



Higher Education Colleges

Administration

1. The Higher Education Colleges (HEC), committee is responsible for the day to day running of All -Ireland Competitions and queries regarding such. The HEC committee will also deal with all queries about player eligibility and appeals.
2. The HEC committee should consist of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and PRO, to be elected at HEC AGM, vice chairperson, assistant secretary, assistant treasurer, culture & language officer. The LGFA management shall appoint a representative to the HEC committee. The HEC committee will nominate two representatives from within the HEC committee to attend Central Council meetings and National Congress.
3. The HEC committee are not obliged to meet in person. Decisions agreed by the majority of the HEC committee by shall stand. The Chairperson will have casting vote.
4. Members of the HEC committee shall endeavour to attend Central council meetings and attend National Congress, to present the annual report on behalf of the colleges.
5. The HEC AGM will be held on a date to be decided by the HEC committee annually. Each affiliated college shall have one voting delegate Each member of the HEC committee shall have one vote. The venue will be decided by the HEC committee.
6. All breaches of the bye laws will be subject to a €100 fine (except where otherwise specified).
7. Colleges will be fined €500 for all trophies, which are mislaid or not returned to the HEC committee when requested. A fine of €200 for all trophies, which are returned without having been engraved from the previous season.

Procedure for Appeals & Queries

All appeals must be made in accordance with the rules set out in the LGFA official guide.

8. All competitions – queries regarding the running of the competitions and other matters arising, shall be sent in writing (by email only) to the secretary of the HEC. The HEC Committee will be informed on the matter and make a collective decision on the issue. The grading of HEC Championship competitions shall be as follows:
The O'Connor Cup and Giles Cup as Senior grades, (Senior A & B respectively). Lynch Cup and Moynihan Cup as Intermediate grades (Intermediate A & B respectively). Donaghy Cup and Lagan Cup as Junior grades (Junior A & B respectively). Additionally grades as required as our competitions grow will be considered as additional Junior grades.
9. **Player Registration** – Queries regarding player eligibility should be made to the HEC committee registrar in writing by email. The query must give reasonable grounds explaining why the player's eligibility is being questioned. On receipt of such a query the HEC registrar shall in writing request a letter, signed by the registrar of the institution in question outlining the players current status, including the course code and its requirements, to be returned within 7 days.

The College Club Secretary will be notified that a query has been made and that the investigation has commenced. Should a letter not be forth coming, or fail to meet the appropriate rule, then the player will be deemed not eligible to participate in competition and any game which she had participated in will be awarded to the opposition as per rule. A decision may be referred to CODA.



Higher Education Colleges

Registrations

10. **To participate in the HEC Leagues or HEC Championships the college must be affiliated and their players registered by 1st of November annually.** Failure to have affiliation and registration documents submitted to the HEC Registrar by this date will result in a €250 fine.

11. Additional student registrations may be made between the 1st of January and the 1st of February. All registrations must be made on the official college registration form. The registration of additional students on an official registration form must be received by the HEC registrar on the Monday before a match is played. The fee for the additional player(s) must be received within 1 week of original post.

12. The Current Affiliation fee is €300 for the first team and an additional €50 per team thereafter. The current registration fee is €5 per player.

13.

A: In order for a player to qualify to compete in the HEC Competition she must be in full-time education. Postgraduates must make a special application to the HEC committee, who shall decide on their eligibility. For the Garda College and Army Cadets: students who graduate during the months between January and March still qualify to play in the HEC Championship of that academic year. All registered players must be members of the LGFA Injury fund unless exempted under rule 70f in the Official Guide of the LGFA.

B: Sabbatical Officers and Student Officers are allowed play in HEC competitions.

C: Colleges Unable to Field a Team: If a college is unable to field a team then players in that college may apply to the HEC in writing for permission to play with another college. Once registered to a college, the player can only play with that college for the remainder of that academic year. A college will only be allowed 4 permissions to play requests in an academic year. The only circumstances where more than 4 permissions to play requests may be granted to a college is where there is no other 3rd level institute affiliated and participating in HEC competitions within a 20-mile radius of the players seeking the permission to play.

Any College with a team participating in Senior HEC Championships, is not permitted to accept players on a permission to play. The only circumstances where a permission to play may be granted to a Senior status College is where there is no other 3rd level institute affiliated and participating in HEC competitions within a 20-mile radius of the player seeking the permission to play.

D: If two or more colleges (Each college has its own CAO or equivalent entry process) wish to form a “Combined” team, they may do so but must compete in the Senior HEC Competitions. These colleges may also play as individual colleges in intermediate and junior HEC Competitions (League or Championship). Declaration of this “Combined Team to be done before the 10th of October with a list of a minimum of 20 players who are assigned to this Combined Team submitted to the HEC Secretary. Any player on this list of players or additional players who represent this “Combined” team during any HEC competitions, may not play for her home College team in any Intermediate or Junior HEC competitions (League or Championship).

14. HEC Fresher’s 7-A-Side tournament. For the purposes of this competition Freshers are defined as students who are entering Third Level Education for the first time. Students who have been registered on other colleges and then transfer to year 1 of a course in a new college are not regarded as Freshers. (Third Level Education includes Universities, IT’s and PLC Colleges). Entry fee is €50 for the first team and €25 for the second team. Any team that withdraws from the tournament, less than 96 hours before opening of registration on the day of the tournament, shall be fined €250. Panels are to consist of a maximum of 12 players. All players must be submitted on the registration form and be present at registration.



Higher Education Colleges

15. Colleges who intend entering two or more teams in the league and championship competitions must register each student on the A/B or subsequent panels. Students who are registered on the A Panel may not play on other panels. Students who are on the B Panel may move up and play on the A Panel. Colleges must register a minimum of 20 players for the A panel (and B Panel if you have a C team,) at the start of the season and then players can move up when required or needed. For the purpose of the league, players may move up a panel and return to their own panel. For Championship, once a player plays up at a higher Panel from the panel registered to the player can no longer play with the lower panel. If breached the team shall forfeit the game and fined €300. Colleges may regrade players for championship between the 1st of January and the 1st of February.

Fixtures

16. **Fixture Dates** - The HEC League and Championship fixtures will be set by the HEC committee and each college must play the named opposition on the date and time set, unless both colleges agree and notify the HEC Secretary of change of date and time. This re-arranged fixture must be approved by the HEC Secretary. In the event of the home team's pitch being unplayable/closed the fixture shall be played at the away team's venue. In the case of both pitches being unplayable, the HEC Secretary will assign a venue. If a fixture is not played, the offending college will be fined €250 and the opposing college will be awarded the fixture. If both colleges fail to fulfil the fixture, both Colleges will be fined €250.

17. **Walkovers** – A college giving a walkover will be fined €350 each time. If two Colleges finish on level points in the league stages of a competition and one of these Colleges has given a walkover throughout the campaign, advantage will be given to the other team regardless of score difference.

18. Colleges incurring any fines during the season must pay these within 1 week of notification by the HEC Secretary. Colleges will be excluded from future competitions until such time as the fine is fully paid.

19. The HEC committee shall consider regrading Colleges for the HEC Championship competitions. The decision will be based on the composition of the registered panel, an application from the college and their results in league and previous championship performance.

20. The host for the HEC O'Connor Cup weekend will be decided by an open application process. The decision made by the HEC committee will be final.

21. The host for the HEC Fresher's 7-A-Side tournament will be decided by an open application process. The decision made by the HEC committee will be final.

22. There will be 15 players selected for the HEC All Star Team from the O'Connor, Giles & Lynch Cup competitions and 15 players selected for the HEC Rising Star Team from all other HEC Championship competitions. The HEC committee will appoint a selection committee.

Championship Competitions

23. All colleges must indicate on the relevant entry form whether they wish to participate in the HEC championships. This must be returned at the start of the season. There is no automatic entry.

24. The date, seeding, format and draw for all championship competitions will be determined by the HEC committee.



Higher Education Colleges

25. The first named college will be deemed as the home team and has home advantage, unless the distance is greater than 150 miles which will result in a neutral venue.
26. All HEC championship games are to be 15-a-side. In the Lagan Cup and HEC Cup, colleges may play 13- a-side, only if one or both colleges have 17 players or less available to play at the pitch.
27. In each round of the HEC championships, a winner must be obtained. There will be no replays. If the game is a draw at full time, extra time of 10 minutes per half will be played. If the result is still a draw the 5 penalties per team shall be taken, goals only count. If this fails to separate the team the sudden death penalties must be taken to reach a result.
28. A list of panels competing in the HEC Championships may be made available to all competing teams, no later than the 2nd of February.
29. Colleges must submit their panels for the HEC Championship weekend programme. Players shall wear the numbered jersey they are assigned in the programme. Failure to do so will result in the offending college being fined €50 per player wearing the incorrect jersey number.