



O'Dwyers GAA Club

Disciplinary Procedure

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The Clubs Disciplinary Procedure is in accordance with the GAA's Code of Best Practice and the following rules in the GAA Club Constitution; 5.11.1, 5.11.2 & 5.11.3.

5.11.1 The Executive Committee shall have the power to investigate any matter, and to expel, suspend, warn, fine or disqualify Members from Club activities for breach of this Constitution and Rules or the Official Guide or for conduct considered to have discredited or harmed the Club or the G.A.A.

5.11.2 Such persons, if Full Members (including Honorary Members) or Youth Members, shall have the right to appeal to the Hearings Committee of the County Committee of the G.A.A., within seven days of being notified of such decision.

5.11.3 Unless the offence is brought to the notice of the County Committee of the G.A.A. by the Club, and that body, having considered the merits of the case and having regard to the rights of the player or member, confirms the penalty imposed, the member continues to be a legal member of the Association and is suspended from Club activities only.

Role of the Disciplinary Committee

- It is their responsibility to investigate any complaints that have been passed on to it by the Executive Committee using the procedure outlined in this document.
- It will be their responsibility to afford all individuals a fair and unbiased investigation.
- It will be their responsibility to recommend to the Executive if a sanction is warranted.
- It will **not be** their responsibility to impose any sanction, this will be the sole responsibility of the Club Executive Committee.

Disciplinary Committee

Will comprise the following:

- i. The Club Chairperson (who will be Chair) or Vice-Chairperson (who will be Chair)
- ii. The Club Secretary (who will be Secretary) or Assistant Secretary (who will be Secretary)
- iii. One other Club Officer, which will be either the Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Registrar or Assistant Secretary
- iv. The Health and Wellbeing Officer
- v. A Children's Welfare Officer (if the matter involves a person u18 years of age)

Procedure

The disciplinary procedure will be defined in 3 categories; Player, Mentor and Parent.

Procedure for Player indiscipline

1. When dealing with a minor breach of discipline team mentors are responsible for dealing with disciplinary matters within their own group. They can do this by speaking directly to the player.
2. If there is a continuous breach of discipline the mentor should advise the parent(s)/ Guardian to have the issue resolved.
3. If the matter still cannot be resolved, or there is a serious breach of discipline, the mentor should report the matter to the relevant person, as outlined below in the section 'Making a Complaint'. The disciplinary Committee, as outlined above, will investigate the matter and revert back to the Club Executive with their findings and recommendations.

Procedure for Mentor indiscipline

4. If a player, parent(s)/ Guardian, co-mentor, or a club member feels a minor breach of discipline has taken place they should speak directly to the mentor in question. A juvenile player should do this in the presence of a parent/ guardian.
5. If there is an alleged serious breach of discipline or a continuous breach of discipline, the player, parent(s)/ Guardian, co-mentor or member should make a complaint as outlined in the section below called 'Making a Complaint'. The disciplinary Committee, as outlined above, will investigate the matter and revert back to the Club Executive with their findings and recommendations.

Procedure for Parents indiscipline

6. When dealing with a minor breach of discipline team mentors are responsible for dealing with disciplinary matters within their own group. They can do this by speaking directly to the parent.
7. If there is an alleged serious breach of discipline or a continuous breach of discipline, the mentor, player or member should make a complaint as outlined in the section below called 'Making a Complaint'. The disciplinary Committee, as outlined above, will investigate the matter and revert back to the Club Executive with their findings and recommendations.

Sanctions

8. If it has been established that a breach of discipline has occurred, the Executive Committee, through the Club Secretary, will notify the person of any sanction being imposed on them. In the case of a juvenile player, the correspondence will be through their parent(s)/ guardian.
9. The person will also be informed of their right to appeal any sanction within a given timeframe.

Appeals

10. If a player, mentor or parent(s)/ Guardian is unhappy with the outcome of the investigation a personal hearing will be granted if a request is made in writing to the Club Secretary. A request can be either sent electronically to the secretary at secretary.odwyers.dublin@gaa.ie or posted to the Club. In the case of a juvenile player the request should be made through their parent(s)/ guardian.

Making a Complaint

All complaints should be submitted in writing or verbally. In the case of a written complaint, it must be submitted to one of the following Club Officers using their official Club/ GAA email address.

- The Club Secretary at secretary.odwyers.dublin@gaa.ie
- The Club Juvenile Secretary at secretarybng.odwyers.dublin@gaa.ie
- The Club Health and Wellbeing Officer at healthandwellbeing@odwyersgaa.com
- The Children's Officers at childrensofficer@odwyersgaa.com

If a complaint is to be made verbally, contact either the Club Secretary or Club Juvenile Secretary for details on who to contact.