



How members can bring a motion to Annual Congress

The Camogie Association is a democratic organisation, which is volunteer led and enables its members to propose formal changes to the rules through the process of 'submitting a motion' to Unit AGMs (excluding Club AGMs).

What is a Motion?

A motion is a term used when a member/member of the Unit executive or a Unit of the Association is seeking to insert a new rule or an amendment to an existing rule in the *An Treoir Oifigiúil*, the Official guides to the Camogie Association which can be accessed via <https://camogie.ie/administration/official-rules/>

An Treoir Oifigiúil governs different elements (Rules) of the Camogie Association's activities:

- Official Rules of the Camogie Association, Official Guide Part 1
 - Official Playing Rules, Official Guide Part 2
 - Code of Practice for all Officers of the Camogie Association, Official Guide Part 3
 - Mandatory Procedures for THDC & Disciplinary Code, Official Guide Part 4
 - Mandatory Code on Sponsorship, Official Guide Part 5
 - Code for Camogie Supporters' Club, Official Guide Part 6
- (motions can be submitted for Part 1 and 2 as Ard Chomhairle ratify Parts 3-6)*

Changes to Playing rules are only considered every 3 years, and 2021 is a 'playing rules' congress (in line with Rule 20.4 trial playing can be introduced prior to this).

Writing a motion

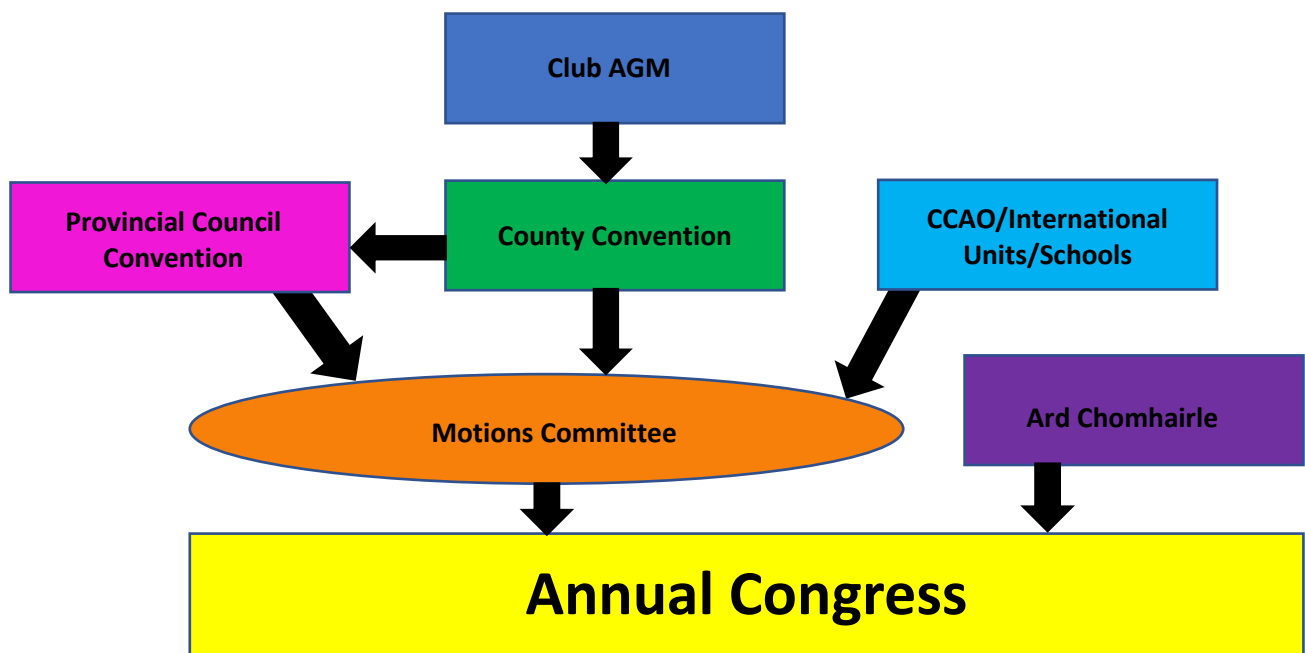
Motion for amendment of an existing rule:

1. Quote the number and state the text of the rule in full that you want to amend/change
2. Quote the rule with the new text you want included (ideally any amendment could be highlighted in red).
3. Ensure that your motion is submitted on time and as per rule to the relevant Unit for inclusion on the AGM agenda.
4. Ensure that you have a proposer and seconder to the motion being proposed at AGM (who must be full members).
5. Be prepared to speak at AGM to propose the rule amendment and explain the reasons why you are proposing the rule, and the difference that you expect it to make.
6. Amending an existing rule will require a 66% majority (of those eligible to vote and voting) or more to pass.

Motion for a new rule:

1. Give a rule number of where the rule should be included within the rule book.
2. Ensure that your motion is submitted on time and as per rule to the relevant Unit for inclusion on the AGM agenda.
3. Ensure that you have a proposer and seconder to the motion being proposed at AGM (who must be members).
4. Be prepared to speak at AGM – to propose the new rule which will also need to be seconded, and explain the reasons why you are proposing the rule, and the difference that you expect it to make and its impact.
5. Proposing a new rule will require a 50%+1 majority (of those eligible to vote and voting) or more to pass.

There is a process to go through for any motion to be brought to Congress for consideration for which motions going to Congress - it all starts within your local club.





Step 1: Club AGM

The first and most important step is to ensure that only registered members can vote during the club AGM. A member must be registered for a period of three months (as per rule **18.3**) prior to being entitled to vote during the club AGM.

The AGM must take place on or before November 15th as per rule 18.2 (with the exception of 'one clubs' who will follow one club guidelines).

Five weeks prior to the date of the AGM the club secretary will issue out to members the relevant documentation including an invitation for motions. Members must return the relevant document by the deadline set by the club for them to be in order.

10 days prior to the club AGM all members will receive the relevant documentation being presented at the AGM by the secretary including the motions submitted by members.

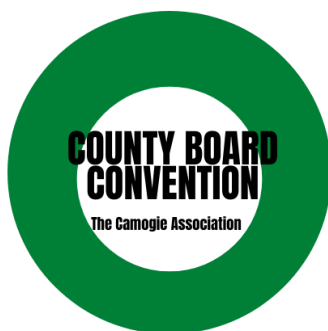
If you submitted a motion you will be presented with an opportunity to discuss it at the AGM and provide reasoning for your submission.

Reminder: Rule 16.1 The quorum for meetings of all Units of the Association must be 20 per cent of those entitled to attend and vote, in addition to the Officers present.

The Unit Secretary should establish the 'voting strength' before the AGM commences i.e. count the registered members 'voting and eligible to vote. These names should be recorded and counted. Then the voting for a new rule will be 50%+1 (majority) of that number, and an amendment will pass at 66% of that number. This may be needed for electing officers also.

Like all voting processes, the motion will be discussed amongst the floor and voted upon by members and if passed it the Club Secretary will submit the motion to the Secretary of the County Board when submitted nomination papers and motions for the County Board AGM. The motion is submitted on behalf of the club, and not on behalf of any individual club member.

A motion submitted by a club for the County Board AGM must be proposed and seconded in order for the motion to be considered. In addition, the proposer must speak to the motion and this means outlining the purpose of the new / amendment to rule and the reason the club are seeking to have this motion passed.



Step 2: County AGM

As per rule 18.2 the county AGM must take place on or before December 8th.

Five weeks prior to the date of the AGM the county secretary submits to all clubs the relevant documentation, including invitation for motions by clubs.

It is at this point that all motions agreed and voted on by club members at their individual Club AGM's are submitted (via invitation for motions request received from the secretary of County Board) to the county secretary by the club secretary.

10 days before the county AGM the clubs will receive all relevant documentation being discussed at the county AGM, along with the motions submitted by all clubs. The county as a Unit can also propose motions of their own and these will also be discussed and voted on at County Convention.

Motions are submitted with the intention of being proposed at Annual Congress which if passed at Annual Congress will change rule in *An Treoir Oifigiúil*.

Reminder: Rule 16.1 The quorum for meetings of all Units of the Association must be 20 per cent of those entitled to attend and vote, in addition to the Officers present.

The Unit Secretary should establish the 'voting strength' before the AGM commences i.e. count the registered members 'voting and eligible to vote. These names should be recorded and counted. Then the voting for a new rule will be 50%+1 (majority) of that number, and an amendment will pass at 66% of that number. This may be needed for electing officers also.

One of the club delegates must propose the motion that they have submitted. The motion must be seconded by another delegate from the floor (this can be a delegate from the same club). The club delegate who proposes the motion must speak to the motion.

Delegates will be given the opportunity by the Chairperson of the County Board to discuss the motion (the timelines and number of occasions a delegate may speak to the motion are set out in the County Board AGM Standing Orders which are an item on the AGM Agenda).

Following discussion by delegates the Chairperson of the County Board asks the proposer of the motion if they wish to add anything further. After the discussion the Chairperson of the County Board puts the motion to the floor and asks delegates (eligible to vote and voting) to vote on the motion. If the delegates pass the motion (50%+1 new motion or 66% in relation to amendment) the motion is submitted by the Secretary of the County Board for consideration at Annual Congress. However, the Secretary of the County Board may also if s/he wishes submit the motion to the Annual Provincial Council AGM.

A similar process takes place for Bye-Laws. Bye-Laws are rules that a particular unit has in place to govern its own affairs. Bye-Laws must not be contrary to any rule set out in the rulebook (*An Treoir Oifigiúil*). There is no requirement for a Unit to have Bye-Laws as the Unit must operate within the rule of *An Treoir Oifigiúil* however, there are occasions where Bye-Laws can assist a Unit in the day to day running of its affairs e.g. closing date for submission of transfers etc (it is at their own discretion). Units which may under rule have Bye Laws are County Boards (rule 6.4(c), Provincial Councils (Rule 7.4(a)), National Education Council (Rule 8.1(b)) and International Boards (Rule (9.2(b)). It is important to note that By-Laws, if ratified by Ard Comhairle, are binding on the relevant Unit and cannot be changed until the following year's AGM.

Similar to the process for Motions new / amendments to Bye-Laws are submitted to the Unit in advance of the AGM as per rule 18.4. Proposed Bye-Laws are discussed at the AGM and voted upon by the delegates and Executive. If a Bye-Law has been passed at the Unit AGM, it is important to note that it does **NOT** take effect immediately. As per rule 18.8 these Bye-Laws must be submitted to Ard Chomhairle for ratification as per rules above in respect of each Unit.

Once reviewed Ard Chomhairle, Units will be informed if their Bye-Laws have been ratified and effect from the date of ratification by Ard Chomhairle. Bye-Laws not ratified as they are deemed contrary to rule are returned to the Unit along with rationale as to why Bye-Law was not ratified.

Helpful Hint – Bye-Laws for fixtures cannot be changed within the year so if changes to competitions are required (such as those that occurred during COVID), changes can be easily adapted if they stated within competition rules rather than a Bye-Law



Step 3: Provincial AGM

As per rule 18.2 the Provincial AGM must take place on or before the third weekend in January.

Five weeks prior to the date of the AGM the provincial secretary will issue out the relevant documentation to the counties, including an invitation for submission of motions.

The county secretary may submit motions passed at the County Board AGM to the Provincial secretary however, this is not mandatory as County Board must submit motions to the Ard Stiurthoir inclusion in papers for consideration at Annual Congress.

10 days before the Provincial AGM the counties will receive all relevant documentation including the full list of motions submitted by the counties and Executive. Similar to the process at club and county level motions are discussed and voted upon by the members present and eligible to vote.

Reminder: Rule 16.1 The quorum for meetings of all Units of the Association must be 20 per cent of those entitled to attend and vote, in addition to the Officers present.

If the motion is passed through at provincial level it must be submitted to the Ard Stiurthoir for consideration at Annual Congress.

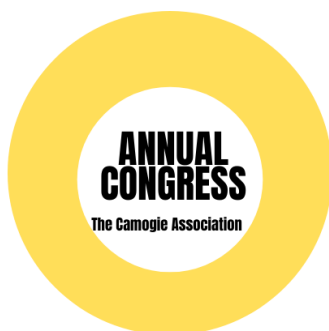
**** Motions can also be proposed by CCAO, Schools, International Units and Ard Chomhairle and these will be directly submitted to the Motions Committee for approval ****



Step 4: Motions Committee Meeting

As per rule 12.4 The Committee will approve motions as submitted by County Boards, Provincial Councils, National Education Councils and International Boards for submission to Annual Congress. Motions go to the Motions Committee to see if they are in order or where text of the motion is unclear, In the case of a motion being submitted by a Unit not being in order, they will be advised in writing by the Ard Stiúrthóir of the reason(s) the motion is deemed not in order, and subject to a time-limit determined by Ard Chomhairle, will be afforded an opportunity to resubmit an appropriately corrected motion for re-consideration by the Annual Congress Motions Committee.

The motions committee can refer a motion back to a unit to clarify but the substance of the motion cannot change from what was passed at the Unit's AGM. The rules govern what the motions committee can do, there are TORs for this committee which can be found at <https://camogie.ie/governance/sub-committees/>. All motions that are deemed in order are submitted for presentation and discussion at Annual Congress.



Step 5: Annual Congress

As per section 12 of the Official Guide Part 1, Annual Congress will take place on the first weekend in April (unless it coincides with Easter weekend) and will be comprised of delegates in accordance with rule 12.3.

Motions are proposed (by Unit that submitted motion), seconded and discussed by delegates prior to being voted upon. Motions which are passed at Congress will as per rule (12.7) unless otherwise decided by Congress will become operative one calendar month from the date of Congress and will be posted on the official camogie website.

Reminder: Rule 16.1 The quorum for meetings of all Units of the Association must be 20 per cent of those entitled to attend and vote, in addition to the Officers present.

As per rule 12.6 Units must receive the updated rules books by one month after Annual Congress.

Why are motions rules out of order?

1. Main reason is because it is contrary to a rule already within the rule book.
2. The wording is not actionable i.e. sufficient to successfully change, for example an indication of consequences for not abiding by the rule
3. Some motions may not be fully 'thought through,' for example, a club feels hard done by a referee, and in turn submit the motion 'All matches to have neutral referees'. A motion has to be able to encompass all areas of camogie i.e. adult (all grades), underage, big clubs, small clubs, combined clubs, league, championship etc so writing a motion has to try to look at 'Big Picture' rather than try to solve their own particular grievance or problem.

A motion could also be withdrawn if another motion is submitted relating to the same issue; if it is voted upon and passed, the subsequent motion will be withdrawn as only one can be voted successfully on.

Example of a Motion

Amend rule 29.1

Any player who plays a higher graded championship is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower graded league or championship in the same year. This applies to all graded competitions eg adult and underage A,B and C competitions

Amend to read

Any player who plays a higher graded championship on 2 occasions is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower graded or championship in the same year. This applies to all graded competitions eg adult and under-age A,B and C competitions.

NAME OF CAMOGIE UNIT/ARD CHOMHAIRLE