

Meath GAA 2020 Return to Play



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1. Adult Return to Play

Revised Football Championship Formats

Senior – 3 Round Robin Games + Semi-Final + Final = 5 rounds – min 3 games per team

- 16 teams drawn randomly into 4 groups each containing 4 teams
- Top team in each group into semi-finals – A1 v C1 and B1 v D1
- Bottom team into relegation semi-finals – A4 v C4 and B4 v D4 – final loser is relegated

Intermediate – 3RR + QF + SF + F = 6 rounds – min 3 games per team

- 20 teams drawn randomly into 5 groups each containing 4 teams
- Semi-finals as follows - A1 v C1 - and B1 v winner of D1/E1 qtr-final
- Relegation semi-finals - A4 v C4 - and B4 v loser D4/E4 relegation qtr-final – final loser relegated

Junior – 3RR + SF + F = 5 rounds – min 2 games per team

- 15 teams drawn randomly into 3 groups of 4 and one group of 3
- Top team in each group into semi-finals – A1 v C1 and B1 v D1
- No relegation.

Premier – 64 teams affiliated and graded in 8 divisions – 3RR + F = 4 rounds – min 3 games per team

- 8 teams drawn randomly into 2 group of 4 in each division.
- Top team in each group into final – winner promoted except top division
- Bottom team in each group into relegation final – loser relegated except bottom division.

Revised Hurling Championship Formats

Senior – 3 Round Robin Games + Quarter-Final + Semi-Final + Final = 6 rounds – min 2 games per team

- 6 senior A teams drawn randomly into 2 groups of 3 known as groups A1 and A2 – similar draw for the 6 senior B teams into groups B1 and B2.
- Predetermined knockout draws as follows
 - 1st in B1 v 2nd in A2 in quarter-final – winner plays 1st in A1 in semi-final
 - 1st in B2 v 2nd in A1 in quarter-final – winner plays 1st in A2 in semi-final
- 1 senior B team is promoted to senior A for following year based on knockout progress – however if both teams exit at same stage then a playoff is required.
- Bottom teams in A1 and A2 playoff with loser relegated to Senior B for following year. Bottom teams in B1 and B2 playoff with loser relegated to IHC for the following year.

Intermediate

- Same format as senior

Junior – 3RR + F = 4 rounds – min 2 games per team

- 6 teams drawn randomly into 2 groups of 3
- Top team in each group into final

Junior 2 – 3RR + SF + F = 5 rounds – min 2 games per team

- 10 teams drawn randomly into 1 group of 4 (group A) and 2 groups of 3 (B and C)
- Predetermined semifinal draws as follows A1 v C1 and B1 v A2

Revised Adult Championship Calendar

July		August		September		October		
					1		Thu	
					2		Fri	
		1	Football R1		3	IFC / JFC Finals	Sat	
		2	Football R1		4	SFC / MFC Finals	Sun	
		3	Bank Holiday - Football R1		5		Mon	
		4		1	6		Tue	
1		5		2	7		Wed	
2		6		3	8		Thu	
3		7		4	9		Fri	
4		8	Hurling R1	5	Hurling R3	10	IHC / JHC Finals	Sat
5		9	Hurling R1	6	Hurling R3	11	SHC / MHC Finals	Sun
6		10		7	12		Mon	
7		11		8	13		Tue	
8		12		9	14		Wed	
9		13		10	15		Thu	
10		14		11	16		Fri	
11		15	Football R2	12	IFC QF + Prem Finals	17	Intercounty Start	Sat
12		16	Football R2	13	Hurling QF + J2H SF	18		Sun
13		17		14	19		Mon	
14		18		15	20		Tue	
15		19		16	21		Wed	
16		20		17	22		Thu	
17		21		18	23		Fri	
18		22	Hurling R2	19	Football SF + Prem Finals	24		Sat
19		23	Hurling R2	20	Football SF + Prem Finals	25		Sun
20		24		21	26	Bank Holiday	Mon	
21		25		22	27		Tue	
22		26		23	28		Wed	
23		27		24	29		Thu	
24		28		25	30		Fri	
25		29	Football R3	26	SHC/IHC SF	31		Sat
26		30	Football R3	27	SHC/IHC SF + J2H Final			Sun
27		31		28				Mon
28				29				Tue
29				30				Wed
30								Thu
31	Club Start							Fri

2. Underage Return to Play

The table below outlines the schedule for all Go Games and Underage competitions – the schedule is largely the same as outlined at the beginning of the year.

- Saturday timing – Go Games 9.30-11.30 – U13 12.30-2.00 – Adult 3pm onward
- Sunday timing – u15 10.30-12 – Adult 1pm onward

August	Go Games U7/U9	Go Games U11	U13	U15	U17
Fri 31 Jul	Go Games Holiday Period				
Sat 01 Aug					
Sun 02 Aug					
Mon 03 Aug					
Tue 04 Aug				U15 FC 1	
Wed 05 Aug		Football 10			MHC1
Thu 06 Aug			U13 HL 1		
Sat 08 Aug	Hurling 9		U13 FL 1		
Sun 09 Aug				U15 HC 1	
Mon 10 Aug					
Tue 11 Aug				U15 FC 2	
Wed 12 Aug		Hurling 10			MFC1
Thu 13 Aug			U13 HL 2		
Sat 15 Aug	Football 9		U13 FL 2		
Sun 16 Aug				U15 HC 2	
Mon 17 Aug					
Tue 18 Aug				U15 FC 3	
Wed 19 Aug		Football 11			MHC2
Thu 20 Aug			U13 HL 3		
Sat 22 Aug	Hurling 10		U13 FL 3		
Sun 23 Aug				U15 HC 3	
Tue 25 Aug				U15 FC 4	
Wed 26 Aug		Hurling 11			MFC2
Sat 29 Aug	Football 10		U13 HL 4		MHC3
Sun 30 Aug				U15 HC 4	
September	Go Games U7/U9	Go Games U11	U13	U15	U17
Tue 01 Sep				U15 FC 5	
Wed 02 Sep		Football 12			
Sat 05 Sep	Hurling 11		U13 FL 4		MFC3
Sun 06 Sep				U15 HC 5	
Wed 09 Sep		Hurling 12			
Thu 10 Sep			U13 HL 5		
Sat 12 Sep	Football 11		U13 FL 5		MHC Semis
Sun 13 Sep				U15 FC 6	
Sat 19 Sep	Hurling 12		U13 HL 6		MFC Semis
Sun 20 Sep				U15 HC 6	
Sat 26 Sep	Football 12		U13 FL 6		MFC + MHC Finals
Sun 27 Sep				U15 FC SF	
October	Go Games U7/U9	Go Games U11	U13	U15	U17
Sat 03 Oct	Hurling 13		U13 HL 7		
Sun 04 Oct				U15 HC SF	MFC Div 1 Final
Sat 10 Oct	Football 13		U13 FL 7		
Sun 11 Oct				U15 FC Finals	MHC Div 1 Final
Sat 17 Oct			U13 HL 8		
Sun 18 Oct				U15 HC Finals	
Sat 24 Oct	Bank Holiday (No Go Games)		U13 FL 8		
Sun 25 Oct					
Mon 26 Oct			U13 HL Finals		
Sat 31 Oct			U13 FL Finals		

3. Appendix 1 – Adult Affiliations and Grading

2020 Hurling Championship Gradings

	Senior A	Intermediate A	Junior	Junior 2	
1	Kiltale	Boardsmill	Kilmessan 2	Clann na nGael 2	1
2	Kildalkey	Dunderry	St Peter's Dunboyne 2	Boardsmill 2	2
3	Longwood	Drumree	Ratoath 2	Dunderry 2	3
4	Ratoath	Gaeil Colmcille	Rathmolyon 2	Ratoath 3	4
5	Killyon	Wolfe Tones	O'Mahonys 2	Kiltale 3	5
6	Trim	Rathmolyon	Na Fianna 2	Wolfe Tones 2	6
				Kildalkey 3	7
	Senior B	Intermediate B		St Patrick's 1	8
7	St Peter's Dunboyne	Donaghmore/Ash		Drumree 2	9
8	Na Fianna	Kilskyre/Moylagh		Trim 3	10
9	Blackhall Gaels	Kildalkey 2			
10	Kilmessan	Kiltale 2			
11	O'Mahonys	Trim 2			
12	Clann na nGael	Killyon 2			

2020 Football Championship Gradings

	Senior	Intermediate	Junior
1	Curraha	Ballinabrackey	Ballivor
2	Donaghmore/Ashbourne	Ballinlough	Boardsmill
3	Dunshaughlin	Bective	Carnaross
4	Gaeil Colmcille	Blackhall Gaels	Clonard
5	Moynalvey	Castletown	Cortown
6	Na Fianna	Clann na nGael	Drumconrath
7	Nobber	Drumbaragh	Dunsany
8	O'Mahonys	Duleek/Bellewstown	Kilbride
9	Ratoath	Dunderry	Kilmainhamwood
10	Seneschalstown	Kilmainham	Moynalty
11	Simonstown	Longwood	Slane
12	Skryne	Meath Hill	St Brigid's
13	St Colmcille's	Moylagh	St Mary's
14	St Peter's Dunboyne	Oldcastle	St Ultan's
15	Summerhill	Rathkenny	St Vincent's
16	Wolfe Tones	Syddan	
17		St Michael's	
18		St Patrick's	
19		Trim	
20		Walterstown	

2020 Premier Championship Gradings

	Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4
1	St Peter's Dunboyne	O'Mahonys	Moynalvey	St Ultan's
2	Donaghmore/Ashbourne	Na Fianna	Nobber	Clann na nGael
3	Summerhill	Ratoath	St Colmcille's	Blackhall Gaels
4	Gaeil Colmcille	Trim	Donaghmore/Ashbourne	St Paul's
5	Seneschalstown	St Patrick's	Dunsany	St Michaels
6	Wolfe Tones	Simonstown	Walterstown	Oldcastle
7	Skryne	Duleek/Bellewstown	Dunderry	Carnaross
8	Dunshaughlin	St Peter's Dunboyne	Ballivor	Seneschalstown

	Division 5	Division 6	Division 7	Division 8
1	Syddan	St Peter's Dunboyne	Kilbride	Boardsmill
2	Summerhill	Bective	Kilmainham	Kilmainhamwood
3	Simonstown	Longwood	Clonard	O'Mahonys
4	Moynalty	Cortown	Drumbaragh	Moylagh
5	Skryne	Ballinabrackey	Ballinlough	Ratoath
6	Rathkenny	Dunshaughlin	Curraha	Slane
7	St Colmcille's	Castletown	Meath Hill	Donaghmore/Ash
8	Wolfe Tones	Ratoath	Trim	St Vincent's

4. Appendix 2 – Questions & Answers

What other competition formats were considered for adult championships?

Straight knockout championships were considered and could be completed in 9 weeks – but ruled out as not fair on players to have only one guaranteed game.

Straight knockout with a backdoor was also considered but would actually take longer than the proposed round robin formats.

Is there enough time for the proposed round robin formats?

Yes – but games will have to be played as scheduled and knockout games finished on the day. Some games will have to be scheduled for mid-week.

What about other competitions - 2020 leagues, Knockout Cups, U19/U21 or Regional?

The current focus is on getting the 2020 championships played. The intercounty window after Oct 11th could be used for other club competitions depending on weather etc. No decisions on this will be made until later in the year.

What about match day protocols to keep everyone safe?

The GAA has published comprehensive safe return to play guidelines. All clubs and members should read and internalise the guidelines – and stay up to date with any changes to the guidelines over the coming months.