



# GO GAMES

GAA  
WHERE WE ALL BELONG

LGFA  
FOR ALL IRISH

THE CAMPOUSE  
A GAA INITIATIVE

FUN & ENJOYMENT    PLAYING TIME FOR ALL    INCLUSIVE    NON-COMPETITIVE  
AGE APPROPRIATE    F2 STAGE OF PLAYER PATHWAY    UNDER 7-UNDER 12  
REFEREE & COORDINATOR EDUCATION    PLAYER DEVELOPMENT  
SOCIAL    HIGHER SATISFACTION LEVELS    INCREASED SKILL EXECUTIONS  
ADAPTED EQUIPMENT & PITCH SIZE    GAELIC GAMES FAMILY POLICY  
U12 COUNTY LEAGUES & LEAGUE FINALS PERMITTED, NO KNOCK OUT ROUNDS



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

Go Games is national policy of the GAA, Camogie Association, Ladies Gaelic Football Association, and their constituent units at provincial, county, club and educational level, responsible for the organisation and delivery of Go Games. Each unit must be aware of and comply with the provisions of this policy. All units and members participating in Go Games are bound by the official rules of their Association.

Should you have any concerns at all with the policy, please get in touch with your National Coordinator who can support you with the Go Games Policy.

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## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **What is Go Games?**

- Small adapted versions of Hurling, Camogie, Gaelic Football and Ladies Gaelic Football which have been devised to cater for the development needs of children

- **Who are Go Games for?**

- Go Games are for children aged U7 and up to and including U12 years of age
- Children whose sixth birthday is on or after January 1st can play at the Under 7 age grade in that calendar year only

- **What is the aim of Go Games?**

- They allow children to have fun, grow, and learn, physically, socially, and psychologically and develop the key attributes for life
- Go Games aim is to provide children with an appropriate introduction to competition on a phased basis
- All participants play in the Game i.e., everyone 'Has a Go'



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **What does each child need to play Go Games?**
  - Each child needs to be a registered member of their respective Association, this is to align with injury cover procedures
- **What equipment do underage Go Games players need?**
  - For Camogie and Hurling, players will need a hurl and a helmet
  - For Football, players must be wearing a gum-shield at all times
  - For all codes, appropriate footwear must be worn
- **What gear do players need to wear for games?**
  - All players are advised to wear their clubs jerseys and shorts, shorts/skorts for Camogie.
  - Players must be in the same playing gear - for example, all in the same colours to assist the referee
  - Bibs may be worn if necessary to help distinguish teams



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **Are U6 events allowed to take place?**
  - No, U6 Events are not permitted. Go Games are for U7 and above
  - It is also recommended children aged 6 and younger are introduced slowly to Go Games with their continued participation in the nursery within the club
  - Any club hosting an U6 Event or attending an event may be liable to a sanction
- **Can 6-year-olds take part in Go Games?**
  - Children whose sixth birthday is on or after January 1st can play at the Under 7 age grade in that calendar year only



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

### • **Why are U6's not allowed play games?**

- U6's should be focusing on the nursery programme
- Nursery Programmes (F1) are a series of fun-based exercises to develop movement and motor skills for children aged 4 to 6 years old depending on their level prior to transition to Go Games. These skills form the basis for the later development of the specific skills of Camogie/Hurling and Gaelic Football
- At such a young age the young gaelic games players are only learning fundamental movement skills including Agility, Balance, Coordination, Running and Jumping skills
- As they improve and basics are there, programmes should focus on basic motor skills including Throwing, Catching and Passing, and Striking skills based on the player's ability to play with and manipulate a ball
- At this stage, they could be trialling fun activity games within the club and team structures, playing fun learning games such as tag/snatch the bacon/as many passes in 2 minutes etc



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- **How many players can play in a game?**

To maximise playing opportunities teams shall endeavor to play the minimum and no more than the maximum numbers recommended;

Age Grade	Minimum Numbers	Maximum Numbers
U7	4 V 4	7 V 7
U8	5 V 5	8 V 8
U9	5 V 5	9 V 9
U10	6 V 6	10 V 10
U11	6 V 6	11 V 11
U12	8 V 8	13 V 13

Games are small sided with modified playing rules to allow more time and space for players to master the skills, make decisions and as a result experience a sense of achievement.



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **Are substitutions required?**

Should teams have more than the maximum panel sizes, we would suggest that if your teams has enough for two teams (based on minimum numbers on page 7) they should enter more than one team in events to maximise playing opportunities.

Of course if teams have a small handful of players extra, then rolling substitutions should take place.

All players must play in the Game i.e., everyone 'Has a Go'.

Everybody involved in Go Games, whether as players, parents/ guardians, spectators, mentors, teachers, officials, etc., should adhere to the key underpinning of the relevant Gaelic Games Respect campaigns.

The games are progressive and inclusive, structured in a manner which optimises the level of fun, friendship, fair-play, and enjoyment.



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **Are tournaments allowed?**

- No tournaments are allowed, events MUST follow a blitz format. The event must be called a blitz or a festival

- **Are we allowed to present trophies?**

- No, trophies are not permitted. Medals, Certificates etc. are permitted, once all players receive the same
- The only exception to this rule, is that in COUNTY ran U12 leagues (ONLY!!) can have trophy presentations
- A club running an U12 event cannot have trophies presented

- **Are memorial events permitted?**

- Yes, memorial events are permitted, but must be called XXX Memorial Blitz or Fun Blitz Day etc.
- If there is a memorial trophy, this must not be presented to any team. Perhaps, get certificates or medals to represent the day
- All players receive this to commemorate the person



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **What years can play at which age grade for 2026?**
  - Those born in the following years are permitted to play in the age grade.
  - U12: 2016 -2014
  - U11: 2017- 2015
  - U10: 2018 - 2016
  - U9: 2019 - 2017
  - U8: 2019 & 2018
  - U7: 2020 & 2019
  - There must be no half age grades as this is against policy and goes against the playing age guidelines.
  - Clubs are not to use school age groups for their Go Games, or club age, it must be a year cohort, in line with all 3 Association's rules.
- **Can girls play within GAA Games?**
  - Girls may participate only up to and including the Under 12 Grade within Hurling & Football, under GAA official Guide - Part 1 - Rule 6.17
  - Boys are not permitted to play in Camogie or Ladies Football, but both girls and boys can play within the Hurling & Mens Football, and must be members of the GAA.



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **What happens with the U12 Age Grade?**

- U12 age grade is organised on a league and blitz basis. No knockout rounds are permitted as part of the U12 league programme
- Finals are permitted at U12 County Leagues, however every club should get an opportunity to take part in a final's day. I.E 1V2, 3V4, 5V6, etc.
- Scores should not be kept, just note Win/Loss/Draw
- Go Games should not be used as grading for any older age grades
- 1 V 1 Games are permitted at this grade only

- **Who can play in the U12 Age Group?**

- Only children whose 10th, 11th or 12th birthday is on or after January 1st can play at the U12 age grade in that calendar year



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **Are 1 V 1 games allowed?**

- 1 V 1 Game is defined as one team from one club vs one team from another club
- 1 v 1 games are not permitted from U7 – U11, clubs must host blitz events
- They are only allowed within the U12 Age Category
- These must be approved via the appropriate means. As some counties may not permit 1 V 1s

- **What is a blitz?**

- A blitz or a festival must include a minimum of three clubs or multiple teams from two clubs
- Each team must get at least 2 games (multiple games)

- **Are U6 events allowed to take place?**

- No, U6 Events are not permitted. Go Games are for U7 and above
- Children aged 4 - 6 years old are introduced slowly to Go Games with their continued participation in the nursery within the club

- **How many games must be played?**

- At least two games, as there must be a minimum of 3 teams to take part in a blitz
- All teams must receive the same number of games, and time allocated



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **How do we know who wins the games, if no score is kept?**
  - No score to be kept, as all blitzes are non-competitive, with no winner so there is no need to keep score
  - Games should be player focused to increase enjoyment. Clubs should enforce that no scores are kept in any form. Scores do not matter for non competitive games
- **Can we play finals?**
  - There are no knock-out rounds (e.g. semi-finals, finals) in any type of Go Games.
  - The exception is in a COUNTY ran league at U12 Age Grade, where win, loss and draw can be recorded
  - Teams can get to finals, but every team should get to a final. Counties can present a winning trophy, should they wish
- **Can Clubs run U12 Leagues and Competition?**
  - No, clubs cannot run leagues, competitions or finals. Only counties can run leagues
  - There should be no competitions ran by clubs, in any form of Go Games



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **How do I get a blitz/game approved?**
  - Use this link and input all details in the form
    - [Approval Form Available Here](#)
  - You must be logged in using your official Gaelic Games email address, or the link will not work
  - Ensure you are selecting the correct code!
  
- **My Blitz got rejected. What do I do?**
  - Some blitzes get rejected as there is not enough information
  - For example, number of games each team gets must be listed, list of the teams attending, e.g. Club name (x 2 teams) etc.
  - Just resubmit the application with more information
  - Check the comments from the response for further clarification.
  
- **My blitz got approved, what do I do now?**
  - Plan your event as you described
  - Share your approval PDF with all your teams attending
  - Ensure you inform your county board or provincial board and keep them informed on your progress for Go Games



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **My event has changed due to a withdrawal, what do I do now?**
  - Just inform the individual who approved the blitz on your latest plans, whether you are changing the structure or including another team to ensure it is still within the Go Games Policy
- **I haven't heard anything regarding my event and if it has been received. Who do I contact?**
  - Did you use your correct email address (@camogie.ie, @gaa.ie, @lgfa.ie)
  - Did you select the correct code?
  - If you are experiencing any issues on the above, please contact your National Coordinator
    - **Camogie:** [shauna.fox@camogie.ie](mailto:shauna.fox@camogie.ie)
    - **GAA:** [karen.togher@gaa.ie](mailto:karen.togher@gaa.ie)
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- **How do I know if the blitz I am attending is within Policy and Approved?**
  - All Hosts Clubs receive confirmation of approval; host clubs must send this to the visiting clubs
  - If visiting clubs have not received this, it is best to contact the host club and request this prior to the event
  - All approved blitzes receive an automated email confirming that the event has been approved or rejected
  - If it has not been approved, it is an unauthorised blitz – and all clubs in attendance are breaching the policy
  - If you attend an unapproved blitz, your club can be liable for a sanction. If in doubt do not attend, and notify your National Coordinator
    - **Camogie:** [shauna.fox@camogie.ie](mailto:shauna.fox@camogie.ie)
    - **GAA:** [karen.togher@gaa.ie](mailto:karen.togher@gaa.ie)
    - **LGFA:** [vincent.whelan@lgfa.ie](mailto:vincent.whelan@lgfa.ie)



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **What do I do if I see an event taking place that is not within policy?**
  - **Please notify the relevant contact about the event:**
    - **Camogie:** [shauna.fox@camogie.ie](mailto:shauna.fox@camogie.ie)
    - **GAA:** [karen.togher@gaa.ie](mailto:karen.togher@gaa.ie)
    - **LGFA:** [vincent.whelan@lgfa.ie](mailto:vincent.whelan@lgfa.ie)
  - Feel free to share as much information as possible, and we can meet with the club to support with the policy



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **Where can I find the playing rules?**

- The playing rules are detailed in the policy document itself or there are resources available on your Associations website
- [Click here for the full Go Games policy](#)
- [Click here for the Go Games Coaching Workshop](#)
- [Click here for the Go Games Refereeing Course](#)

*Note: Go Games Referees oversee the Go Games mini-games. These could be referees that are new to refereeing the game and are vitally important to ensure that these games can take place. Please ensure that respect for the referee is shown at all times, "Take A Second", "Give Respect, Get Respect". The games are progressive and inclusive, structured in a manner which optimises the level of fun, friendship, fair-play, and enjoyment for all involved.*



## GO GAMES FAQ DOCUMENT

- **Who can referee Go Games?**

- Any qualified referee can officiate a Go Games game
- The minimum qualification is the Go Games Referee Course

- **How do I complete the Go Games Referee Course?**

- The course is available online, and takes one-hour to complete
- Participants must be at least 15 years of age
- [Please click here for the Go Games Referee Course](#)

Without referees we cannot have games, so we strongly recommend each team has someone complete this course.



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