

# Bunreacht an Chumann

## 2023



## Naomh Uinsionn CLG

27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Version 2

## DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Who	Comments	Issued Date
0.1	Niamh Adamson (on behalf of Constitution Review Committee)	Initial draft based on the GAA Club Constitution (Congress 2021) incorporating items from St. Vincents 1998 Constitution For circulation to Constitution Review Committee	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022
0.2	“	Version 0.2 issued (being the Version used for presentation to Executive Committee)	25 <sup>th</sup> August 2022
0.2	“	Updates from Executive incorporated	12 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
0.3	“	Updates from Constitution Review Committee meetings incorporated	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2022
0.4	“	Updates from Constitution Review Committee incorporated	27 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
0.5	“	Updates further to meeting on 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2022. Issued to Executive Committee for their Final Approval.	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
0.6	“	Version approved by the Executive of the Club This version will be circulated to Membership for approval at AGM during November 2022	17 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
0.7	“	Update to Name after consultation with GAA Irish Language Officer. Changed from An Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Naomh Uinsionn CLG, to Naomh Uinsionn CLG Issued to Ciaran Dunne for review	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
0.8	“	Section 5.1.3 - corrected grammar Section 3 – word “Club” font made bold. Section 4 – Switched colours to be WHITE and BLUE (rather than BLUE and WHITE) Minor typo’s addressed. Issued to Constitution Review Committee	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
0.9	“	Approval History updated to reflect Constitution Review Committee have approved V0.8. V0.9 issued to Executive for Review & Signoff	2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023
1.0	“	Approval History updated to reflect Executive have approved V0.9 V1.0 Issued to Chairperson (Version reviewed and Signed off) Section 18.3 updated to reflect date of signoff	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
1.1	Niamh Adamson (on behalf of the Constitutional Interpretation Committee for the Club)	Following AGM 23/11/2023 where a motion was approved to amend the Constitution, the following draft was issued to Executive for review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated Section 7.2 to add two Executive Committee Roles, Assistant Secretary and Coaching Officer, as per the 2023 GAA template constitution.</li> <li>• Replaced Section <a href="#">5.11.2</a> relating to Discipline, with updated wording, as per the 2023 GAA template constitution.</li> <li>• Updated Section 8.5.2 changing notice days from 28 to 21 for the Annual General Meeting, as per the 2023 GAA template constitution.</li> <li>• Replaced Section <a href="#">10.2</a> and <a href="#">10.3</a> with equivalent wording, as per the 2023 GAA template constitution.</li> </ul>	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2023
2.0	Executive Committee	Version 2.0 incorporating above 1.1 changes and issued to Membership	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2023

## APPROVAL HISTORY

Version	Name	Role	Date
0.6	Membership	AGM	17 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
0.8	Ciaran Dunne	Constitution Review Committee Chairperson	1st February 2023
0.8	Constitution Review Committee Members	Anne Harrington, Patricia Drumgoole, Paul Tancred, Niamh Adamson, Brid Power	1st February 2023
0.9	Executive Committee	Executive Committee	3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2023
1.0	Una Barrett	Club Chairperson	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
2.0	Una Barrett	Club Chairperson	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2023

## 1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 **"The G.A.A."** means the National Governing Organisation for the preservation and promotion of Gaelic Games and pastimes, known as the Gaelic Athletic Association.
- 1.2 **"The Club"** means **St. Vincent's GAA Club** as set out in Article 2 hereof.
- 1.3 **"The Official Guide"** means the Official Guide of the G.A.A.
- 1.4 **"Executive Committee"** means Officers and ordinary Committee Members together.
- 1.5 **"Secretary"** means the Secretary for the time being, or any person appointed to perform the duties of the Secretary of the Club.
- 1.6 **"Real Property"** means the property of the Club of an immovable nature, comprising any Playing Pitches, Grounds or Buildings, whether of Leasehold or Freehold tenure, with all Fixtures or Fittings attached thereto and used therewith.
- 1.7 **"Personal Property"** means the property of the Club of a movable nature, comprising all Playing or Sporting equipment of the Club, as well as all Stock in Trade and Money or other Assets of the Club not already classified as fixtures or fittings on "Real Property," as heretofore defined.
- 1.8 **"Club Regulations"** shall be all, and any regulations as may be made, from time to time, by the Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of Article 7.18 of this constitution.

Words importing the singular number only, include the plural number and vice versa, and words importing the masculine gender only, also include the feminine and vice versa.

## 2. NAME

The official Name of the Club shall be Naomh Uinsionn CLG; the English version of which shall be St. Vincent's GAA Club.

## 3. OBJECTS

- 3.1 The Objects of the Club shall be the promotion of the aims of the G.A.A., as outlined in the Official Guide.
- 3.2 The Membership, income and property of the Club shall be dedicated to and applied solely towards the promotion of these objects.

## 4. COLOURS

The Club Colours shall be **WHITE** and **BLUE**.

## 5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 **FULL MEMBERSHIP** may be granted to persons over 18 years (i.e., shall have celebrated their 18th birthday prior to January 1st of the Membership Year) who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and the G.A.A.

5.1.1 **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP** may be granted to persons over 18 years, as defined above, who have rendered exceptional service to the Club or the games or activities of the G.A.A. An Honorary Member shall have the rights of a Full Member but shall be exempt from paying the Club's Annual Membership Fee.

5.1.2 **YOUTH MEMBERSHIP** may be granted to persons under 18 and over 9 years, (i.e., they shall celebrate their 18th birthday on January 1st of the Membership Year or on a later date and shall have celebrated their 9th birthday prior to January 1st of the Membership Year) and subscribe to, and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and the G.A.A.

### Notes

- Child Membership of the Association is for children under 9 years (i.e., shall celebrate their 9th birthday on 1<sup>st</sup> January of the Membership Year or on a later date)
- On expiration of a Child Membership of the Association, a person may apply for Youth Membership of the Association only through the Club for which they are eligible to play.

5.1.3 **SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP** may be granted to persons over 18 years, as defined above, who subscribe to and undertake to, further the aims and objectives of the Club and the G.A.A., but who:

- do not seek full voting rights
- do not take part in the administrative affairs of the Club or the G.A.A., and
- shall not be entitled to attend the Club AGM

5.2 Full Members (including Honorary Members) and Youth Members of the Club will also become Members of the G.A.A. Where relevant, members shall become registered with the LGFA and / or the Camogie Association.

5.3 Once granted, Full Membership of the Club and the G.A.A. shall continue for life, and Youth Membership shall continue to the end of the year in which the Member celebrates their eighteenth birthday, at which time their next membership payment will automatically be as a Full Member, unless in either case the member has been expelled or their resignation

in writing has been accepted, in accordance with this Constitution, Club Regulations, or rules of the Official Guide.

- 5.4 The rights of any Member of the Club shall be conditional upon the Member complying with the provisions of this Constitution, Club Regulations, and the Official Guide, including payment of any annual membership fee and levies.
- 5.5 Such rights may be withheld, restricted, or suspended in accordance with this Constitution, Club Regulations, and the Official Guide.
- 5.6 An application for Full or Social Membership must be made in the manner prescribed by Central Council and signed by the applicant. The application request must be submitted to the Club Secretary.
- 5.7 An application for Youth Membership must be made in the manner prescribed by Central Council and signed by the applicant and one of their parents/guardians. The prescribed electronic application form may be completed by one of the applicant's parents or guardians and submitted to the Club Secretary, complete with accompanying electronic payment for the prescribed fee.
- 5.8 An application for Child Membership must be made on the Prescribed Form and signed by the applicant and one of their parents/guardians. Alternatively, a prescribed electronic application form may be completed by one of the applicant's parents or guardians and submitted to the Club Secretary, complete with accompanying electronic payment for the prescribed fee.
- 5.9 Applications for Full Membership shall be brought for approval by the Club Secretary to a meeting(s) of the Club Executive. Applications for membership shall be approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee. In accordance with Rule 2.1(b) of the Official Guide, membership of the Association shall only be granted by the Club, to persons who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Gaelic Athletic Association, as stated in the Official Guide. A list, in alphabetical order, of the names and addresses of all club members shall be retained by the Club Secretary and/or kept safely on the club premises. Only a Full Member who has satisfied the condition of Rule 4.1 of the Official Guide may be nominated for or elected to any Elective Office referred to in the Official Guide.
  - 5.9.1 Persons shall not be admitted to any of the privileges of Membership until after their election by the procedures stated in this Article.
- 5.10 If and when the Application for Membership has been accepted by the Executive Committee, the new Member's particulars shall be submitted by the Club Registrar to the Central Council, by the process of Electronic Registration, for Registration and allocation of a personal membership number.

## **5.11 Disciplinary Powers and Procedures**

- 5.11.1 The Executive Committee shall have the power to investigate and process matters relating to alleged breaches of this Constitution, or Rules of the Official Guide by Club members in the same manner as a Competitions Control Committee or a Management Committee in Chapter 7 of the Official Guide.

It shall follow the procedures set out in Rule 7.3 of the Official Guide. Where a Defending Party seeks a Hearing, it shall be provided by the County Hearings Committee. There shall be no appeal against a decision of Hearings Committee in relation to Disciplinary Action initiated by the Executive Committee.

- 5.11.2 A penalty imposed by the Executive Committee applies within the Club only. Where the Executive Committee decides to initiate Disciplinary Action and to propose a penalty which would apply outside of the Club, the matter shall be transferred to the County Management Committee or the County Competitions Control Committee, as appropriate, for further processing, following receipt of the Reply to Notification of Disciplinary Action or the expiration of the two days provided in Rule for receipt of same.

## **6. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- 6.1 The Annual Subscription to be paid by members of the Club shall be determined by the Executive Committee and ratified at the Annual General Meeting.
- 6.2 The determined Annual Subscription shall be payable on election and thereafter annually, in advance of the date and in the manner decided by the Executive Committee. The date set shall be a date prior to March 31st each year.

## **7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 7.1 The business and affairs of the Club shall be under the management of an Executive Committee, and it shall be the controlling body of the Club.
- 7.2 The Executive Committee shall be comprised of:
- 1 The Chairperson
  - 2 Vice-Chairperson
  - 3 Treasurer
  - 4 Secretary
  - 5 Registrar
  - 6 Officer for Irish Language and Culture
  - 7 Public Relations Officer
  - 8 Children's Officer
  - 9 Players' Representative
  - 10 Assistant Secretary
  - 11 Coaching Officer AND
  - 12-21 Five, but not more than ten other Full Members, who shall include Games Directors for each of the four codes played in the Club – Gaelic Football, Hurling, Camogie and Ladies Gaelic Football

The four roles, which constitute the Officers of the Club, shall be:

- 1 Chairperson
  - 2 Vice Chairperson
  - 3 Secretary
  - 4 Treasurer
- 7.3 Save as provided for in Article 7.4 of this Constitution, nominations of an Executive Committee team (in total), shall be by any two Full Members (which may include the nominee) whose membership fees are paid up to date in accordance with Rule 6.2 and who are not suspended or disqualified under this Constitution, Club Regulations and Rules of the Official Guide.
- 7.4 The Executive Committee shall be elected as a team, by the Full Members present, entitled to vote and voting at the Annual General Meeting.

Exceptions: The Children's Officer and the Officer for Irish Language and Culture, and the Players' Representative, who shall have participated as a player with the Club within the previous 48 weeks, shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the outgoing Executive Committee.

The Players' Representative shall be selected by the players prior to a date appointed by the Executive Committee. In default of such a selection, the Executive Committee shall select the Players' Representative for recommendation to the Annual General Meeting.

- 7.5 Only Full Members, whose Membership Fees are paid up to date in accordance with Article 6.2 and who are not suspended or disqualified under this Constitution, Club Regulations, or Rules of the Official Guide, shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee.
- 7.6 The outgoing Executive Committee shall conduct the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.7 The Executive Committee shall hold office for a two-year term, or until the conclusion of the following Annual General Meeting.
- 7.8 The Executive Committee shall meet at least once each quarter, and eight members present shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 7.9 The Chairperson, when present, shall preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee; in their absence, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside.
- 7.10 If both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson are absent, the Committee shall appoint a member present to preside at the meeting.
- 7.11 The Secretary shall record the minutes of each meeting. If the Secretary is absent, the Committee shall appoint a member present to record the minutes.
- 7.12 The minutes shall specify the date of the meeting, those present, and a brief account of the meeting, and shall be read to the next meeting.
- 7.13 Such minutes, if agreed as being accurate or having been appropriately amended, shall be signed by the Chairperson and Secretary, having been first proposed, seconded, and adopted. Digital signatures will satisfy this requirement.
- 7.14 The Executive Committee shall have the sole right to:
  - appoint Sub-Committees
  - delegate appointment of managers / coaches / selectors of teams as required
- 7.15 The Executive Committee shall define the duties of such Sub-Committees and retain control in all matters and activities which it considers of importance to the general welfare of the Club, including the disposal of any funds in the hands of such Sub-Committees.
- 7.16 The Executive Committee shall have power to nominate the Chairperson of such Sub-Committees.
- 7.17 The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Committee shall be ex-officio members of all Sub-Committees.
- 7.18 The Executive Committee shall have power from time to time to make, alter, and repeal Club Regulations as they deem necessary, expedient or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Club, and in particular, but not exclusively, they may by such Regulations set out:

- (a) The terms and conditions upon which guests, children of members of the Club and visitors shall be permitted to use the premises and property of the Club
  - (b) The times of opening and closing the Pavilion Grounds and Premises of the Club, or any part thereof
  - (c) The conduct of members of the Club in relation to one another
  - (d) The setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of the Club's premises for any particular time or times, or for any particular purpose or purposes subject to the consent of Central Council
  - (e) And generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of this Constitution
- 7.19 The Executive Committee shall approve Motions to County Convention in accordance with Rule 3.14 Official Guide.
- 7.20 The Executive Committee shall adopt such means as they deem sufficient, to bring to the notice of members of the Club all such Regulations and all alterations and repeals.
- 7.21 All such Club Regulations so long as they shall be in force, shall be binding upon all members of the Club, provided nevertheless that no Club Regulations shall be inconsistent with or shall affect or repeal anything contained in this Constitution, or the Official Guide, and that any Club Regulations may be set aside by a special resolution of a General Meeting of the Club.
- 7.22 Each Full Member shall have the right to be heard by the Executive Committee upon any complaint or representation sent by them, in writing, to the Secretary.
- 7.23 A Special meeting of the Executive Committee may be called:
- (a) by the Secretary or
  - (b) by the Secretary, for a date not more than seven days from the date of the receipt by them of a requisition duly signed by four members of the Executive Committee
  - (c) Such requisition shall set out the purpose for which the special meeting is required
- 7.24 Any Member of the Executive Committee who shall have absented themselves from three consecutive meetings, without reasonable explanation, shall be deemed to have resigned from the Executive Committee.
- 7.25 Should any Member of the Executive Committee resign, be deemed to have resigned, or their position otherwise lapse, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall, at their discretion, have the power to fill the vacancy, by co-opting a replacement from the body of the Full Membership.
- 7.26 The service of any Member so co-opted on to the Executive Committee shall not be reckoned in calculating the length of service such Member, if subsequently elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

## **8 GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 8.1 The Club shall in each year hold a general meeting as its Annual General Meeting, in addition to any other General Meetings in that year and shall specify the meeting as such in the notice calling it.
- 8.2 All General Meetings, other than Annual General Meetings, shall be called Special General Meetings.



- 8.3 An Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time as shall be decided upon by the Executive Committee. The Annual General Meeting shall not be held later than 30th November without the prior approval of the County Committee.
- 8.4 The following business shall be transacted at the Annual General Meeting:
- (a) Adoption of Standing Orders
  - (b) Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
  - (c) Consideration of the Annual Report submitted by the Secretary
  - (d) Consideration of the Financial Statements including the Report of the Accountant(s) or Auditor(s)
  - (e) The Chairperson's Address
  - (f) Election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee (when required)
  - (g) Notices of Motion
  - (h) Other Business

Note: "Other Business" does not include the appointment of managers / coaches / selectors of teams which is the business of the Executive Committee of the Club.

- 8.5.1 The Annual General meeting of the Club shall be called in the following manner:  
The Executive Committee shall decide upon a date, time, and place for the meeting, allowing adequate time to meet the time limits set out hereunder.
- 8.5.2 Once the date of the Annual General Meeting has been fixed, the Secretary shall give at least twenty one days' notice in writing, electronically and/or otherwise, to the members of such date, at the same time inviting nominations for election to the Executive Committee for the following year (if applicable) and motions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting, also specifying that such nominations and motions shall be received by the Secretary by a date not less than fourteen days prior to the date fixed for the meeting.
- 8.5.3 The Secretary shall then, on or after the date specified for return to the Secretary of such nominations and motions, but so as to give the members seven days clear notice before the meeting, circulate, electronically and/or otherwise, to the members the following documentation:
- (a) Copy of the Agenda for the meeting
  - (b) Copy of the Annual Report of the Secretary
  - (c) Copy of the Financial Statements, including the Report of the Accountant(s) or Auditor(s)
  - (d) Details of the Nominations for election to the Executive Committee
  - (e) Copies of any motions for consideration at the meeting
- 8.6 In the event of an Executive Team being elected at the AGM, with a position (or positions) unfilled, due to the lack of nominees or nominees withdrawing, any such positions shall be filled by the new Executive Committee, as soon as practical after the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.7 A Special General Meeting may be called by the Executive Committee at any time, provided ten days clear notice, in writing, shall be given to the members, specifying the purpose of such Special General Meeting.
- 8.8 The Executive Committee shall call a Special General Meeting for a date not more than twenty-one days from the receipt by the Executive Committee of a requisition, in writing, signed by twelve members of the Club, and ten clear days' notice, in writing, shall be given to the Members.

- 8.8.1 Such Requisitions by members of the Club shall set out the purpose for which the Special General Meeting is required and shall be lodged with the Secretary.
- 8.8.2 If the Special General Meeting is not called for a date within the twenty one days stipulated, then the requisitioners may themselves convene a Special General Meeting. If requested, the County Secretary shall assist the Requisitioners in convening the Special General Meeting.
- 8.9 No other business, outside that specified in the notice, shall be transacted at a Special General Meeting.
- 8.10 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum of members is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as herein otherwise provided, fifty Full Members eligible to vote shall be a quorum at a General Meeting.
- 8.11 If within half an hour after the time appointed for a General Meeting, a quorum of members is not present, the meeting if convened on the requisition of members shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned and be rearranged at a date and time to be decided by the Executive Committee, provided the reconvened meeting takes place within fourteen days of the original meeting; and if at the reconvened meeting a quorum of members is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the meeting, the members then present shall be a quorum.
- 8.12 The Chairperson, and failing their availability, the Vice-Chairperson, shall preside as Chairperson at every General Meeting of the Club.
- 8.13 If there is no such Chairperson, or if at any meeting they are not present within thirty minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting, the members then present shall choose someone of their number who is a Member of the Executive Committee to be Chairperson of the meeting, and if there shall be no Member of the Executive Committee present, then the members shall elect any one of their number to be Chairperson of the Meeting.
- 8.14 The Chairperson may, with the consent of the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any reconvened meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
- 8.15 Failure to comply strictly with the time limits set out in this Constitution or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by any persons entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting, but shall entitle the majority of members present to seek and be granted an adjournment of the meeting to such date by which they would be given an adequate time to be furnished with and consider the contents of any relevant documentation.

## **9 VOTING**

- 9.1 Only Full Members, whose membership fees are paid up to date in accordance with Rule 6.2, and who are not suspended or disqualified under this Constitution or the Official Guide, shall be eligible to vote at a General Meeting. The onus shall be on the member to prove that they have paid their subscription.
- 9.2 A Chairperson of a General Meeting, Executive Committee meeting or any Sub-Committee meeting shall, in the event of a tie, whether on a show of hands or on a ballot, have a casting vote in addition to their vote as a member, irrespective of whether or not they had originally voted on the issue, other than for the election to any position, when the outcome in the event of a tie shall be decided by lot. The first person chosen shall be deemed the winner of the tie.
- 9.3 At any General Meeting, a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless, before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands, a ballot is demanded:
- (a) by the Chairperson or
  - (b) by at least five members present and entitled to vote
- 9.4 Unless a ballot is so demanded, a declaration by the Chairperson that a resolution has on the show of hands been carried, or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, shall be final, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes of proceedings of the Club shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes in favour of or against such resolution.
- 9.5 If a ballot is so demanded, the same shall be taken in such manner as the Chairperson directs, and the result of the ballot shall be deemed to be the decision of the meeting at which the ballot was demanded.
- 9.6 A secret ballot shall be carried out to decide the result of any contest for any elective position.

## **10 ASSETS AND TRUSTEES**

- 10.1 All property owned by the Club is held upon Trust for the benefit of the Club concerned. The Trust is subject to and governed by the provisions of the Official Guide and the Code on Trusts of Association Property, both as amended from time to time.
- All such property shall be vested in the Corporate Trustee and/or a number of full members as Trustees.
- 10.2 The powers of the Club in relation to Real, Personal and Intellectual Property are set out in Rule 5.2 of the Official Guide.
- 10.3 The powers of the Trustees are set out in the Code in relation to Trusts of Property adopted by Central Council in accordance with Rule 5.3 (c) of the Official Guide
- 10.4 (a) The Personal Property owned or held by the Club shall be vested in the Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary who shall hold it in Trust for the Club.
- (b) The Real Property owned by the Club, shall be vested in Four Trustees, three of whom shall be appointed for and on behalf of the Club and the Corporate Trustee shall be appointed for and on behalf of the County Committee and Provincial Council.

- 10.5 The Executive Committee may determine whether the Corporate Trustee or other persons shall be appointed as Trustees for and on behalf of the Club for the purposes of Rule 5.3(B)(b)(1)(i) or (ii) of the Official Guide and who those persons shall be.
- 10.6 By way of acceptance of their appointment and as and when required by Central Council, the Trustees of the Real Property shall execute a Declaration of Trust, as approved by Central Council, and which shall contain the provisions for appointment, removal and replacement of Trustees as well as regulating the conduct of the Trustees in performing their duties and exercising their powers under the trust. The terms of the Declaration of Trust approved by Central Council may be amended or replaced by Central Council from time to time.
- 10.7 Where the trustee is an individual, a Trustee shall hold office until their retirement or death unless replaced in accordance with the provisions of Rule 5.3, Official Guide, and the Code on Association Property.
- 10.8 The Trustees of the Real Property, having first obtained the consent of the Central Council of the G.A.A. where necessary, shall exercise their powers and perform their duties as directed by the Club and in accordance with the Rules in Chapter 5 of the Official Guide and the Code on Association Property.
- 10.9 A Directive of the Club shall be given by a resolution of the Full Members of the Club, passed by a majority of the members present, entitled to vote and voting at a duly convened General Meeting and when so passed shall be binding upon all members of the Club.
- 10.10 A certificate signed by the Secretary shall, in favour of any person relying on same, be conclusive evidence that a directive, complying in all respect with the provisions of this Rule, was duly given to the Trustees.
- 10.11 The Trustees of the Personal Property shall invest and use such property in accordance with the Directives of the Executive Committee, of which an entry in the Minute book shall be conclusive evidence.
- 10.12 The Club shall indemnify and save harmless its Trustees in respect of any loss or expenses bona fide incurred by them in or about the execution of their powers and duties.

## **11 BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS**

- 11.1 The Executive Committee shall open an account (or additional accounts that are approved by the Club Executive) with an approved financial institution on behalf of the Club, and all cheques and or electronic transfers authorised in writing drawn on the said account shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by one of either the Chairperson or Secretary. Only the Executive Committee may open account(s) on behalf of the club.
- 11.2 The Executive Committee shall cause proper Books of Account to be kept in respect of:
  - (a) All sums of money received and expended by the Club, and the matters in respect of which such receipts and expenditures take place; and
  - (b) All sales and purchases of goods by the Club; and
  - (c) The Assets and Liabilities of the Club.
- 11.3 The Books of Account shall be kept at such place or places as the Executive Committee shall think fit and shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of the members of the Executive Committee.

- 11.4 The Executive Committee shall from time to time determine whether and to what extent and at what times and places, and under what conditions and regulations, the accounts and Books of the Club, or any of them shall be open to the inspection of Full Members of the Club not being an Executive Committee member, and no member (not being an Executive Committee Member) shall have any right of inspection of any account or book or document of the Club except as authorised by the Executive Committee.
- 11.5 An independent suitably qualified Person or Persons shall be appointed as Accountant(s) or as Auditor(s) to report on the Accounts/Financial Statements of the Club for presentation at the Annual General Meeting. If deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee of the Club the Accounts/Financial Statements shall be audited. A copy of the Accounts/Financial Statements, as adopted and approved, shall be submitted to the County Committee within four weeks of the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- 11.6 The Books and Accounts of the Club shall be presented to such Accountant(s) or Auditor(s) by the Committee in sufficient time to enable the report of such Accountant(s) or Auditor(s) to be available and considered at the Annual General Meeting of the Club.
- 11.7 The Financial Statements shall be approved by the Executive Committee, and signed by two of three Officers – Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer – on behalf of the Executive Committee.
- 11.8 The Executive Committee shall cause to be prepared and laid before the Annual General Meeting an Account of Income and Expenditure and a Balance Sheet made up to a date not more than six months before such meeting.
- 11.9 All Books of Account, including all documents, vouchers, statements, and notes, as well as all minute books, notes of meetings, original and copy correspondence and all such documents are the property of the Club, and no person shall have any personal title to or interest in such documents to the exclusion of the Club.
- 11.10 The end of the Club Financial year shall be 30<sup>th</sup> September.

## **12 INCOME AND PROPERTY**

- 12.1 No portion of the income and property of the Club shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of profit, dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever to the Members of the Club.
- 12.2 No Officer shall be appointed to any Office within the Club paid by salary or fees, or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Club in respect of such Office, provided however nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the Club of:
- (a) reasonable and proper remuneration to any Member or Officer of the Club for any services rendered to the Club (other than as an Officer)
  - (b) reasonable and proper remuneration to any company of which a Member or Officer of the Club is a director or shareholder, for any services rendered to the Club
  - (c) interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent by Officers or other Members of the Club to the Club
  - (d) reasonable and proper rent for premises demised and let by Officers or other Members of the Club (including any Officer) to the Club
  - (e) reasonable and proper out of pocket expenses incurred by any Officer in connection with their attendance to any matter affecting the Club

- (f) fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to any Company of which an Officer may be a member, holding not more than one hundredth part of the issued capital of such Company

### **13 WINDING UP**

- 13.1 A resolution to wind up the Club shall be passed only at a General Meeting, specially summoned for the purpose of such resolution, if supported by not less than three-fourths of those present, entitled to vote and voting.
- 13.2 Any decision to wind up the Club shall be subject to the approval of the County Committee.
- 13.3 If upon such winding up, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatever, the same shall not be paid or distributed amongst the members, but the Trustees shall continue to hold same in trust for the appropriate County Committee of the G.A.A., to be used or disposed of as such County Committee shall direct, but shall in no instance pay or distribute such property amongst Officers, Members or Employees of the Club.

### **14 ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS OF ARTICLES**

- 14.1 Additions to and Amendments of this Constitution may be made at an Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose, providing that the Resolution proposing same is carried by a vote of three-fifths of the members present, entitled to vote and voting, that same do not conflict with the Official Guide, and that approval is given by the County Management Committee for the change(s).
- 14.2 Members wishing to propose additions to, or amendments of this Constitution must send notice of the proposed additions or amendments in writing to the Secretary not later than fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting, or Special General Meeting as provided by Article 8.7 hereof.
- 14.3 Where appropriate, no addition or amendments shall be made to or in the provisions of the Main Object(s) (3), income and property (12) and the winding up (13) clauses in this Constitution for the time being in force, unless the same shall have been previously approved, in writing, by the relevant statutory authorities.

### **15 CLUB PRESIDENT**

The Chairperson, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Club, shall invite a Full Member to act as Club President and upon acceptance, the President's term shall coincide, in all respects, with the term being served by the appointing Executive Committee.

### **16 COMPLIANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF OFFICIAL GUIDE**

This Constitution shall be read in conjunction with and subject to the Official Guide.

### **17 INTERPRETATION OF CLUB CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

A Club's General Meeting of members may appoint a Committee with the sole responsibility for the interpretation of the Club's Constitution (with the exception of Articles 5.11.1 and 5.11.2). It shall be named "*The Club's Interpretation of Club Constitution Committee*".

If the absence of the appointment by a General Meeting of members of an Interpretation of Club Constitution Committee, the Executive Committee shall by default have this responsibility. A decision of the Interpretation of Club Constitution Committee or the Executive Committee, as

applicable, upon any question of interpretation, or upon any matter affecting the Club and not provided for, shall be final and binding on the members, subject to appeal to the Hearings Committee of the County Committee in accordance with the provisions of Rule 5.11.1. Beyond this, a member, or the club may exercise its right in accordance with Rule 7.13 of the Official Guide.

## **18 GENERAL**

- 18.1 A Notice may be given by the Club to any Member in accordance with Rule 4.6 of the Official Guide.
- 18.2 The failure to give notice of any meeting or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.
- 18.3 This Constitution shall be taken as an amendment of and in substitution for any existing Constitution of St. Vincent's GAA Club as of the **4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023**.

## **19 DISTRIBUTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR**

- 19.1 No Member, Officer, Committee Member, Manager or Employee of the Club shall have any personal interest in the sale of excisable liquors therein, or in the profits arising from such sale.
- 19.2 Except in the case of a group visiting the Club, as provided for by Section 30 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act 2000, a visitor shall not be supplied with excisable liquor in the Club premises unless on the invitation and in the company of a member of the Club, and that such member shall upon the admission of such visitor to the Club Premises or immediately upon them being supplied with such liquor enter their own name and the name and address of the visitor in a book kept for that purpose, and which shall show the date of each visit.
- 19.3 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 8 o'clock in the morning and 10 o'clock at night.
- 19.4 No excisable liquors shall be sold or supplied on the Club Premises to any person under eighteen years of age.
- 19.5 (1) Subject to the exceptions specified in paragraph (2) of this Article, 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 the Club premises by any person (other than a member of the Club lodging in the Club Premises)
  - (a) at any time on Christmas Day
  - (b) on any other day, as specified hereunder, outside the times so specified in respect of it
    - (i) Saint Patrick's Day: between 12.30 p.m. and 12.30 a.m. on the following day
    - (ii) the 23rd of December: if it falls on a Sunday, between 10.30 a.m. and 11.30 p.m.
    - (iii) Christmas Eve: 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 p.m.
- (vi) any other Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday: between 10.30 a.m. and 11.30 p.m. and
- (vii) any other 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.

(1B) In subsection (1), 'public holiday' has the meaning given to it by the Organisation of Working time Act, 1997.

19.6 Nothing contained in the Registration of Clubs Acts, 1904 to 2003 or contained, by virtue only of the operation of paragraph (1) of this Article, 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 the Club premises by any person:

- (a) on Christmas Day, between 12.00 midday and 10.00p.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 ordered, and
- (ii) consumed by that person during the meal or after the meal has ended.

19.7 Notwithstanding the previous provisions of Article 19, any sale, supply, and consumption of excisable liquors in the building or grounds of the Club permitted under the Intoxicating Liquor Acts or any amendments thereto shall be lawful and not a breach of the Rules of this Club.