

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)
The Club**

1. The Club shall be called Galway Corinthians RFC.
2. The address of the Club shall be Corinthian Park, Cloonacauneen, Tuam Road, Co. Galway.
3. The objects of the Club shall be the promotion of rugby football and associated activities.
4. The Club shall affiliate itself with the Connacht Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union.
5. The Club colours shall be blue, black and white horizontal striped jersey, navy shorts and stockings to match. These colours must be worn at all official matches.

An alternative may be approved by the Executive Committee in the event of a clash of colours with an opposing team and the Club is obliged to change strip.

The Club shall adopt Pegasus as its emblem.

6. Membership of the Club shall consist of Trustees, Club Officers, Life Members, Ordinary Members, Family Members, Youth and Under-age Members and Corporate Members.
7. The Club is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of its members, including in particular, its Youth and Under-age Members. Every individual in the Club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for their rights, safety and welfare and, conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the Club, and the guidelines contained in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport of the Irish Sports Council and the IRFU Child Welfare Policy.

Trustees

8. Trustees shall be appointed by the Annual General Meeting. A Trustee may retire on giving notice to the Executive Committee prior to the Annual General Meeting at which a replacement may be appointed.
9. The number of trustees shall not be less than five and not more than 8.
10. For the avoidance of doubt any Trustees appointed prior to the adoption of this revised Constitution shall be deemed to continue in office.
11. All property of the Club shall vest in the Trustees, in their capacity as Trustees. No personal liability shall attach to the Trustees acting in the ordinary or proper course of the Club's activities.

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)**

12. The Trustees shall be indemnified out of the Club Property and Assets in respect of all transactions directed by a resolution of the Executive Committee and against all liabilities and expenses necessarily incurred as a result of their Trusteeship and in the event of the Club Property and Assets being deficient such deficiency shall be made good by the members on whose behalf the Property and Assets of the Club are held.
13. All borrowings of the Club shall be authorised by the Trustees who at the request of the Executive Committee shall have the power to borrow money and to charge the property of the Club as security for any borrowings.
14. If the Trustees, when directed by a resolution of the Executive Committee to perform a certain act consider that the performance of such act is one of such importance that they consider that the members of the Club should be consulted, then the Trustees may refuse to perform such act until the members of the Club have consulted at a General or an Extraordinary General Meeting and a resolution is passed at such meeting authorising or refusing to authorise the Trustees to perform such act as was originally directed by the Executive Committee.
15. The annual budget, both capital and revenue, prepared by the Treasurer, for the following playing season, shall be approved by the Trustees after which the Executive Committee may incur the expenditure in line with the approved budget.
16. The Trustees shall appoint one of their number to be Trustees Chairman and a member of the Executive Committee and who shall report to the Trustees on the on-going conduct of the Club's affairs. The Trustee Chairman will attend at the Executive Committee as an observer and will have a right of audience. He\she will not have a vote on matters laid before the Executive Committee.
17. In the event that the Club should become defunct it shall be the duty of the Trustees to realise all Club assets, pay all Club debts and distribute any surplus to the Charitable Trust of the Irish Rugby Football Union.

Officers of the Club

18. Officers of the Club shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the following Annual General Meeting. No Officer shall hold the same post for more than three consecutive years except with the consent of the Trustees.
19. Should an Officer resign during the course of a year the position will be filled by a nominee of the Executive Committee.
20. The Officers of the Club shall be the President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
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on 18th May 2009)**

21. The President, who shall take precedence over all other persons in the Club, shall be responsible for hosting all visiting teams and accompanying Club teams on their visits to other clubs. He\she will appoint a representative from the Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Immediate Past President or such other members as are available as a substitute where he\she is unavailable.
22. The Chairman shall be responsible for the implementation of all Executive Committee activities and shall ensure the efficient running of the Club.
23. The Secretary shall be responsible for dealing with all correspondence of the Club. He\she shall report to the Annual General Meeting on the workings of the Club for the previous year. He\she will be responsible for giving appropriate notice of all meetings, Executive, Annual General and Emergency, and for the keeping of minutes of such meetings.
24. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt and disbursement of Club funds in line with the approved budget. He\she shall ensure that full and proper records of all transactions are maintained and that accounts, comprising an Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet, for the year are prepared for presentation to the Annual General Meeting. The accounts presented to the Annual General Meeting shall be approved by the Trustees before presentation to the meeting. The accounts shall be available to the Trustees for their review at least one week before the Annual General Meeting. Annual accounts shall be made up to 30th April preceding the Annual General Meeting.

Executive Committee

25. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers of the Club, a Trustee representative and such other Ordinary members as are appointed by the Officers of the Club. The Executive Committee shall hold periodical meetings, not less than every three months. Each member of the Executive Committee, with the exception of the Trustee representative, shall have a vote on all resolutions, and in the event of a tie the Chairman shall have a second / casting vote.
26. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the general management and administration of the business and affairs of the Club and may appoint such sub-committees as required for the efficient running of the Club. Each sub-committee shall report on a regular basis to the Executive Committee of the Club.
27. Each Sub-committee shall retire annually on the date of the Annual General Meeting or when the function for which it was appointed is complete.

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)**

28. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the adoption of a Club Code of Conduct regarding discipline within the Club by members, adopting a Child Welfare policy in line with best practice in that area and putting in place such safeguards as ensures the affairs of the Club are conducted in an efficient and safe manner and that the assets of the club are safeguarded.
29. A quorum for an Executive Committee shall be four of which two must be officers of the Club. A quorum for a Sub-committee shall be set down when the Sub-committee is established by the Executive Committee.
30. In addition to its own powers, the Executive Committee shall have power to appoint a Sub-committee to appoint paid employees on contracts of employment on such terms and conditions as the Sub-committee may determine but which shall not exceed two years duration. Termination of such contracts shall be a matter for the Executive Committee.
31. All written complaints concerning matters under the jurisdiction and control of the Executive Committee shall be referred primarily to the Secretary who, if unable to resolve same, shall place the complaint on the agenda for the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Membership

32. Membership of the Club shall be open to all upon payment of the appropriate subscription. New members must be proposed by two existing members and shall become members (at least two weeks later, following display of their names as proposed new Ordinary Members on the Club Notice Board for at least one week) upon payment of the appropriate subscription and approval of their application by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may refuse membership and shall not be obliged to give reasons for such refusal. Existing members shall continue to be members of the Club for the season following that on which they last paid their subscription but thereafter shall cease to be members. Only members who have paid their subscription in full for the current season may vote at any Meeting. Each eligible member, of whatever class but with the exception of Youth and Under-age Members, shall be entitled to one vote at the Meeting on each matter for which a vote is required. For the avoidance of doubt Family and Corporate membership will have one vote on each matter.
33. Life Members, both by subscription and honorary, shall be eligible to vote at all general meetings.
34. Subscriptions are due by 30th September each year but may be paid at any time within the season. For the avoidance of doubt subscriptions paid prior to the giving of notice of a General Meeting will be deemed to be paid and such members shall be eligible to vote at the meeting for which notice has issued. Subscriptions received after the notice of the meeting issues will not be eligible to vote at that meeting. Where subscriptions are paid by instalment the full amount of the subscription must be paid before the giving of notice of the

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)**

General Meeting. Subscriptions are paid when the funds are received by the Treasurer. Members whose subscription is not fully paid will not be eligible to apply for international tickets.

35. The Executive Committee shall be authorised to grant Honorary Life Membership.
36. All visiting teams and members of their club attending matches, players appearing in a guest capacity for the Club and referees will be deemed to hold temporary membership for the course of their visit.

Discipline

37. All Club members are subject to a Club Codes of Discipline. The Executive Committee shall adopt such a code and arrange for its display in a prominent position in the Club-house.
38. Any member allegedly contravening this code will be requested by notice in writing to appear before a sub-committee, formed by the Executive Committee, to explain his\her conduct. The sub-committee shall consist of three members, one a Club Officer and two Ordinary member. None of the sub-committee shall have witnessed the event the subject of the allegation. Should all Club Officers and Trustees have witnessed the event then the Executive Committee shall request the Connacht Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union to appoint two suitable members in place of the Club Officer and Trustee. The notice served on the member shall contain details of the alleged conduct. The member may be accompanied at the hearing. Having heard all evidence of the event the sub-committee shall consider the matter and recommend to the Executive Committee what action if any is warranted. This may include no action, temporary suspension of membership or expulsion from membership of the Club if the event is of sufficient seriousness. In the event that the member does not attend the hearing or refuses to co-operate with the proceedings the sub-committee shall report such to the Executive Committee who are then authorised to expel the member.
39. Any decision of the Disciplinary sub-committee may be appealed to an Appeals sub-committee, which shall consist of three Trustees, who may vary the decision as they see fit and recommend to the Executive Committee what action if any is warranted in line with paragraph 38 above.

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)**

General Meetings

• **Annual General Meeting**

40. The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting at the end of each playing season. Notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be sent to all members, electronically, to members who opt to receive such notice, or by ordinary post, at least two weeks before the meeting. The notice shall include an agenda for the meeting.
41. The Constitution of the Club may be amended by the members at the Annual General Meeting upon notice of such change being given to the Secretary no later than the end of March preceding the Annual General Meeting. A majority in votes of two thirds of votes cast is required to amend the Constitution.
42. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the Secretary presents a report concerning the conduct of the affairs of the Club for the season then concluded to the Annual General Meeting.
43. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the Treasurer presents a report, approved as set out above, on the financial standing of the Club to the Annual General Meeting.
44. The Officers of the Club shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
45. Any vacancy for Trustees shall be filled at the Annual General Meeting.
46. Subscriptions shall be approved at the Annual General Meeting.
47. The Annual and Extraordinary General Meeting may authorise the Executive Committee to undertake major capital expenditure and the absence of such authorisation will be a reason for the Trustees to refer such matters to a General Meeting.
48. The Annual and Extraordinary General Meeting may consider a request from the Trustees to review a resolution of the Executive Committee and the Meeting may confirm or reject the Executive Committee resolution.
49. The Annual General Meeting shall be initially chaired by the out going President of the Club and the newly elected President shall take over the chair upon his election.

• **Extraordinary General Meeting**

50. On receipt of a request signed by 25 members, or by any three Officers, the Secretary shall arrange for the convening of an Extraordinary General Meeting within twenty eight days of receipt of the request. Notice of such meeting shall be sent to all members, electronically, to members who opt to receive such

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)**

notice, or by ordinary post, at least one week before the meeting. The notice shall include the agenda for the meeting and the names of the persons who requested the meeting. The meeting shall be chaired by the President. The Constitution of the Club may be amended at an Extraordinary General Meeting provided that a majority of two thirds of votes cast are in favour of the proposal.

• **Quorum and Voting at Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings**

51. A quorum for an Annual General Meeting and an Emergency General Meeting shall be twenty five members eligible to vote unless the business of the meeting concerns an alteration to the Constitution in which case a quorum shall be at least forty percent of the Members eligible to attend and vote.
52. Voting at all general meetings, both annual and extraordinary, shall be by ballot unless on a show of hands there is a clear majority for or against the motion. A minimum of ten members attending the meeting and entitled to vote may request a ballot. Other than a proposal to alter the Constitution of the Club a simple majority is sufficient to approve a motion. In the event of a tie the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Ballots will be issued by the Secretary to eligible members and all ballots shall be counted by the Treasurer and a Trustee, unless the ballot is in relation to the position of Treasurer or in relation to the accounts presented to the meeting in which event the Senior Vice-president and a Trustee shall conduct the count.
53. Any proposal approved at a meeting shall be deemed invalid if it subsequently transpires that the information presented to the meeting at which the matter was approved is shown to be materially incorrect.

Other matters

54. Members may supply goods and services to the Club but such dealings must be for the benefit of the Club and duly authorised by the Executive Committee.
55. The affairs of the Club shall at all times be conducted in accordance with the laws of the State.
56. REGISTRATION OF CLUBS ACT, 1904/2000
INTOXICATING LIQUOR ACT 2000
 - 56.1 No person other than a Member shall order or pay for refreshments in the Clubhouse. Cash must be paid for every expense incurred in the Clubhouse before the person ordering leaves the premises.
 - 56.2 No visitor shall be supplied with excisable liquor on the Club premises unless on the invitation and in the company of a Member and that member, shall upon the admission of such visitor to the Club premises or immediately

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)**

upon his being supplied with such liquor, enter his or her 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 visitor.

56.3 The Committee may prohibit the admission of any visitor to the Club premises and no Member shall bring any person whose admission is prohibited into the Club premises.

56.4 No excisable liquors shall be sold or supplied for consumption outside the premises of the Club, except to Members of the Club, between the hours of eight o'clock in the morning and ten o'clock at night.

56.5 No excisable liquors shall be sold or supplied in the Club premises to any person under the age of eighteen years.

56.6 No member of the Committee or Officer, and no Manager or Servant employed by the Club, shall have any personal interest in the sale to the Club of supplies of excisable liquors, or in the profits arising from such sale.

56.7 (1) Subject to the exceptions specified in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, 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 premises) 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 the hours specified in respect of that day in section 2(1)(b) (as substituted by [section 3](#) of the *Intoxicating Liquor Act, 2000*) of the *Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1927*.

(2) Nothing in the Registration of Clubs Acts, 1904 to 1999, or contained, by virtue only of the operation of subsection (1) of this section, 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 p.m., 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 subsection (1)(b), to supply any excisable liquor for consumption on the Club premises,

if in each case the excisable liquor is—

(i) ordered by or on behalf of that person at the same time as a substantial meal is so ordered, and

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
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on 18th May 2009)**

(ii) consumed by that person during the meal or after the meal has ended.

(3) (a) For the purposes of the Registration of Clubs Acts, 1904 to 1999, the rules of the Club which at the commencement of [section 7](#) of the *Intoxicating Liquor Act, 2000*, is registered under those Acts, shall, during the transitional period, be deemed to be in conformity with this section.

(b) In this subsection, ‘transitional period’ means the period beginning at such commencement and ending—

- (i) when the certificate of registration of the club which is in force two months after that date expires, or
- (ii) when the rules of the club are brought into conformity with this section,

whichever occurs first.

(4) For the avoidance of doubt, it is noted that section 2(1)(b) (as substituted by [section 3](#) of the *Intoxicating Liquor Act, 2000*) of the *Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1927* provides that the following opening hours are not prohibited;’

- (i) Saint Patrick's Day: between 12.30 p.m. and 12.30 a.m. on the following day;
- (ii) the 23rd December: if it falls on a Sunday, between 10.30 a.m. and 11.30 p.m.;
- (iii) Christmas Eve and the eve of Good Friday: between 10.30 a.m. and 11.30 p.m.;
- (iv) the eve of any public holiday (other than Christmas Eve):
 - (I) if the eve falls on a weekday, between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 a.m. on the following day, or
 - (II) if it falls on a Sunday, between 12.30 p.m. and 12.30 a.m. on the following day;
- (v) any other Sunday (except a Saint Patrick's Day which falls on a Sunday): between 12.30 p.m. and 11.00 p.m.;

**The Constitution of Galway Corinthians Rugby Football Club
(As revised and adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting held
on 18th May 2009)**

(vi) any other Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday: between 10.30 a.m.
and 11.30 p.m.; and

(vii) any other Thursday, Friday or Saturday: between 10.30 a.m. and
12.30 a.m. on the following day.

(1A) The hours specified in paragraph (b) of subsection (1) in respect of any
day specified in that paragraph are in addition to the period between midnight
and 12.30 a.m. on that day where that period is included in the hours so
specified in respect of the eve of that day.

56.8 In addition to the foregoing Rules, the Clauses & Regulations
embodied in the Registration of Clubs Act, 1904 to 2000, and the
Licensing Acts amending and extending the same, shall be deemed
Rules of the Club.

56.9 The Executive Committee may alter or add to such Rule or Rules as
may from time to time deal the supply or consumption of Excisable
liquor the purpose of complying with the Intoxicating Liquor Acts for
the time being in force and registration of the Clubs Acts, or any other
amending, extending or qualifying same.

**Revised Constitution as approved at the Annual General Meeting held on 18th
May 2009.**

Eugene Doyle
President

Brendan Duffy
Chairman

Kenneth Casburn
Secretary