players submitted.	
06	18.2	Panel of 16 players must be maintained to the satisfaction of the committee for the duration of the season	

Section	Rule	Section - 7	Transfer of Players	Year
07	01.1	The management Committee must also agree to the transfer.		
07	01.2	In certain cases, the League Management Committee may order the release of a player		
07	02.1	A Player transfer form will be provided for the making of a transfer application.		
07	02.2	<p>No other means of transfer will be acceptable. In order to make a transfer, the club wishing to make the transfer must.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Get the player's signature on the form</i> 2. <i>Get the secretary of the holding club (club granting transfer) to sign the application</i> 3. <i>Get the secretary of the transferring club (club seeking transfer) to sign the application</i> 		
07	02.3	The completed Transfer application form must be presented to the league registrar.		2014 2015
07	02.4	Completed Transfers will be updated on the League Website at the earliest opportunity		
07	03	A transfer fee is payable to the League for the transfer of a player.		
07	04	The amount of the fee is as per the schedule of fees as laid down at the start of the season. The fee must accompany the application.		

07	05	The two transfer periods for the amateur game shall be 1st June to 30th September inclusive and the 1st December to 31st January inclusive. However, an amateur player may be signed on a professional contract for the professional game during the professional registration periods	2010 2011
07	06	Players transferring to clubs outside the jurisdiction of the Inishowen League Must secure a written release from the Inishowen League Registrar.	2014 2015 Was 10.09

Section	Rule	Section - 8	Re-grading of Players	Year
08	01	Any player who has ever played five or more games at Senior level or higher in the current season or any other Summer league just ended and wishes to play in the Inishowen Junior League must be re-graded by the Inishowen Football League.		2011 2012
08	02	A senior player, for the purpose of the Inishowen Football League is: <i>Any player who has played five or more games at Ulster Senior League level or any other comparable league or higher.</i>		
08	03	In order to have a player re-graded a form will be supplied by the League.		
08	04	A request for re-grading must be on an appropriate form, duly completed and signed by all concerned.		
08	05	Any re-graded player playing one senior game automatically loses his junior status and becomes a Senior Player for the remainder of the season.		2000 2001
08	06	No player re-graded after the season starts may play in the Father O’Gara cup.		
08	07	Players can only be re-graded within a transfer window.		2013 2014

08	<i>08.1</i>	Inishowen league clubs will be allowed to re-classify two players between their first team and reserve team before December 31st each season while maintaining a panel of sixteen players for their first team. Such players would then be eligible to play in all competitions in which their team competes with the exception of the O’Gara cup & Reserve Shield (in the case of players signed in the premier division who move down). All changes must be made in writing to the Registrar and recorded at the February meeting	2011 2012
08	<i>08.2</i>	Any re-classified player under the above rule loses his status if he starts one game for his first team after being re-graded.	2009 2010

Section	Rule	Section - 9	Movement of Players	Year
09	<i>01</i>	Players who are cup tied may not move from one team to the other to participate in any cup game competition in which they may have participated earlier.		
09	<i>02</i>	Any player transferring from the Inishowen League to an USL team is ineligible to play in the Inishowen League for that club until the following season		
09	<i>03</i>	Inishowen Teams in the Ulster Senior League can use only two senior players from USL on any match day in current Inishowen season provided they are properly registered.		2013 2014
09	<i>04</i>	The League Management Committee may request and must be given the names of senior players which the club intends to play.		
09	<i>05</i>	If it is found that senior players are included for the sole purpose of strengthening the team then they may be ruled out.		1990 1991
09	<i>06</i>	No player signed in the Ulster Senior League or the Inishowen League Premier Division may play in the Father O’Gara cup - except Under 18 players who have not started five games for their senior team.		

09	<i>07</i>	Reserve players will be allowed to participate in the Clubman Shirts League Cup Stages and Charlie O'Donnell Trophy without affecting their Fr. O'Gara Cup status.	2012 2013
09	<i>08.1</i>	Any Reserve Player who starts FIVE games for his First team in all competitions (with the exception of the Clubman Shirts League Cup and Charlie O'Donnell Trophy) will be ineligible to play in the Fr. O'Gara cup or Reserve League Shield for his Reserve Team	2014 2015
09	<i>08.2</i>	Any reserve player who starts five games for his first team becomes a senior player and can only be used for his reserve team as one of the two players the reserve teams are allowed to take down.	
09	<i>09</i>	No player signed in the Ulster Senior League or the Inishowen League Premier Division and is subsequently transferred down to Inishowen League First Division or Reserve Division may play in the Father O'Gara Cup or Reserve Shield	2011 2012
09	<i>10</i>	No player transferred from the Premier Division of the Donegal League will be permitted to play in the Father O'Gara Cup or Reserve Shield	
09	<i>11</i>	Senior League Players may play only for the Inishowen Junior team which is in the higher division of the league.	
09	<i>12</i>	There will be free movement of players from the Reserve League team to the team in the higher division	
09	<i>13</i>	Reserve teams can only name up to two signed First Team players in any Reserve League game.	2003 2004
09	<i>14</i>	No reserve team can use any FIRST team players after 15th April EACH season.	2015 2016
09	<i>15</i>	Any player transferring from a first sixteen panel (Premier or First Division) to a reserve team is ineligible to play in the Reserve League Shield.	2011 2012
09	<i>16</i>	Reserve team goalkeepers can start more than five (5) games for their first team without affecting their status.	2014 2015

09	<i>17</i>	Clubs with three teams can move two players either way between their 2 nd & 3 rd teams - provided their reserve team has not taken two players from their first team on that day & provided they do not have two teams in the same division.	2013 2014
09	<i>18</i>	Players signed with a clubs third team may play for their Reserve or first team with the usual O’Gara cup or Shield Stipulations.	
09	<i>19</i>	If a club has a third team, then it is permitted to use 2 players from either the first team panel (from a list of 5 first team players passed by the management committee) or reserve panel to be reviewed at Xmas 2016.	

Section	Rule	Section - 10	Eligibility to Play	Year
10	<i>01.1</i>	Players may not be registered or play with more than one affiliated association or any other league during the current season. Except in the case of the Ulster Senior League.		
10	<i>01.2</i>	A player caught playing outside the jurisdiction of the Inishowen League will be banned for 14 games and fined €150. If that player subsequently plays in the league his club will automatically be deducted TEN points.		2012 2013
10	<i>02</i>	No team may play outside the jurisdiction of the Inishowen League without the prior permission from the Inishowen League.		
10	<i>03</i>	No player may play for more than one club except in the case of an Ulster Senior League team with a team in the Inishowen League.		
10	<i>04</i>	In the knock-out competitions: Any player, who has played in any cup competition and is subsequently transferred, is ineligible to play in the same competition for his new team.		

10	<i>05</i>	All players having participated in any cup games at any stage of the competition, including all stages of the league cup shall be deemed cup-tied.	
10	<i>05.1</i>	Reserve players who feature on match cards as substitutes in cup competitions and are not used will not be cup tied.	
10	<i>06</i>	Senior and Intermediate clubs who show an interest in signing Junior Players must contact the club concerned about the player.	
10	<i>07</i>	A request must first come in writing to the league secretary who will then release the player if everything is in order.	
10	<i>08</i>	Any player chosen and agreeing to represent the league in the Oscar Traynor Competition and who does not honour that commitment shall be fined Twenty five Euro (€25) and suspended for one game.	2003 2004
10	<i>09</i>	Players must be 15 years of age to play in the Inishowen football league	
10	<i>10</i>	It is compulsory for all team managers to attend the Annual Managers Meeting in advance of each new season. Any manager unavailable on that night MUST meet with the management committee before the new season starts otherwise he is ineligible to manage a team in the league.	

Section	Rule	Section - 11	Proof of Eligibility	Year
11	<i>01</i>		The committee may at any time require a club to provide whatever proof the committee deems necessary to establish proof that a player is not registered with any other affiliated association outside the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Ireland	
11	<i>02</i>		Where a player is suspected of playing in another affiliated league the club will be asked to furnish an official clearance from the said affiliated league or leagues.	

11	03	A manager may request from another team manager that any player or players be required to give their signature. The approach to request a player's signature is to be made through the referee.	
11	04	Any member of the Management Committee may at their discretion go to a match and request any player or player's signature.	
11	05	Any club may inspect the list of players of other clubs on the League Website. Any club is entitled to request and be supplied with any other information that is reasonable and considered relevant .	
11	06	In the case of protests, if the Disciplinary Committee has any doubts as to the qualification of any player they shall have the power to call upon such player, or to the club to which he belongs, or for which he has played to prove that he is qualified according to the rules.	
11	07	At any match, the first club to complete the referee's card may see the card after the second club has filled in their player's names but the referee must have the card in his possession before the game starts.	

Section	Rule	Section - 12	Playing of Matches	Year
12	01	The league committee shall have the power to organise competitions for any trophies which may be presented to them during the season and to frame such rules as may be necessary for same.		
12	02	All matches shall be arranged by the management committee by whom the day and time of kick-off shall be fixed.		
12	03	No club shall have the power to postpone or break a fixture or change the venue or time of fixture without prior consent of the league management.		

12	04	All games shall be ninety (90) minutes duration except in extraordinary circumstances when the matter will be decided at the discretion of the committee.	
12	05	All games must start at the prescribed time.	
12	06	All late starts will be reported by the referee along with the cause of the late start. The Disciplinary will take the necessary action	
12	07	Each club is responsible to the Management Committee of the league for the actions of its players, officials and spectators and is required to take necessary precautions prior to, during and at the conclusion of all matches.	
12	08	All clubs/teams are to supply 4 (four) match balls properly inflated to fulfil the fixture.	2012 2013
12	09	Clubs must provide one linesman at all games.	
12	10	A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven (7) players.	
12	11	Substitutes: Official Competitions; Up to a maximum of five (5) substitutes from seven (7) may be used in any match played in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA, the confederation of the national associations. <i>(Five substitutes shall be permitted from a previously named maximum of seven names).</i>	
12	12	Changing the Goalkeeper: Any of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper, provided that: the referee is informed before the change is made, the change is made during a stoppage in the match	
12	13	Clubs failing to fulfil a fixture may be fined a sum to be decided on by the Committee in addition to any expenses which the disciplinary committee considers were properly and necessary incurred.	
12	14	Expenses incurred may be paid to the disappointed club which may be adjudged to have won the tie.	

12	15	In the event that a team is awarded a tie - two (2) goals will be recorded for the team and two (2) goals awarded against the opposition.	
12	16	In the event of any subsequent offence the Disciplinary committee shall have the power to deal with the matter as they think right.	
12	17	If a club is involved in a final, then their reserve team is not scheduled with a fixture that day	2012 2013
12	18	In the event of an emergency (at the discretion of the management committee) a shorter period of notification may be granted.	
12	19.1	Home clubs must report the result of the match Immediately after the game.	
	19.2	In the event of the pitch being declared unplayable by the referee, the home team must notify Immediately the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match Referee, • Opposing Team, • Competition Secretary • Public Relations Officer. 	
12	20	In the event of a referee being called in to inspect a pitch prior to a match being played, he must submit a report of his decision to the competition secretary.	
12	21	All cup games from the start of the season will be reversible if the home ground is unplayable.	1999 2000
12	22	All league games from the start of the season will be reversible if the home ground is unplayable.	1999 2000
12	23	In the event of a match not being played the match referee must return the match card and the report as normal.	
12	24.1	When two teams finish level on points in any league then they play off (to a finish) at league headquarters or appointed venue, if more than two teams finish level on points then they play off on a round robin basis at league headquarters or appointed venue to decide the league.	2005 2006

12	24.2	If teams involved in promotion/relegation issues finish level on points then they play off (to a finish) at league headquarters or appointed venue to decide their finishing positions.	
12	24.3	All other positions in the league tables to be decided on goal difference. In the event of goal difference being the same then the team conceding the least amount of goals will finish in the higher position.	2005 2006
12	25	In the case of a match being reversed due to inclement weather – then the team receiving home advantage must pay half the referee's fee.	
12	26	Teams failing to field in the West End League Cup/Reserve League Shield will have all their games played declared null and void	2011 2012
12	27	In the event of teams playing an ineligible player their opponents will be awarded the points and a two nil score-line recorded and in all games the offending player has played in for this club retrospectively. Discipline will deal with the offending club in the usual manner.	2012 2013

Section	Rule	Section - 13 Club Grounds - Playing Kit	Year
13	01	All pitches are to be properly lined, and all nets, goalposts, corner flags must be of standard size and specification to FAI Standard.	2012 2013
13	02	Dry lime must not be used to line pitches.	
13	03.1	In the event of un-favourable weather conditions, the home club must get a referee to inspect the ground Not Later than three (3) hours prior to the advertised time of kick off to ascertain whether the ground is playable or not. His (the referee) decision being final.	
13	03.2	If the match is an early kick off inspection may need to be done the night before.	

13	<i>04</i>	Failure to comply with rules (13.01 – 13.02) make the home club liable for travelling expenses if the game is not played	
13	<i>05</i>	In the event that two teams from the same club are both scheduled for a home game then the Competition Secretary prioritises which game is to be played and the other game will be rescheduled.	
13	<i>06</i>	In the event that a club fails to notify their opponents or the referee of a postponement/cancellation they are liable for the referee's fee, opponents expenses and they lose home advantage for the rescheduled game	
13	<i>07</i>	The Management Committee shall have the power to authorise a delegate to visit the grounds at any time during the season to ascertain the suitability of any ground for playing.	
13	<i>08</i>	All clubs shall declare their playing colours which must be used by all players on the team except the goalkeeper	1990 1991
13	<i>09</i>	In the event of two clubs registering the same colours the Home Team shall change when such clubs meet in competition.	
13	<i>10</i>	At the start of the season all clubs are requested to take note of all other club's colours. Such information is to be used throughout the season and necessary precaution taken to avoid a clash of colours.	
13	<i>11</i>	All jerseys must be distinctively numbered.	
13	<i>12</i>	A player's number must correspond to his position on the referee's card	
13	<i>13</i>	All teams are to provide for all matches, a properly equipped medical kit as to be defined by Management.	

Section	Rule	Section - 14 Participation in Competitions	Year
14	<i>01</i>	In the event of any club finding it impossible to continue to participate in the league competitions, their resignation should be tendered in writing to the league secretary. All points for matches played or un-played shall be declared void and shall not be credited.	
14	<i>02</i>	In the event that any team is suspended from the league all matches shall be declared void.	1995 1996
14	<i>03</i>	Players signed for any club withdrawing from competitions will immediately become the property of the league.	
14	<i>04</i>	All clubs who win a trophy are RESPONSIBLE and LIABLE for the safekeeping and return of those trophies. In event of any damage to any trophies or cups the club MUST return them without attempting ANY repair immediately to the league committee.	
14	<i>05</i>	Any club or player winning an award during the season is required to have a representative attend the presentation function to receive the award. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.	
14	<i>06a</i>	Promotion and relegation shall be decided in advance of each new season.	
14	<i>06b</i>	No two teams from the one CLUB can play in the premier division	2017 2018
14	<i>06c</i>	If a reserve team wins the FIRST division they CANNOT be promoted - and in that case the runners up in the First Division will play the bottom team in the Premier division.	2017 2018
14	<i>06d</i>	If Reserve teams fill the top two places in the FIRST division then there will be NO promotion/relegation that season.	2017 2018
14	<i>07</i>	Any club proved to have played ineligible players in any game shall be adjudged to have lost the match and any other match in which they may have played or otherwise be dealt with as the Management/Disciplinary Committee may determine.	

14	08	Every club must have sufficient players signed to cover all competitions under the jurisdiction of the Inishowen League.	
14	09	Only clubs who win the Inishowen League Premier division may apply to join any Intermediate league. A maximum of three Inishowen clubs be allowed to compete in any Intermediate league at any time.	

Section	Rule	Section - 15	Referees & Clubs	Year
15	01	Referees shall be appointed by the Committee or its representatives.		
15	02	In the event of the appointed referee being unable to attend he should notify the referees appointments officer as early as possible		
15	03	Before the start of the match the referee shall present the referee's card to each team in order for them to list their players full Christian and surname in block letters . If two players have the same names they must be identified (see rule 6.13)		
15	04	The referee's card must be signed by the team manager for the day and returned to the referee before the start of the game.		
15	05	The referee shall notify the league of the result of the match by returning the referee's card together with any report necessary immediately after the game.		1990 1991
15	06	The home team will pay the referee's fee as laid down at the start of the season.		
15	07	The fee to be paid before the start of the match		
15	08	Both clubs shall share expenses in the case where a play-off is ordered for a neutral ground.		

15	09	Under no circumstances will a decision made by a referee be regarded as justifiable reason to walk off the field or refuse to finish a match and will be met with a heavy fine or possible expulsion from the league	
-----------	-----------	--	--

Section	Rule	Section - 16	Discipline	Year
16	01	Discipline within the membership of the Inishowen Football League shall come under the control of the Management Committee of the League		
16	02	The current disciplinary code will be in operation until such time as a review is authorised/undertaken by the league management in conjunction with the clubs		
16	03	The Management Committee may appoint a separate independent Disciplinary Committee to adjudicate on certain aspects of League Discipline		
16	04	The Management Committee and/or Discipline Committee shall be guided by the RULES of the Inishowen League in conjunction with the DISCIPLINARY CODE		
16	05	A member of the Management Committee and/or Discipline Committee shall not vote or take part in any discussion on any matter affecting a club or player with which he may be connected except in the capacity of witness		
16	06	Members of the Management Committee and/or Discipline Committee will declare any interest they may have prior to any case being discussed or heard		
16	07	All the following: Protests – Appeals – Counter Protests – Complaints – Referee’s Reports and any other items which may affect discipline of the league will be considered and dealt with accordingly		

16	<i>08</i>	All correspondence or enquiries concerning Protests – Appeals – Counter Protests etc. must be forwarded to the League Secretary only	
16	<i>09</i>	The Management Committee and/or Discipline Committee will consider all requests by clubs or individuals for a personal hearing on any case	
16	<i>10</i>	Clubs must inform the league secretary in writing or by email of personnel attending any personal hearing and their role in the club. Failure to do so gives the league the right to adjourn, postpone or re schedule any hearing.	
16	<i>11</i>	The Management Committee and/or Discipline Committee shall have the power to impose fine on clubs, players, and officials and otherwise deal with offences as they consider fit and proper according to the conditions of each incident.	
16	<i>12</i>	Any infringement or breach of the rules or discipline code shall be dealt with as necessary	
16	<i>13</i>	There will be an automatic one match ban for players sent off during a match	1998 1999
16	<i>14</i>	Clubs cannot appeal suspensions imposed as a result of cumulative yellow cards.	2012 2013
16	<i>15</i>	All suspensions must be served with the team the player has signed for	2012 2013
16	<i>16</i>	Any decision made by the Discipline Committee may be appealed by any club to the League Management Committee provided it is within the rules laid down for appeals	
16	<i>17</i>	Any decision made by the League Management Committee may be appealed by any club to the Ulster Football Association provided it is within the rules laid down by that body for appeals	
16	<i>18</i>	Any decision made by the Ulster Football Association may be appealed by any club to the Football Association of Ireland provided it is within the rules laid down by that body for appeals	

16	<i>19</i>	Any penalties imposed are suspended while under appeal	
16	<i>20</i>	Any player suspended through an accumulation of Yellow Cards shall not miss a Cup Final. Suspension to carry over to the next league game or to the start of the following season	

Section	Rule	Section - 17 The Lodging of Protests	Year
17	<i>01</i>	Protests must be lodged by REGISTERED POST bearing a postmark within Seventy-two hours (72) of the game to the League Secretary	
17	<i>02</i>	All protests must be accompanied with the prescribed fee as laid down at the start of the season	
17	<i>03</i>	If a protest is upheld the fee will be returned	
17	<i>04</i>	The fee must be paid by any of the following methods: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postal Order • Money Order • Bank Cheque (Draft) • Cheque 	
17	<i>05</i>	If cash is included the protest will be ruled out of order	
17	<i>06</i>	If the protest is 'lost' the fee will be retained	
17	<i>07</i>	A copy of the protest must be sent by registered post bearing a postmark within seventy-two (72) hours of the cause of protest to the club under protest	
17	<i>08</i>	The protester must set out clearly the grounds on which the protest is based	
17	<i>09</i>	At the hearing of a protest the club or clubs concerned may be requested to attend	
17	<i>10</i>	All counter-protests must be lodged by registered post within seventy- two (72) hours of receipt of the protest	

Section	Rule	Section - 18 The Lodging of Appeals	Year
18	<i>01</i>	Appeals must be to the League Secretary in writing signed by the Club's Secretary or Assistant Secretary by REGISTERED POST bearing a postmark within Seventy-two (72) hours of receipt of the original decision	1990 1991
18	<i>02</i>	All appeals must be accompanied with the prescribed fee as laid down at the start of the season	
18	<i>03</i>	If the appeal is upheld the fee will be returned	
18	<i>04</i>	The fee must be paid by any of the following methods: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postal Order • Money Order • Bank Cheque (Draft) • Cheque 	
18	<i>05</i>	If cash is included the protest will be ruled out of order	
18	<i>06</i>	If the appeal is 'lost' the fee will be retained	1990 1991
18	<i>07</i>	The appellant must set out clearly the grounds on which the protest is based. If the appeal is not clearly stated, the appeal may be rejected.	
18	<i>08</i>	At the hearing of an appeal the club concerned may be requested to attend or the club may request to attend	1990 1991
18	<i>09</i>	The decision of the body appealed against may be upheld, varied or reversed	1990 1991

Section	Rule	Section - 19	The Payment of fines	Year
19	<i>01</i>	Failure to pay fines on or before the date stipulated will result that all the money due will be Automatically doubled		
19	<i>02</i>	If DOUBLED FINES are not paid within a further seven days the club concerned will be suspended until the FULL amount is paid		
19	<i>03</i>	The club of suspended teams will be notified by letter and the suspension will be effective from the date on the letter		
19	<i>04</i>	There will be a minimum of one game suspension. The team will remain suspended until the full amount is paid		1992 1993
19	<i>05</i>	Opponents of the suspended club will be awarded the game.		

Arrangements for players joining the Inishowen Football League from outside the jurisdiction of the FAI

All players coming from outside the jurisdiction of the FAI must now be in possession of an **International Transfer Certificate (ITC)** before they can be registered with the league *Up until recently no transfer clearance was required. International clearance was only required for players when transferring during the course of the Inishowen league season. This situation no longer exists.*

- Anyone transferring from outside the jurisdiction of the FAI at any time of the year (not just in close season) into the Inishowen League can only do so during a transfer window (see rule 07-12)
- Application for an ITC can only be made during a transfer window of which there are two. The transfer windows pertain to all levels of the game i.e. not just the professional game
- Transfer windows are as follows: **1st Jun. to 30th Sept. and 1st Dec. to 31st Jan.** inclusive
- Any application for an ITC which is submitted after the final day deadline (e.g. an application made on 1st Oct.) will not be entertained
- This arrangement also pertains to those who may only have played at Youth or Underage levels who may not have played for any adult junior team
- A player signed on professional terms and wishing to transfer into the Inishowen league must, in the first instance, apply for his re-instatement to amateur status before an application is made for an ITC
- In addition to having submitted an application for an ITC for a player during the appropriate transfer window, the player's Registration Form must be with the league Registrar no later than the final day of the transfer window.
- No player can be registered with the Inishowen league until an ITC is in the League's possession
- In addition, clubs are reminded that further documentation which includes a photograph (driving licence or passport) is needed for any player coming from outside the jurisdiction of the Inishowen Area (Donegal League area; North of the Border etc.) and signing for the first time in our league.
- These regulations only affect:
 - i. **Players who most recently have played outside the jurisdiction of the FAI and who seek to register with the Inishowen League for the first time**
 - ii. **Players who wish to again register with the Inishowen league having played outside the jurisdiction in the interim**
 - iii. **Players already registered with the Inishowen League last season and who have not played elsewhere are not affected**

Procedure for applying for an International Transfer Certificate (ITC)

- 1 A written application must come to the Inishowen Football League (Registrar) signed by the Club secretary making the request for the ITC
- 2 The League's **Player Registration Form** (White) (*Fully completed*) for the player must accompany the request (*this confirms the player's intention to sign for the club*)
- 3 The following information must be included with application
 1. **Name of player**
 2. **Player's date of birth**
 3. **Previous club**
 4. **Player's address while playing for the club above**
 5. **League in which the player is currently playing** (*or last played for*)
 6. **New club the player intends signing for**

Please note

1. The process of applying for and getting clearance can take several weeks to complete
2. Applications for ITC can only be made during a Transfer Window (**1st June to 30th September and 1st December to 31st January**)
3. Application must come in writing from club secretary accompanied with Players registration form fully completed
4. Players coming from Summer football (League of Ireland, Ulster Senior league) to Winter football (Inishowen League) can only do so during Transfer window
5. Players wishing to go from Winter Football to Summer Football can only do so during a Transfer Window
6. **It is very important to note** – players coming from Professional Status returning to amateur status must have this confirmed by the Domestic Department of the FAI – this request must be made by the player concerned – *the ruling is as follows: -*
*Rule: 46b..... Any professional player may apply to be reinstated as an Amateur player provided at least thirty days have elapsed since his/her last match as a professional. Applications for reinstatement must be forwarded in writing to the FAI Domestic Football Department for consideration by the FAI Domestic Committee. Only **after** the reinstatement has been **approved** can a player sign as an amateur.*

Player Passport – Players under 18 requiring an ITC.

The following applies to players who are:

- (a) under 18 years
- (b) Living at an address outside the FAI jurisdiction e. g Derry.
- (c) wishing to sign for a club in the Inishowen League for the first time.

The following documents **in PDF format only** and his **Registration Form** must be submitted to FIFA.

The documents (see below) plus the player's Registration Form – in the first instance – must be submitted to the League Registrar who will then forward them to the FAI for further transmission to FIFA.

Note: the process will probably take a number of weeks.

1. Proof of identity and nationality – **player**, (passport)
2. Proof of identity and nationality – **player's parents**, (passport)
3. Proof of birth date (birth certificate) – **player**,
4. Proof of residence– player, (utility bill)
5. Proof of residence of player's parents, (utility bill)
6. Documentation of academic education, (letter from school/college stating said player is a pupil and being educated there)
7. Parental authorisation (original letter signed by parents – stating that they are willing to let their son sign for a certain named team in another jurisdiction)

For 1 to 5 above photocopies are acceptable.

Quick Reference Guide

Fr. O’Gara Cup Competition: -

Rule 08 - 06 No player re-graded after the season starts may play in the Father O’Gara cup.

Rule 09 - 07 Reserve players will be allowed to participate in the West End League Cup Stages without affecting their Fr. O’Gara Cup status.

Rule 09 - 08 Any Reserve Player who starts FIVE games for his First team in all competitions (*with the exception of the West End League Cup*) will be **ineligible** to play in the Fr. O’Gara cup for his Reserve Team

Rule 09 - 10 No player signed in the Ulster Senior League or the Inishowen League Premier Division and is subsequently transferred down to Inishowen League First Division or Reserve Division may play in the **Father O’Gara Cup** or **Top 4 Cup**

Rule 09 - 11 No player transferred from the Premier Division of the Donegal League will be permitted to play in the Father O’Gara Cup.

Top 4 Challenge Cup Competition: -

Rule 09 - 17 In the Top Four Challenge Cup - First division teams are restricted to their named panel of 16 players after 31st December in the current season plus TWO reserve players who have not featured (on match card) in Top Four semi finals

