



# **Galwegians Rugby Football Club**

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

Telephone: 091 758255

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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# **Galwegians RFC Club Constitution**



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## **1. NAME, OBJECTS AND DEFINITIONS**

### **1.1**

The name of the Club is "**Galwegian Rugby Football Club**" (hereinafter referred to as "the Club"). The objects of the Club are the playing and furtherance of Rugby Union Football. All other lawfully permitted activities in or on the Club's premises, indoor or outdoor, shall be incidental or ancillary amenities, subservient in all respects to the principal objects. The Club shall not discriminate against any person or persons nor shall it refuse membership to any person or persons by reason only of that person or persons gender, marital status, family status, disability, sexual orientation, age, religion, race or by virtue of being a member of the travelling community.

### **1.2**

The registered address of the Club shall be at Crowley Park, Glenina, Galway.

### **1.3**

**"The Board"** shall mean the Board of Management as defined in Rule 4 hereof.

**"Officers"** shall be the Officers of the Club and shall include the President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Fixtures Secretary, Assistant Honorary Secretary, Assistant Honorary Treasurer and Captain of the Club. The Trustees shall be ex-officio Officers of the Club. The Officers and the Trustees are entitled to attend and participate at meetings of the Board but without voting rights.

**"Trustees"** shall mean the Trustees of the Club as provided in Rule 3 hereof.

**"Due Notice"** shall mean prominently displayed in at least three positions within the Club premises together with publication in at least two newspapers circulating in the Galway Area.

### **1.4**

The Club colours shall be as determined from time to time by the Board.

## **2. MEMBERSHIP**

### **2.1**

The membership of the Club shall consist of Life, Ordinary, Youth or Honorary Members.

### **2.2**

Each candidacy for admission to membership shall be considered by the Board. Election of Members shall rest solely with the Board which shall have power without assigning cause to reject any application for membership. The subscription of a new Member (including Entrance Fee, if any) shall be payable immediately on election.

### **2.3**

A dual status rugby football player (as defined by the Regulations governing the All Ireland League and the Competition Rules of the Connacht Branch Irish Rugby Football Union) and playing for the 1st XV of the Club shall be deemed to be a full member of the Club throughout the course of the season in which he plays for the 1st XV.

### **2.4**



# Galwegians Rugby Football Club

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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The Entrance Fee for Membership shall be such sums as may be fixed from time to time by the Board of Management which shall have power and with absolute discretion, to decline to accept further new Members by closing the Membership List for such period as may seem to be in the best interest of the Club.

## 2.5

Annual subscriptions, payable in advance, shall be fixed from time to time by the Board, and shall be paid not later than the 1st day of November in each year (save that dates for payment of subscriptions and, where applicable, additional fees in respect of Squash may be fixed by the Board of Management for dates other than the 1st day of November). Any person failing to comply with the requirements of this Rule shall be excluded from the privileges of Membership

***PROVIDED ALWAYS*** that non payment or delayed payment by a bona fide playing member of the Club shall not disqualify him from enjoying the privileges of Membership and playing for the Club rugby teams.

## 2.6

No person shall be entitled to be, or to remain, a Youth Member after he has attained the age of 20 years.

## 2.7

All members and officials of visiting teams, referees, officials and members of other Rugby Clubs and sporting bodies temporarily visiting Crowley Park with the permission of the said Board shall be deemed Honorary Members of the Club for the day and entitled to enjoy the amenities of the Club.

## 2.8

Should a member conduct himself or herself in a manner that, in the opinion of the Board, is derogatory to the Club, the Board may call for an explanation, and if they think fit, remove such a person from Membership without any obligation to refund his or her subscription.

## 3. TRUSTEES

### 3.1

The income and property of the Club shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its main objects as set out in Paragraph 1.1 of these Rules. No portion of the Club's income and property shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly in any way howsoever by way of profit to the Members of the Club.

### 3.2

All property of the Club shall vest in the Trustees of the Club who will deal with such property as directed by the Board. No personal liability shall be attached to the Trustees or any Trustee acting in the ordinary and proper course of the Club's business. The Club shall not incur any expenditure exceeding €15,000.00 without the consent in writing of the Trustees of the Club.

### 3.3



# Galwegians Rugby Football Club

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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No Trustee of the Club shall be appointed unless he shall have been previously approved in writing by the I.R.F.U. Committee

### 3.4

No Trustee or Club Member appointed to any Office of the Club shall be paid any salary or fees or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Club. However, nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the Club of:-

- a. Reasonable and proper remuneration to any Member, Officer, or servant of the Club (not being a Trustee) for any services rendered to the Club.
- b. Interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent by Trustees or other Members of the Club to the Club.
- c. Reasonable and proper rent for premises demised and let by any Member of the Club (including any Trustee) to the Club.
- d. Reasonable and proper out of pocket expenses incurred by any Trustee or Member of the Club in connection with attendance to any matter affecting the Club.

### 3.5

No Trustee of the Club shall be removed from Office without the sanction of a Special Resolution passed by a three-fourths majority of those present and voting at a General Meeting, or being maintained in Office if such General Meeting shall resolve that he be removed. The Trustees shall be not less than two and not more than five in number.

## 4. **BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

### 4.1

The business and affairs of the Club shall be under the management of a Board (hereinafter referred to in these Rules as "the Board") elected for not less than one year by a simple majority of the Members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting and are subject to annual re-election. The Board shall comprise a minimum of six persons consisting of the Chairman, the Director of Rugby Football, the Director of Administration (assuming the duties of "the Honorary Secretary"), the Director of Finance (assuming the duties of "the Honorary Treasurer") and the Director of House and Grounds and the Director of the Youth Academy.

#### 4.1.1.

Any Member wishing to contest election for a seat on the Board shall inform the Director of Administration in writing not less than seven clear days prior to the Annual General Meeting of his or her intention to stand for election and the Board position sought. The Member shall obtain from the Director of Administration the prescribed Nomination Form and return it to him or her including a proposer and seconder together with a signed commitment to contest the election not later than two clear days



# Galwegians Rugby Football Club

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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prior to the Annual General Meeting. Only Members in good standing will be eligible to stand for election and/or propose and/or second a candidate for such an election. A Member may propose himself or herself.

## 4.2

The Board shall meet as and when necessary for the purposes of the efficient and expeditious management of the Club and its affairs on behalf of the General Membership. Three Directors shall form a quorum. The Board shall have power to make Club Regulations from time to time as the welfare and best interests of the Club make so require and such Regulations shall have the same binding effect on all Members as these Rules. No Member of the Board and no person employed in the Club shall have any personal interest in the sale of excisable liquors therein or in the profits arising from such sale.

## 4.3

The Board shall keep correct Accounts and Books showing the financial affairs and the receipts and disbursements of the Club.

## 4.4

The Board shall have power to appoint Sub Committees for the more efficient and expeditious management of the Club and shall have power to co-opt such additional members as may be required for special purposes.

## 4.5

The Board shall be accountable in the first instance to the Trustees of the Club. The Trustees may, in their absolute discretion, remove a member of the Board provided they are satisfied that the member is not acting for the general good of the Club as specified in Rule 4.2 above. The membership of the Club may remove a member of the Board by a Special Resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a general meeting.

## 4.6

The Board shall have power to borrow, for the purposes of the Club, by way of overdraft, term loan, loan account or otherwise, from the Club's Bankers, with interest in the category of the accommodation granted, such amount of money either at one time or from time to time as it may deem proper, such borrowings to be effected in the names of the Trustees and to give security for such borrowings and the interest thereon by the issue of bills of exchange, promissory notes or other obligations or securities of the Club or by Mortgage or Charge upon all or any part of the property of the Club and thereupon the Trustees shall at the direction of the Board make all such dispositions of the property of the Club or any part thereof and enter into such agreements in relation thereto as the Board may deem proper for giving such security.

## **5. LIQUOR LICENSING REGULATIONS**

### 5.1

A visitor to the Club shall not be supplied with excisable liquor in the Club premises unless on the invitation of and in the Company of a Member, and the Member shall upon admission of such visitor to the Club premises, or immediately upon being supplied with such liquor enter his own name and the name and address of the visitor in a book which shall be kept for the purpose and which shall show the date of each visit.



# Galwegians Rugby Football Club

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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## 5.2

No excisable liquor shall be supplied for consumption on the Club premises to any person (other than a Member of the Club lodging in the Club) or be consumed on those premises by any person (other than such a Member)

- a) At any time on Christmas Day or Good Friday, or
- b) On any other day outside hours specified hereunder in respect of that day in Section 2.(1)(b) (as substituted by Section 3 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act 2000) of this Act.:
  - i. St. Patrick's Day: between 12.30 pm and 12.30 am on the following day;
  - ii. The 23<sup>rd</sup> December: if it falls on a Sunday, between 10.30 am and 11.30 pm;
  - iii. Christmas Eve and the eve of Good Friday: between 10.30 am and 11.30 pm;
  - iv. The eve of any public holiday (other than Christmas Eve):
    - I. If the eve falls on a week-day, between 10.30 am and 12.30 am on the following day, or
    - II. If it falls on a Sunday, between 12.30 pm and 12.30 am on the following day;
  - v. Any other Sunday (except a Saint Patrick's Day which falls on a Sunday): between 12.30 pm and 11.00 pm;
  - vi. Any other Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday Thursday between 10.30 am and 11.30 pm ; and
  - vii. Any other Thursday, Friday or Saturday: between 10.30 am and 12.30 am on the following day.

## 5.3

Nothing contained in the Registration of Clubs Act 1904 to 1999, or contained, by virtue only of the operation of Sub-Section (1) of Section 7 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act 1927, in the Rules of the Club shall operate to prohibit the supplying for consumption on the Club premises of excisable liquor to any person or the consumption of excisable liquor on those premises by any person:-

- a. On Christmas Day, between 12.00 midday and 10.00 pm or
- b. On any other day, for one hour after the expiration of any period in respect of that day during which it is lawful for the Club, by virtue of Sub-Section (1)(b), to supply any excisable liquor for consumption on the Club premises,

If, in each case, the excisable liquor is:-



# Galwegians Rugby Football Club

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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- i. ordered by or on behalf that person at the same time as a substantial meal is so ordered, and
- ii. consumed by that person during the meal or after the meal has ended.

## 5.4

In addition to the foregoing Rules, the clauses and regulations embodied in the Registration of Clubs Acts 1904 to 1999 and the Intoxicating Liquor Acts amending and extending the same, shall be deemed to be Rules of the Club.

## 6. GENERAL MEETINGS

### 6.1

The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in Galway once every calendar year. Detailed reports concerning the working of the Club for the previous year and its financial position shall be presented by the appropriate Directors.

### 6.2

Every General Meeting shall be convened by the Director of Administration who shall give to each paid-up member due notice of the hour, date and place thereof and the reason for convening same. The quorum for a General Meeting shall be twenty.

### 6.3

A special meeting may be called at any time at the request of the Board or on a Requisition to the Director of Administration signed by not less than fifteen paid up Ordinary Members of the Club, giving detailed particulars of the business for which the Meeting is required. The Director of Administration shall within fifteen days from receipt of such requisition, convene a Special General Meeting of the Club.

### 6.4

The Chairman, or in his absence the Deputy Chairman (if any) shall be Chairman of all Meetings and in the absence of both Chairman and Deputy Chairman, a chairman may be appointed by those present and entitled to vote save that in the case of Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings, the President, or in his absence one of the Vice Presidents, shall be Chairman.

### 6.5

If at a Meeting a quorum has not assembled within thirty minutes after the time appointed for such a Meeting, the Director of Administration may in his discretion declare such a Meeting abandoned.

### 6.6

Voting at every General Meeting shall be by ballot (or, at the Chairman's discretion, by show of hands) and in the event of a tie; the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. No person owing monies to the Club and no Honorary, or Youth Member under the age of eighteen, shall be entitled to take part in or vote at a General Meeting or be elected to Office in the Club.

### 6.7



# Galwegians Rugby Football Club

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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No Special Resolution of a General Meeting shall be passed save by a majority of two thirds of those present and voting.

## **7. AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

### **7.1**

No alteration, amendment, or addition shall be made to these Rules except at the Annual General Meeting and with the consent of at least two thirds of the Members present and voting (save that an alteration, amendment, or addition required to comply with any Statute may be made by the Board) provided always that should any Motion at any General Meeting be considered by not less than twelve members present and voting, to be inimical to the best interests of Rugby Football in the Club, such Motion shall be referred to the I.R.F.U. Committee whose decision as to whether or not the Motion be so inimical shall be final and binding; and pending the decision of that Committee no steps shall be taken to implement the Motion notwithstanding that it may have received the said two-thirds consent.

### **7.2**

Notice of any proposal, alteration, amendment or addition shall be given in writing to the Director of Administration at least thirty clear days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

### **7.3**

The Club may be dissolved by a Resolution passed at a Special General Meeting specifically called for that purpose and carried by two thirds majority of the Members present.

### **7.4**

If upon the dissolution of the Club there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of the Club but shall be with the prior approval of the body approved under Section 235 of the Tax Consolidation Act 1997 known as the "Irish Rugby Football Union", given or transferred to some other body approved under Section 235 of the Tax Consolidation Act 1997 having main objects similar to the main objects of the Club and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their Members to an extent at least as great as imposed on the Club under or by virtue of Paragraph 3.1 hereof, such institution or institutions to be determined by the Members of the Club at or before the time of dissolution and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such Provision, then to the body approved under Section 235 Tax Consolidation Act 1997 known as the Irish Ruby Football Union.

**ADOPTED** as to Paragraph 1.1 – By Special General Meeting – January 2006

**ADOPTED** as to Paragraphs 3.1; 3.4; 7.3 and 7.4 by the Board of Management on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October 2006 in accordance with Rule 7.1 all of which additions and amendments are required by the Revenue Commissioners in accordance with the Tax Consolidation Act 1997.





# Galwegians Rugby Football Club

Crowley Park, Glenina, Dublin Road, Galway

[www.galwegians.ie](http://www.galwegians.ie)

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**ADOPTED** as to Paragraphs 4.1 and 4.1.1 - By Annual General Meeting – 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2009

**ADOPTED** as to amendment of Paragraph 2.1 and insertion of 2.9 – By Annual General Meeting – 3rd June 2014.