



**RULES AND  
REGULATIONS**

**UPDATED 2021**

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**GEELONG GAELS**

**YOUTH  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

*NOVEMBER 28th 2021*

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# YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

## THE OBJECTIVE

The Youth Championships were established by the Geelong Gaels in 2018 as a way of promoting Gaelic Games within the Geelong region. The club values above all else the importance of physical activity in the life a young people from all backgrounds.

## VENUE

The Youth Championships are held at Hurst Reserve in Herne Hill. Fixtures will be released in the week prior to the Championship.

## AGE GROUPS

To be eligible to play in the respective grades, all players shall meet the stated age criteria on 1st January 2021.

- Under 16 - Be over 12 and under 16 years
- Under 14 - Be over 10 and under 14 years
- Under 12 - Be over 9 and under 12 years
- Under 10 - Be over 5 and under 10 years

## OUR CREST

Links the two cultures Irish and Australian with the shamrock and the wattle. The celtic knot below is the symbol of friendship



## REGULATIONS

### AGE GROUP

Under 10 Mixed Football  
Under 12 Girls Football  
Under 12 Boys Football  
Under 14 Girls Football  
Under 14 Boys Football  
Under 16 Girls Football  
Under 16 Boys Football

### PITCH DIMENSIONS

55m x 30m  
70m x 45m  
70m x 45m  
90m x 55m  
90m x 55m  
90m x 55m  
90m x 55m

### BALL USED

Quick Touch  
Smart Touch  
Smart Touch  
Size 4  
Size 4  
Size 4  
Size 5

## TEAM SIZE

All games will be played with 9 players on the field. The only exception to this is the Under 10's which will be played with 11 players on the field.

Teams can have a maximum panel of 14 players.

Team lists must be submitted prior to the first game with names and ages of each player provided.

## GAME LENGTH

All games will comprise 2x12 minute halves with a 2 minute changeover at half time.

## EQUIPMENT

Teams are required to have their own jerseys, players to wear boots and a mouthguard.

## COACHING

In the interest of safety for the children participating, all teams taking part are to provide Geelong with a list of coaches who will be mentoring their teams. The names provided MUST have a valid working with children check, if teams do not have a valid person coaching teams they will not be allowed to enter the competition.

We ask that you lodge possible teams and coaches with WWCC ASAP so we can start on the fixtures. During games, coaches are required to wear a hi-vis top or bib. We will be enforcing this rule on the day.

## PLAYING RULES

We will use full GAA rules in these games, referees will be told to penalise any player where they see a technical foul or any aggressive fouls.

Please refer to a more detailed list of rules on subsequent pages.

## **UNDER 10 RULES**

- Play commences with a kick out from the hands.
- Goalkeeper may advance to the 10m square.
- The side to side shoulder charge is permitted.
- The ball may be caught in the hands and played away by kicking it or striking it with the fist or hand.
- The ball may be carried four steps before bouncing or toe tapping it, with a maximum of one bounce and one toe tap/solo per possession
- The ball may be lifted off the ground with the hands, provided the player is on their feet.
- The player who is fouled takes the free and when an opponent fouls the ball, the closet opposition player takes the free
- The opponent nearest to where the ball crosses the line takes the sideline kick from the hands
- When the defender plays the ball over his own end line, the other team are awarded a free kick from the 25m line.
- Opposing players to be at least 5m from the free kick taker, sideline kick, 30m kick or kick out
- Free kicks should be no closer than 10m from the opposing end line.
- Unlimited substitutions allowed.

### **Scoring System**

- 2 points when the ball is over the crossbar
- 3 points when the ball is played under the crossbar

### **Zones**

- 1 Goalkeeper, 3 defenders, 2 midfielders, 3 attackers
- 3 zones: 25m, 10m and 25m. Players to remain within the zone they are assigned, midfielders can enter other zones but must return to the centre zone for any free kick, side-line kick or kick out

**All players will receive a medallion.**

## **UNDER 12, 14 AND 16 RULES**

- Play commences with a throw-in between two players from each team in the middle of the field
- Goalkeeper may advance to the 10m square.
- The side to side shoulder charge is permitted.
- The ball may be caught in the hands and played away by kicking it or striking it with the fist or open hand.
- The ball may be carried four steps before bouncing or toe tapping it.
- The ball may be lifted off the ground with the hands in girls football, provided the player is on their feet. In boys football only the crouch lift is allowed.
- Free kicks may be taken from the hand or off the ground.
- The player who is fouled takes the free and when an opponent fouls the ball, the closest opposition player takes the free
- The opponent nearest to where the ball crosses the line takes the sideline kick from the hands.
- When the defender plays the ball over his own end line, the other team are awarded a free kick from the centre of the field opposite where the ball crossed the line
- Opposing players to be at least 5m from the free kick taker, sideline kick, 30m kick or kick out
- Free kicks should be no closer than 10m from the opposing end line.
- Unlimited substitutions are allowed.

### **Scoring System**

- 1 points when the ball is over the crossbar
- 3 points when the ball is played under the crossbar

### **Championship Format**

Each team will play each other once.

3 points awarded for a win 1 point for a draw.

Semi-Final First v Fourth and Second v Third

Grand final

**The winning teams at each group will receive a trophy and medallions for each player on the winning team.**

# CODE OF CONDUCT

- **Fair play involves honesty, respect for teammates and respect for opponents - whether winning or losing and respect for referees, umpires and officials.**
- **The Association has developed this Policy which applies to everyone involved with Gaelic Games including all affiliates:**

## CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

- operate within the rules and spirit of Gaelic Games, promoting fair play over winning at any cost
- encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills
- support opportunities for participation in all aspects of Gaelic Games
- treat each person as an individual
- display control and courtesy to all involved with Gaelic Games, respect the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators in the conduct of the games
- wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with people under the age of 18 years
- adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour in all interactions
- adopt responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs
- act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions
- ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment
- ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment free environment
- do not tolerate harmful or abusive behaviours

### **Athletes**

- give your best at all times
- participate for your own enjoyment and benefit

### **Coaches**

- place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else
- help each person (athlete, official etc) reach their potential - respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and compliment and encourage with positive and supportive feedback
- any physical contact with a person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development
- be honest and do not allow your qualifications to be misrepresented

### **Officials**

- place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else
- be consistent and impartial when making decisions
- address unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all people.

## Administrators

- *act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the sport as a whole*
- *ensure that any information acquired or advantage gained from the position is not used improperly*
- *conduct your responsibilities with due care, competence and diligence*
- *do not allow prejudice, conflict of interest or bias to affect your objectivity*
- *Parents*

## Parents

- *encourage children to participate and have fun*
- *focus on the child's effort and performance rather than winning or losing*
- *never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition*

## Spectators

- *respect the performances and efforts of all people*
- *reject the use of violence in any form whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or athletes*

*Penalties for a breach of the Code of Behaviours are as set out in the Association's Rule Book. Where a penalty is not stated it will be at the discretion of the committee deliberating on said breach.*



