LDL

Limerick District League

RULE BOOK

CURRENT VERSION

Adopted at A.G.M. 07.04.2026,
Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick.

Author: L.D.L. Clubs

Table of Contents

Section	Description	Page(s)
1.0	General Rules	2 – 4
2.0	L.D.L.C. Junior and Youth Rules for all local competitions	5 – 6
3.0	Limerick District League Committee Standing Orders	7
4.0	Youths & U.17 Rules	8

- *In the event of a clash of rules, between the Limerick District League rules and those of the Football Association of Ireland (F.A.I.), the rules of the Football Association of Ireland supersede all other rules.*

1.0 General Rules

1. The Committee shall be called the Limerick District League Committee.
2. The offices of the Committee shall be in the City of Limerick, Headquarters Jackman Park.
3. The objectives for the Committee are to promote, foster and develop the game of Association

A.Football in the City and County of Limerick and adjacent areas.

B. The incoming committee shall produce within 3 months of election a code of best practices for committee members. This should be in accordance with best practice having regards to the principles of natural justice , fairness , anti-harassment / sexual harassment.

C. The LDLC shall partake in the FAI League Mark at its earliest opportunity.

4. All Clubs comprising of the League shall be affiliated to the Football Association of Ireland through the Divisional Association.
5. In the interpretation of these rules the following words and expressions shall have the following meaning, unless excluded by the subject or context.
   a) Committee shall mean Limerick District League Committee.
   b) Clear days shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays, unless it specifies calendar days.
   c) M.F.A. shall mean the Munster Football Association.
   d) FA.I. shall mean Football Association of Ireland.
6. The Committee shall have the power to deal with as they think fit, any club, club official, members, or players of any clubs in membership of this Committee guilty of misconduct or in breach of these rules, or in any way acting in manner prejudicial to the interests of, this Committee. Subject always to the right of appeal to the Munster Football Association.
7. All clubs playing association football in the city and county of Limerick and adjacent areas shall be eligible for membership, subject to approval by the Committee. L.D.L.C. reserve the right to refuse admission to any new club.
   A) Clubs who have Artificial Grass playing surfaces must submit their up to date UEFA Certificate prior to the start of the playing season.
   B) All grounds must be maintained to a standard for all matches under the LDL jurisdiction and all necessary insurance policies must be in place prior to the start of the season.
8. Each Club shall forward to the Hon. Secretary its name and address of Secretary, Phone no. and Email Address, Club colours and nominate home ground. All officers' names of said club.
9. Clubs changing their secretaries or secretaries changing address are required to notify Hon. Secretary of the Committee of the alteration at once. Disciplinary action will be taken against Clubs who fail to comply with this rule.
10. All rules passed at the A.G.M. be brought in immediately. Updated Rule Book to be sent to clubs within 7 days of the rules passing at the AGM.
11. Clubs requesting to run tournaments must fill in an M.F.A. tournament form and said form must be signed by L.D.L. secretary.
12. The Hon. Officers of the Committee shall be, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Child Liaison Officer to be nominated in writing to the Secretary each year on or before the 30th of April, and to be elected at the A.GM. by a clear majority of the representatives in attendance and voting. More than one nomination for any one position and an election will be held for that position. Successful candidates must receive 50% plus 1 of the vote.
    A) A member may serve a maximum of 3 years in any one officer role of the LDLC Committee.
    B) No LDLC Officer or Committee member may sit on the LDSL Committee. If agreed by the LDSL then a non-voting liaison committee member could be appointed to bridge both committees if needed.
13. The management Committee to conduct the business shall consist of Honorary Officers, Child Liaison Officer and six (6) other members to be elected at the A.G.M.
    - Nominations for committee must be in writing by the 30th of April each year. Only in the event of insufficient nominations in writing will nominations be taken at the A.G.M. All nominations must be sent to the Hon. Secretary and said nominations must be signed by Chairman and Secretary on club headed note paper.

14. Committee members must have served two (2) years on L.D.L.C. before they are eligible for election to any Officer ship. (Rule 14 is excluded from 7/4/26 for 2 season's (26/27 & 27/28) only)
15. Should a vacancy occur, within the six (6) committee members, the Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy by co-opting another member of any Club not represented at time of co-option, or a neutral member subject to approval by a majority of the clubs at next delegate meeting.
    a) Should a vacancy occur of the honourary officers, the Committee shall not have the power to fill the vacancy from their members or by co-option, a special delegate meeting will be called, and the position will be filled through a vote from delegates, no Club shall be eligible to have more than one representative in a direct or indirect capacity.
16. The Chairperson , or in their absence the Vice-Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Committee and shall conduct business in accordance with the ordinary rule of procedure, of which they shall be judge. In the case of an equity of votes on any motion the presiding Chairperson shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative one.

17. An officer, or a member of the Committee, shall be removed:
    a) If he/she absents themselves from three consecutive meetings of the Committee, without special leave of absence or reason satisfactory to the Committee.
    b) Professional players and professional referees are ineligible for membership of the Committee in the current year.
18. In case of protests, appeals or investigations of any kind, members of the Club, or Clubs, with vested interest who are on the Committee shall not be present
19. At the A.G.M. or any special A.G.M. all questions shall be determined by roll call unless a demand be made by a member of the meeting supported by at least a fourth of the representatives in attendance and voting for a ballot. Clubs wishing to question any actions of the management Committee on any matter must submit same in writing one week prior to the A.G.M.
20. Gate receipts in all local games plus finals played in Jackman Park will be first 100 euro to the Limerick District League, after referee's fees & costs are paid balance to be divided two ways between the 2 contesting teams.
21. The Hon. Secretary shall keep a true record of proceedings of the Committee in the manner a prescribed by them and shall present a report of the season' work at the Annual General Meeting.
22. The Hon. Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Committee and keep regular accounts of same. He shall submit statements and receipts and disbursements at the Annual General Meeting and to the Committee at the first meeting of every second month.
23. The Registrar shall be responsible for the activation of all players under L.D.L.C.
24. No Club or players shall be permitted to play in any matches with Clubs not affiliated to the F.A.I., except with the special permission of the F.A.I. All member Clubs of the LDLC shall have a minimum FAI Club Mark Entry level Mark.
25. Any infringements of any of the rule of the Committee and of the Laws of the game shall be dealt with reference to and in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations i.e. Section 7 of the FAI Governance Handbook.
26. A player or member of a Club may not, during the period of his suspension play or take part in any match or fixture under F.A.I., M.F.A. or L.D.L.C. hold any office in his Club or act in any capacity under this Committee.
27. Any player, manager or member of a Club who have been requested to appear before the L.D.L.C. MUST be accompanied by another member of that Club. (30.)
28. Members of the Committee shall have free admission to all grounds under their jurisdiction. (32.)
29. Every Club is responsible to the Committee for the actions of it players, officials and spectators, and is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent spectators threatening or assaulting officials and players during or at the end of matches. Clubs should consider the FAI Governance Handbook, Section 7 Disciplinary Regulations. (33.)
30. Once the L.D.L.C. accept that a person has been duly nominated by one club for the. A.G.M. no further nominations are necessary for that person. (34.)
31. Once in accordance with GDPR compliance requirements, the Committee shall have power to call upon Club members and players of a Club to produce any books letters, documents, and any other evidence the Committee may desire. (35.)
32. The AGM which shall consist of the Hon Officers and members of the committee and 1 club delegate per vote. Clubs will be given seven days' notice of the AGM. The agenda of the meeting, secretary's report & statement of accounts, will be sent to all clubs electronically. (36.)
    A) Voting rights at all LDL meetings shall be weighted as per the number of affiliated teams to the league per club. 1-3 Teams = 1 Vote, 4-6 Teams = 2 Votes and 7 plus teams = 3 votes.
33. Special General Meetings may be called by the committee as they deem necessary. A Special General Meeting shall also be called upon receipt by the Hon. Secretary of the Committee of a requisition signed by the secretaries of at least two thirds of the Clubs, accompanied by a deposit of €250 payable by bank draft or postal order to defray expenses incurred. No business shall be conducted at such meetings except that specified in the requisition to, or in the agenda issued by the Hon Secretary of the committee. Seven days' notice to be given to Clubs. (37.)
34. The Committee shall have power to suspend or otherwise deal with, as they consider fit, any of it's members, or any Hon. Officer of the Committee who in it's opinion may be deemed guilty of conduct likely to bring discredit on the Committee or the game, divulging information regarding business transacted or to be transacted by the Committee,

shall be deemed misconduct under this rule. Members or officers who feel aggrieved by the result of a decision under this rule shall have the right of appeal to the M.F.A. (38.)

35. No amendments or additions shall be made to these rules except with the consent of the majority of the Clubs as represented by delegates at the A.G.M. All proposed alterations, amendments or additions to Rules must be lodged with the Hon. Sec. in writing on or before the 30th of April in each year. Particulars of all proposed alterations, amendments or additions to Rules must be forwarded to the Clubs 7 days prior to the A.GM. (39.)
36. Fixtures will cease during the Christmas period, dates of break will be communicated to clubs before the end of November. (40.)
37. General discussion must take place after all elections and voting and rule changes at all future A.G.M.'s. (41.)
38. All fees, fines and registration fees to be determined annually by the incoming LD.L.C. (42.)
39. All fees must be paid to the Treasurer who will give an official receipt for all monies received. (43.)
40. Half fees must be paid before the start of the league football, with the second half balance to be paid by January 31st. New clubs to pay full fees on entry. (44.)
41. All outstanding fines must be paid in full before the start of every season. (45.)
42. The L.D.L.C. shall be entitled to hold, occupy, sub release, license, hire, charter and grant. rights and privileges in respect of or otherwise deal with lands, perioditaments, houses, buildings and all property of every nature, kind, description and tenure belonging to the L.D.L.C., or in respect of which they may have any estate, interest, rights, or license to deal with same commercially, to purchase lands and building and to borrow monies for such purposes and to grant mortgages and give security over any of its property and shall be entitled to sell or dispose of its property as it sees fit. (46.)
43. All the property of the L.DLC. shall be vested in trustees who shall deal with such property as Directors, by resolution of the committee, (of which an entry in the minute book shall be sufficient evidence).The trustees shall consist of not more than six or less than three and shall be appointed by the L.D .L.C.at a special meeting of the member to be caned by after the passing of the resolution they shall hold office until death, resignation or removal by LD.L.C. They shall carry out all directives of L.DLC. in connection with requisition or disposal of property and in respect of all dealings relevant to the use of property. The L.D.L.C. shall have power to appoint or replace trustees at its absolute discretion. Such a decision shall require a minimum of two thirds of the L.D.L.C. members to so vote. (47.)
44. The Committee shall have the power to deal with any matter not provided for in these rules, making refence to and in accordance with the FAI Governance Handbook. (48.)
45. Clubs should decide on the level of honorarium to be paid to each officer of the LDL committee at the AGMs going forward. (49.)

2.0 L.D.L.C. Junior and Youth Rules for all local competitions

1. All competitions shall be annual and subject to the approval of the Committee and shall be open to all Clubs affiliated to the F.A.I. through the L.D.L.C.
2. All LDL Competitions shall be managed on the FAI Football Management System (FMS).
3. No Club or Clubs shall have the power to postpone a fixture and any Club or Clubs doing so will be adjudged to have given a walk-over, the Committee shal1 have power to deprive both Clubs of the points and shall fine or otherwise deal with both Clubs. (3.)
4. A Club knowingly inducing a player to sign more than one form shall be liable to be dealt with as Committee see fit. (12.)
5. The home team must change colours when meeting teams with similar registered colours. (16.)
6. Any objections to pitch, post etc. must be conveyed to referee before start of game in writing, in tum Referee sends objection with match card to L.D.L.C. (17.)
7. The Committee shall have power to fine Clubs for late start of games only where fault lays with the clubs. (18.)
8. The home team must be responsible for the marking of the pitch and must have it in playing order. Also note the home team must pay all the referee fees. (19.)
9. In the case of abandoned or unfinished matches, the Committee shall investigate into the cause of same and shall have power to deem the game null & void, order a replay, or award the game. The decision and its findings shall be communicated to the clubs involved (20.)
10. Any infringements of any of the rules of the Committee or Laws of the game shall render the offending Club and any member of same liable to expulsion, suspension, fines, or such other penalties in accordance with Section 7 - Disciplinary Regulations of the FAI Governance Handbook. (21.)
11. Club must ensure that all players entered on the FAI FMS Team Sheet must be signed and registered players of that Club team.
12. Matchday Squads can be a maximum of 20 players, only 5 substitutes from 9 are permitted in all games under the jurisdiction of the LDL. (24.)
13. All local cup games under the auspices of the LDL up to the final tie go straight to penalties at the end of normal time in the event of a draw. (25.)
14. All players must be assigned to their teams rosters as per the regulations of FAI. When a player plays 5 fixtures for a higher team (ex C-B , B-A) they then become a member of that team. The onus and responsibility is on the club to make the player inactive with the team they are no longer eligible to play for. This applies in League matches only. (26.)
15. Protest must be forwarded to the Secretary of the Committee and a copy of same to the Club concerned by registered post bearing postmark within four (4) clear days after the match has been played. A period of 48 hours after the receipt of protest shall be afforded the Club protested against to lodge a cross protest or appeal. In no circumstances will a Club be allowed. to withdraw a protest. Both Clubs must appear at meeting to answer protest. (27.)
16. Each protest must be accompanied by a fee of €100.00, payable by postal order/ETF, the onus of proof of a protest shall be with the protesting club. A club successful with their protest will have the €100 fee returned (28.)
17. A Club failing to appear in answer to a protest when called upon or failing an explanation of their absence satisfactory to the Committee shall be fined or dealt with as the Committee think fit. (29.)
18. Clubs, players, or members of Clubs and all other dissatisfied with the decision of the Committee shall have the right of appeal to the M.F.A. and in tum the FA.I., as per rule. Clubs should make themselves aware of the FAI Governance Handbook. (30.)
19. The suspension of a Club/Team shall disqualify all player of such Club/Team from matches or fixtures under this Committee and the Association of the F.A.I. during the period of suspension. (32.)
20. Any member of a suspended Club who may be on the L.D.L. Committee shall not act in such capacity, or any other capacity under the auspices of the L.D.L. Committee. (33.)
21. Any club withdrawing one (1) of their teams from the League, it must be their lowest team. Results to date will stand and remaining fixtures of the withdrawn team will be classed as walkovers. Clubs withdrawing teams from the League will be fined €100.00 minimum. Premier League clubs shall not be allowed to withdraw teams from the Premier League once they have lower teams. (35.)

22. Any team giving a walkover will be fined €100 for 1st Walkover, €200 for 2nd Walkover, €300 for 3rd Walkover and an extra €100 per walkover thereafter.
23. Re Local Cup Fixtures, if home team pitch is unplayable after one inspection, match will be refixed for the opponent's ground. (37.)
24. All cup draws are to be made at a delegate meeting and said draws will appear on league website & social media. (38.)
25. Every officer and member of the committee shall be indemnified by the L.D.L.C. against all costs, losses and expenses incurred by them, respectively, in or about the discharge of their respective duties, except such as may happen from their respective wilful acts of defaults. (39.)
26. A Competition Calendar with all dates for M.F.A & F.A.I competitions will be sent out to clubs at the start of the season. All other weekend dates in the Calendar are for LDL Fixtures (40.)
27. L.D.L. cannot make teams play more than one midweek fixtures per week. Unless a team requests to play more. (41.)
28. That the Limerick & District League at their discretion shall have the power to form the makeup of each league at the start of each season. Only 1 team per club in any one division. (42.)
29. Fixtures will be sent on a weekly basis to clubs and no later than Friday night for the following weekends fixtures
30. When L.D.L. request the chairman and Secretary of a club to attend a meeting of the league, in their absence, they may send any two (2) committee members of said club. (44.)
31. Any team who has no playing pitch, when they are playing their second-round league game. They must pay the referee their full match fee on the day.
32. All disciplinary rules are governed by Section 7 - Disciplinary Regulations of the FAI Governance Handbook. (48.)
33. All agreements between the Limerick & District League and League Of Ireland Teams must be made available to the clubs. (49.)
34. No member of the Limerick & District League to sit on the board/committee of a senior soccer team. (50.)
35. The Leagues Representative(s) on the MFA shall be selected from the full LDL Committee at their first meeting.
36. In the event of a clash of rules, between the Limerick District League rules and those of the Football Association of Ireland, the rules of the Football Association of Ireland supersede all other rules. (54.)
37. That all correspondence and notifications i.e. letters, sending off and cautions notifications can be sent to clubs electronically i.e. via email. (55.)
38. Unplayable pitches are to be communicated to the League Fixture Secretary by 8pm for the following mornings fixtures or by 3pm for evening fixtures. Should the LDLC Committee have any doubt over unplayable pitches they may request a match official to inspect the playing surface.

3.0 Limerick District League Committee Standing Orders

Should Rule 1a be approved by the membership then the below standing orders are removed and code of conduct when completed will be added.

4.0 Youths & U.17 Rules

1. All players both U17 and U18 must be under the age of 17 and 18 on the 1st of January that season ends to qualify to play in U17 and u18 competitions.
    a) U.17 and / or youths players registered with clubs shall be deemed eligible to play with their clubs u.17, youth and Junior team, once they are registered in accordance with the FAI Governance Handbook - Section 6 - Registration Regulations and are in compliance with the FAI Connect system.
2. Postponements will be granted to U17 and U18 teams who have registered players involved in a certified school tour if the club provides written confirmation from the organizing school that registered players are involved in any such tour. (5.)