

# **Galway Area Basketball Board**



## **BYE Laws**

## **Rules and Regulations**

**Updated May 2015**

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## **1. MANAGEMENT OF Senior LOCAL AREA COMPETITION**

The board shall be known as the Galway Area Basketball Board and in Irish as Cumman Cis-Pheile Cheantar na Gaillimhe. It shall be abbreviated as G.A.B.B.

**1.1** These regulations govern the operation of G.A.B.B's Local Area Competitions. These regulations can be changed or amended each year if needed at the AGM or EGM.

**1.1** G.A.B.B will be responsible for all policy concerning the Local Area Competitions, as delegated by the Council of Basketball Ireland. G.A.B.B will consist of an Executive Committee, one representative of each affiliated club and one representative of each affiliated technical group.

**1.3** The Executive Committee will be comprised of the following members:

- A. Chairperson
- B. Secretary
- C. Treasurer / Registrar
- D. PRO
- E. League Convenor/Fixtures Secretary
- F. Child Protection Officer
- G. Development Officer
- H. Two club delegates can come out. (1 Juvenile & 1 Senior).

The Executive Committee will administer the affairs of the G.A.B.B Committee.

**1.4** Any member of the Executive Committee has the right to submit a written report on any aspect of the game at which he/she is present. Such reports may be used as a basis for imposing automatic fines as sanctions.

**1.5** The official channel of communication between the Executive Committee and a participating club is the Club Secretary, correspondence may be typed and posted email is acceptable.

**1.6** By entering into and being registered to play in G.A.B.B Competitions, clubs and/or individuals must accept these regulations in their entirety.

**1.7** The Executive Committee may impose disciplinary action and / or fines for breaches of the regulations that have no specified penalty.

**1.8** All Competition trophies are the property of Galway Area Board. When the winning clubs have been ascertained, a member of The G.A.B.B will present the appropriate trophy to that club. The club in turn will then be responsible for its return to the G.A.B.B by 28<sup>th</sup> February of the following season.

- Failure to return the trophies by this date may result in the G.A.B.B collecting the trophy, with the cost of this paid by the club.

- Should a trophy be damaged or lost whilst under the care or custody of a club, that club may shall be required to pay the Galway Area Board the monetary value of the trophy, or the cost of its repair.

**1.9** The season will begin on August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year and end on July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year

**1.10** The Executive Committee will have the right to exercise its judgement and discretion in the interpretation of these regulations taking into account the best interests of Basketball Ireland, its club's, its players and/or potential players.

The Executive Committee shall meet a minimum of six times during the season. and the G.A.B.B club committee shall meet a minimum of four times during the season. There will be at least two meetings between the executive and clubs during the season. Clubs must attend these meetings or any other meeting when requested. Failure to do so shall result in a fine. Appendix 1.

## **2. COMPETITION STRUCTURES**

### **2.1 LOCAL COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

**2.1.1** All officials and clubs will be provided with updated versions of the local competition rules and regulations at the commencement of each season. Clubs are responsible to provide their members with these regulations. All other rules and regulations governing Area Boards and National Competitions can be found on BI website.

**2.1.2** All games must start on time. If one team is not ready on court ready to play 15 minutes after the appointed start time, a walkover will automatically be awarded to the team already on court unless the teams and referee(s) have reached an alternative agreement.

**2.1.3** At the end of the game, the home team shall be responsible for the return of a copy of the white score sheet by midnight on the day of the game, via media message or email to the GABB PRO (Appendix 1).

**2.1.4** Any team that concedes a walkover may be subject to a penalty as specified in Section 6 and Appendix 1.

**2.1.5** Any team that concedes two walkovers in one season shall be withdrawn from all competition for the remainder of the season.

**2.1.6** If requested, birth certificates of players must be lodged with the registrar of the G.A.B.B within seven (7) days of such request. Failure to comply will result in the automatic suspension of that player.

**2.1.7** A change in club secretary must be notified to the G.A.B.B. within Forty-eight (48) hours of the change.

**2.1.8** All correspondence from the Executive Committee requesting a reply must be answered within four (4) working days. Failure to do this will result in an automatic fine, as set in Appendix 1.

**2.1.9** Any club/team that wishes to play outside its Area Board must comply with the following procedures and produce a signed BI/ Area Board Link Form.

- A. The team must obtain written permission (email or letter) from the host Area Board to confirm they allow them to enter the league in question.
- A. The team must obtain written permission (email or letter) from their own geographically based Area Board to confirm they allow them to play.
- A. The team must continue to play in their own geographically based Area Board's competition (if available) as well as the new Area Board's competition to ensure development is not slowed.
- A. This procedure must be repeated for each season. No rolling agreements may exist.

**2.10** Any club/team who wish to travel to a tournament outside the GABB in Ireland or internationally must apply for permission to the GABB secretary.

**2.11** Any matter that may arise and is not covered by the existing competition regulations, the Executive Committee shall deal with and decide on the matter accordingly.

## **2.2 SENIOR COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

**2.2.1** A club may have more than one team competing in the local leagues however if a player competes on the higher level team on more than one occasion the player will not be eligible to play on the lower level team e.g. Div 1 to Div 2, without permission from the G.A.B.B.

**2.2.2** Players playing in the men's Superleague or Mens National League Division One competitions may only play in the G.A.B.B. Division One league. Structured link players are exempt under the BI Player Structured Link Scheme. These players can return to their local Teams with the permission of the G.A.B.B.

**2.2.3** All teams playing in GABB competitions must have full-size indoor courts available to them which may be inspected by the GABB at any time. The court must be available for at least 90 minutes per game.

## **2.3 LEAGUE COMPETITION STRUCTURE**

**2.3.1** All clubs entering league competition must pay a bond as set by the Executive Committee. The bond or remainder of may be returned at the end of the season if requested by the club.

**2.3.2** League points: three (3) for a win, one (1) for a loss/default/condensation and zero (0) for a walkover/forfeit. In the case of the latter, other penalties may be applied at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

**2.3.3** The team with the greatest number of points at the conclusion of the league shall be declared the divisional winner.

**2.3.4** If two or more teams finish at the top of the table on equal points, a deciding game(s) will be played – this game will normally be played at a neutral venue.

**2.3.5** If a team withdraws or is expelled from the league then all games in which the team participated prior to the withdrawal or expulsion will be considered null and void and will not be included in the league table – unless the team has played everyone once, only then the first round of games will be included.

## **2.4 CUP COMPETITION STRUCTURE**

**2.4.1** The Cup competition will be played in a knockout format. The Executive Committee will conduct an open draw for the competition (this will usually take place after the Christmas break), which may include the seeding of teams based on the results of the previous season.

**2.4.2** All players participating in the cup competitions are cup tied and may only represent one team in any G.A.B.B cup competition.

**2.4.3** Teams not playing in the G.A.B.B leagues are not eligible to play in the G.A.B.B cup Competitions.

## **2.5 LOCAL COMPETITION FINANCES**

**2.5.1 Referee Expenses:** Each team is required to pay referee expenses as determined by the Executive Committee and agreed with the referees committee. Payment of referees will be as follows:

First half of fees to be paid before the start of first round of the league.

Second half fees to be paid before the competitions resume after the Christmas break.

**2.5.2** Any monies owed to the G.A.B.B by a club not received by the due date will be subject to penalties as agreed by the Executive Committee.

**2.5.3** If a club competing in G.A.B.B competition folds or withdraws from competition, leaving outstanding monies owed to the G.A.B.B, the officials and players of the club which folded will be responsible for the payment of one seventh of the outstanding debt before they will be permitted to play or be involved with any other club.

**2.5.4** Cheques from clubs that are not honored upon presentation to the bank will be liable to monetary penalty plus bank charges. Appendix 1.

## **3. ENTRANCE CRITERIA & PROCEDURES**

**3.1** There is no automatic entry to the GABB competitions. Applications to enter GABB competition must be received annually, it must be accompanied by the entry fee, bond and player registration list received by the GABB registrar by the deadline set out by the Executive Committee. Completed applications received outside of the deadline (which must include the complete fee) will be subject to a late fee. See Appendix 1.

**3.2** All Clubs must also pay an annual Basketball Ireland club/team registration fee(s) and complete the Basketball Ireland club registration form as specified by the Basketball Ireland Registrar.

**3.3** All clubs must pay each team and player registration fee (and any other fees) as specified by GABB.

**3.4** Any team withdrawing from GABB leagues after the fixtures have been released will forfeit their entry fee/bond. In addition clubs will be fined for withdrawing from a competition after this date and will be subject to sanction per fixture not fulfilled. See Appendix 1.

**3.5** Teams participating in local competition must take out a public liability insurance policy (minimum requirement is €6.4 million public liability insurance cover). GABB reserves the right to request proof of this insurance at any time.

#### **4. REGISTRATIONS & LICENSING**

**4.1** As per Basketball Ireland Regulations, all clubs, and the teams, players, coaches and table officials attached to these clubs must be registered with Basketball Ireland and GABB through the club registration scheme. Local fees shall be determined at the start of each season. October 31<sup>st</sup> is the final date to register a club.

**4.2** All coaches, club officials authorised by the referee to sit on the team bench, must be registered/licensed with Basketball Ireland and GABB. Only those licensed will be permitted to sit on the team bench. Breach of this regulation will incur automatic penalties as outlined in Appendix 1.

**4.3** Any club who plays an unlicensed or ineligible player in any game shall automatically forfeit the game and be fined accordingly (Appendix 1).

**4.4** A player shall only be registered with one club.

**4.5** A player can be registered any time during the season.

**4.6** A player must have played at least one game in the league prior to December 31<sup>st</sup> to play in any cup competition. Before a player can play for a club all transfer forms must be in order (where required) before their registration is accepted.

**4.6** A player may only play for one team throughout the season if the club has two teams in the same division.

**4.7** All players playing in senior competitions must pay the senior fees, irrespective of age.

**4.8** The closing date for transfers for local competition shall be the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the current season.

- A player wishing to transfer from one club to another must comply with the transfer regulations of Basketball Ireland and must complete the Basketball Ireland official transfer form as specified.

- A player shall be eligible to play for a new club once the G.A.B.B Registrar has confirmed approval on behalf of the G.A.B.B.

- In accordance with the Basketball Ireland Regulations, a player once registered and transferred may not register again with the same club in that season.

- A player may only transfer once in any one season.

A player eligible to play U16 competition is ineligible to play senior competition.

-All BI pin numbers must be filled in on the score sheet for all senior competitions. Failure to comply will result in fine as per appendix one.

## **5. UNIFORMS & FACILITIES**

**5.1** Teams are required to wear matching uniforms. Unless otherwise specified, the uniform must be numbered as outlined in the FIBA Official Rules of Basketball.

**5.2** Teams must wear their stated registered colours for all games, as stated on registration form.

**5.3** Teams that fail to comply with these regulations will be automatically fined. Appendix 1.

**5.4** All teams should have two sets of playing kit; one of the designated sets should be lighter in colour than the other.

**5.5** In the event of a colour clash, the first named team on the fixture list shall change.

**5.6** All undergarments must be of the same single colour as the uniform.

**5.7** All home venues shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of G.A.B.B.

**5.8** The home team must provide a visible score board, and time clock. Basketball Ireland score sheet and table equipment i.e. pens, arrows, foul markers and team foul markers. The correct court markings and the use of an official Molten match ball.

**5.9** Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, members and spectators at all times while the venue is being used for their games. If a teams member, player or official becomes abusive to an official or player during a game the home team will be responsible for removing that person or persons from the gym. Failure to do so will result in the game being awarded by forfeit to the opposing team. A team must nominate a venue officer before the start of each game. In the absense of a nominated venue officer, the coach of the home team assumes this role.

## **6. FIXTURES**

### **6.1 FIXTURE SCHEDULING**

**6.1.1** All local competition fixtures shall be set by the fixtures secretary.



**6.1.2** Each registered club must send one delegate to all fixture meetings. Failure to do so will result in a fine (Appendix 1).

**6.1.3** Confirmation of all fixtures should be sent to the league fixtures secretary within four (4) days of receiving the fixtures.

**6.1.4** Failure to confirm fixtures to league fixtures secretary will result in the league fixtures secretary setting them as necessary.

**6.1.5** It is the responsibility of the home teams to provide two competent table officials to perform the functions of scorekeeper and timekeeper. At least one of these must be an adult. These officials must be qualified and registered as Table Officials with Basketball Ireland.

**6.1.6** A commissioner neutral to the clubs involved in games may be appointed by the league fixtures secretary.

## **6.2 FIXTURE RESCHEDULING**

**6.2.1** Requests for change of fixtures must be submitted in writing at least two weeks in advance to the respective fixtures secretary and accompanied by change of fixture fee (see Appendix 1) with a new agreed fixture date by both teams.

**6.2.2** When a fixture is to be set or to be rescheduled by teams, the home team must offer their opponents at least two (2) dates over two weeks.

**6.2.3** Later Requests for change of fixtures will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and at the sole discretion of the league convenor/fixtures secretary.

**6.2.3** Where agreement cannot be reached by both teams on rescheduling a game the fixtures secretary will set the date and time for the game.

## **6.3 FIXTURE CANCELLATIONS**

**6.3.1** Late cancellations of a fixture will not be permitted unless exceptional circumstances prevail as agreed by the Executive Committee.

**6.3.2** Where a team fails to fulfill a fixture at short notice, the offending team will be liable for all reasonable costs incurred by the opposing team i.e. travel expenses and referee costs. The team may also be fined and/or penalised by the Executive Committee.

**6.3.3** If a game is disrupted due to condensation the following procedures will apply:

- A. On the first occurrence of condensation, the referee will stop the game and allow the home team fifteen (15) minutes to correct the problem.
- A. On the second occurrence, the referee should stop the game and advise the coaches that the floor is unplayable. The referee will make the final decision to abandon the game.
- A. In the event that a game is abandoned due to condensation, the away team will be awarded the victory by a score of 20-0. In the case of condensation, the home team will still receive one (1) point in the classification.

**6.3.4** The referee has the final decision with regard to the continuation of the game. The referee must be satisfied that the venue is safe. Every effort should be made by the home team to overcome the difficulties but if the situation cannot be made safe for players and officials then the referee will decide accordingly.

#### **6.4 FIXTURE POSTPONEMENT**

**6.4.1** In the event of a postponement whenever two clubs fail to reach an agreement as to when a match will take place, within seven (7) days after the date of the original fixture, the league convenor/fixture secretary shall specify the date and time of the match if applicable or the game may be awarded to the non-offending team 20-0 and additional league points may be deducted.

**6.4.2** If a team fails to reach a venue due to adverse weather conditions, the Executive of the G.A.B.B may rule that the game should be re-scheduled.

**6.4.3** Unless otherwise stated all games shall be played according to FIBA rules.

#### **6.5 POST-GAME PROCEDURES**

**6.5.1** The referee is responsible for their report (if required) arriving by post/fax/email to the GABB secretary within three (3) working days of the fixture.

**6.5.2** The lead referee on the game is responsible for the original (white) score sheet arriving by to the league fixtures secretary.

**6.5.3** The home team must text/email the result and a photo of the score sheet from the game to the GABB PRO by midnight of the game ending. Failure to do so will result in a fine (Appendix 1).

### **7. DISCIPLINE**

#### **7.1 DISCIPLINE**

**7.1.1** The Executive Committee shall appoint an Area Board Appeals Committee at the start of the season. This committee will be ratified by the GABB Committee and should consist of the Chairperson and minimum of five (5) people. A minimum of three (3) members must be present to hear any appeal to the GABB.

**7.1.2** Unless otherwise specified, The Executive Committee shall be responsible for all disciplinary matters arising from the competitions and other activities organised by the GABB.

**7.1.3** Individuals may be fined or suspended for any matter pertaining to the local competitions as decided by the Executive Committee.

**7.1.4** Decisions from disciplinary matters have the right of appeal to the GABB Appeals Committee.

**7.1.5** Any disciplinary action decided by the Executive Committee will take effect immediately and this decision will remain in force until the written appeal and fee are received.

**7.1.6** In the event of a player or coach being disqualified from any game under the jurisdiction of the GABB, the player/coach shall automatically be suspended for a minimum of one (1) game. This suspension takes effect immediately and cannot be appealed. If this suspension is increased by the Executive Committee the player/coach has the right of appeal as per the rules.

**7.1.7** All disciplinary action will be applied to both league and cup competition regardless of what competition the incident took place in.

**7.1.8** Any suspension not served in full before the end of the season will be carried forward into the following season.

**7.1.9** Any player or coach who is suspended may not play or sit within the team bench area. He/she may be present at the venue unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee.

## **7.2 PENALTIES**

**7.2.1** Outside of automatic fines, the Executive Committee may impose penalties upon individual players, clubs and club members as it sees fit.

**7.2.2** Penalties may be in the form of fines, deduction of league points, suspension or disqualification from their respective GABB competition or any other penalties deemed appropriate by the GABB from time to time.

**7.2.3** The GABB Secretary will notify every club of all penalties issued on a weekly basis or as otherwise agreed at the AGM.

**7.2.4** A penalty imposed by the Executive Committee, not including automatic fines as outlined in Appendix 1, shall be appealed in the first instance to the GABB Appeals Committee. Such an appeal shall be in writing, will be sent to the GABB Secretary within five (5) days of the notice of the penalty and be accompanied by a bond of €100.

**7.2.5** The appeal must clearly state the grounds on which the penalty is being appealed and shall include any documentary evidence to be considered necessary to support the appeal. The GABB Appeals Committee will always hold an appeal hearing for such appeals.

## **7.3 WRITTEN PROTEST**

**7.3.1** If a team believes that its interests have been adversely affected and that the decisions taken have influenced the result of the game, it may protest the result by signing the score sheet 'under protest' in accordance with the procedures outlined in the FIBA Official Basketball Rules.

**7.3.2** A written protest and the appropriate fee (€100) must be sent to the league fixtures secretary within five (5) working days following the date of the game. Email is acceptable but must be followed up with a phone call to ensure the receipt of the email. A copy of the written protest must also be sent to the opposing team by the G.A.B.B secretary.

**7.3.3** If either the written protest or the fee is not received within the specified time, the protest shall be considered null and void.

**7.3.4** If the decision is made in favour of the team making the protest, the fee shall be refunded in full.

#### **7.4 APPEALS**

**7.4.1** In order for an appeal to be valid it must be received in writing to the secretary of GABB via email address within seven (7) days and must be accompanied by a deposit of €100. This deposit will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

**7.4.2** The GABB Appeals Committee shall call a meeting to discuss the appeal. The date and time of the hearing, once set, shall also be communicated to both parties:

- a) The party bringing the appeal shall state their case first. The defending body or committee will then state their case. Each side will have the opportunity to cross-examine the other side through the Chair. The GABB Appeals Committee members may also question both sides.
- a) The Chairperson once satisfied that all involved have had ample time to state their case and cross examine, shall then terminate that part of the appeal meeting and ask all parties to withdraw to allow the committee to make their decision.

**7.4.3** The decision of the GABB Appeal Committee shall be forwarded in writing to both parties within seven (7) days.

**7.4.4** If the decision is made in favour of the team making the appeal, the fee shall be refunded in full.

**7.4.5** When all local GABB appeal mechanisms have been exhausted, only then can the decision be appealed to the National Appeals Committee, as outlined in Basketball Ireland Regulations.

#### **7.5 PAYMENT OF FINES**

**7.5.1** All fines will be taken from the clubs bond. If the bond falls below 33.3% of the amount specified in the appendix, it must be brought up to 160 euro before a team's next game. Any game due to be played during that time shall be forfeited. (See also 7.2.3)

**7.5.2** All fines imposed, whether they are individual or team fines must be paid by the date specified. All teams will be liable to pay a member's fine and seek reimbursement from that individual.

### Appendix 1: Schedule of Automatic Fines

<b>Regulation</b>	<b>Penalty (€)</b>
<b>Failure to complete team registration application form by deadline (Late fee)</b>	<b>€25</b>
<b>Local competition withdrawal fee</b>	<b>€160</b>
<b>Failure to attend required meeting</b>	<b>€100 per meeting</b>
<b>Failure to fulfil Fixture (Forfeit)</b>	<b>€40 + Referees cost and loss of Points</b>
<b>Failure to return white score sheet within seven (4) days of fixture</b>	<b>€20</b>
<b>Failure to provide any item(s) of table equipment</b>	<b>€20</b>
<b>Failure to provide a visible scoreboard or time clock</b>	<b>€40</b>
<b>Use of an unlicensed coach</b>	<b>€25</b>
<b>Playing an unlicensed or illegal player</b>	<b>€50 per person &amp; game forfeit</b>
<b>Failure to wear matching uniforms</b>	<b>€40 per team</b>
<b>Failure to wear registered team colours</b>	<b>€40 per team</b>
<b>Administrative charge for change of fixture request</b>	<b>€25</b>
<b>Failure to email/text correct result and photo of score sheet and/or scorers to the designated number by midnight of game ending</b>	<b>€40</b>
<b>Failure to reply to official correspondence from the Executive Committee</b>	<b>€50</b>
<b>Failure to use approved match ball in competitions</b>	<b>€25</b>
<b>Failure to display signage as directed by G.A.B.B</b>	<b>€50 per sign</b>
<b>Failure to produce BI membership cards before start of game</b>	<b>€20 per person</b>
<b>Failure to have registered Table Officials</b>	<b>€20 per person</b>
<b>Failure of Bank to honour cheque</b>	<b>€50 and pay bank charges</b>

**Appendix 2: Basketball Ireland Player Transfer Form**

Please print in BLOCK LETTERS using blue ink

I, \_\_\_\_\_, and Registration Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Player Name

\_\_\_\_\_ BI Number

Of; Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

City/County \_\_\_\_\_, Postcode \_\_\_\_\_,

Gender (M/F) : \_\_\_\_\_, Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_, Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to apply for a transfer:

From: \_\_\_\_\_ (Club & Local Area

Board) To: \_\_\_\_\_ (Club & Local Area

Board) Player Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Note – if the applicant is under the age of 18, then transfers will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and the signature of the parent/guardian is required.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Reason for Transfer: \_\_\_\_\_,

(Including proof if necessary)

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Block letters please) I,  
of: \_\_\_\_\_ (Club)

Certify that the transfer of the above applicant has been  confirmed  declined:  
If declined then reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (Block letters please) of: I  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Local Area Board)

Certify that the transfer of the above applicant has been sanctioned  Yes  No

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_