

LAWS OF THE IRISH RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

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Definitions

1. (a) In these Laws:-

“Association” means an Association of national Rugby Unions recognised by the Council of the I.R.B. and elected to be a member of the I.R.B. by a majority of at least three quarters of the said Council.

“Auditors” mean the auditors appointed under Law 14;

“Board” means the International Rugby Board;

“Branch” means a Branch of the Union referred to in Law 6;

“Bye-Laws” mean the Bye-Laws for the time being adopted by the I.R.B. and in force;

“Chairman of the Management Committee” means the person nominated by the Committee and whose nomination is received by the Council pursuant to Law 14(vi);

“Chief Executive” means the Chief Executive of the Union appointed by the Committee;

“Club “means an Affiliated Club ;

“Affiliated Club” means a Members Club comprising part of a Branch and a club elected by the Committee to be part of the Union. Club will also include Schools affiliated to the Union.

“Members Club “ means a club whose business affairs, assets and liabilities are under the management and control of a committee or governing body a majority of whom are elected annually for not less than one year by the general body of members.

“Committee” means the Committee of the Union provided for in Law 15;

“Council” means the Council of the Union provided for in Law 12;

“Child Welfare Code” means the Code contained in the Child Welfare Document as adopted by the Union and may be amended by the Committee.

“Exile” means a member of the association of players and administrators beyond the shores of Ireland and specifically in England, Scotland and Wales, known as the Exiles, governed by Regulations made by the Committee;

“Game” means rugby football played in accordance with the Laws of the Game;

“Honorary Treasurer” means the person elected as such by the Council pursuant to Law 14(a) (iv);

“International Rugby Board” means the association of Unions or Associations, in membership of the Board therewith in accordance with its Bye-Laws;

“I.R.B.” means International Rugby Board;

“International Squad” means the players selected to form the squad for senior and other international matches;

“Laws of the Game” mean the Laws of the Game as laid down by the I.R.B.;

“Laws of the Union” means all these Laws and each of them, the Child Welfare Code, and includes regulations respectively made by the Council and the Committee pursuant to their powers in Laws 14(b)(ii) and 15(b);

“Officer(s) of the Union” means the President, the two Vice -Presidents, the immediate Past President, the Honorary Treasurer and the Chairman of the Management Committee;

“Management Committee” means the Management Committee provided for in Law 16 (a);

“Person” means a player, referee, coach, manager, official, medical officer, staff, supporter or any individual who is or has been involved in the Game, or in the organisation, administration or promotion of the game;

“Player” means a player of the Game who is a non-contract player or a contract player;

“Regulations relating to the Game” means the regulations laid down by the I.R.B. from time to time;

“Standing Committee” means such sub-committee as the Committee may from time to time designate as a standing committee as provided for in Law 15 (e)(iii)6;

“Sub-Committee” means such sub-committee of the Committee as may be appointed by the Committee as provided for in Law 15 (e)(iii);

“Team Manager” means the person appointed by the Union to manage an International Squad;

“Trustees” mean the trustees appointed by the Council pursuant to Law 20;

“Union” means the Irish Rugby Football Union.

- (b) Unless the context otherwise requires in these Laws the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender and the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

2. The name of the Union shall be the “Irish Rugby Football Union”.

Objects

3. The objects of the Union shall be:-
- (a) To administer the Game as its governing body, to promote, foster and develop the Game in all its Branches and beyond the shores of Ireland if it is considered in the interests of the Game nationally to do so;
 - (b) To assist and further the efforts of the Branches and Clubs of the Union as far as possible in the promotion and development of the Game and the provision of playing fields, supporting facilities and accommodation;
 - (c) To arrange international, interprovincial, representative, trial and other matches;
 - (d) To take all steps that may be necessary or advisable to prevent infringements of the Bye-Laws, the Regulations relating to the Game, or the Laws of the Game, to prevent other improper methods or practises in the Game and to protect it from abuses.

Jurisdiction

4. The Council is the supreme authority to adjudicate on all matters concerned with the game in Ireland.

Membership of the International Rugby Board

5. The Union shall be a member of the I.R.B., and the Bye-Laws, the Regulations relating to the Game and the Laws of the Game promulgated from time to time shall be the Bye-Laws, Regulations and Laws of the Game recognised and enforced by the Union, and shall be deemed incorporated into these Laws.

Branches, Affiliated Clubs and Exiles

6. There shall be a Branch of the Union in each of the Provinces of Connacht, Leinster, Munster and Ulster.
7. (a) Each Branch shall have a committee to manage the affairs of the Branch.
- (b) Each Branch shall have power to make, alter or amend bye-laws for the management of the Branch, but only in so far as such bye-laws shall not be inconsistent or at variance with these Laws. Such bye-laws and any alterations or amendments thereto, shall be subject to the approval of the Committee.
- (c) Should the Committee withhold its approval in respect of the bye-laws of a Branch, or any alterations thereto, the Branch shall have a right to appeal to the Council.
- (d) In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the Laws of the Union and the bye-laws of any Branch, the Laws of the Union shall prevail.
- (e) The Committee may allow a Club to be affiliated to the Branch of a Province other than that in which the club is located, provided that such Branch consents.
8. (a) Any club playing the Game and willing to conform to the Laws of the Union may apply to become a Club of the Branch of the Union in the Province in which it is located.
- (b) Before a club becomes a Club of a Branch, the Branch shall make such inquiries of it as are necessary or appropriate in relation to its grounds, accommodation and dressing facilities or otherwise. The Branch may direct that such grounds, accommodation and facilities meet with its approval before affiliating the Club to the Branch.
- (c) Any club that is refused affiliation by a Branch shall have the right to appeal to the Committee.
- (d) Each Club, its members, employees, volunteers and invitees shall be bound by the Laws of the Union.
- (e) A Club, upon being admitted to a Branch of this Union, shall be furnished with a copy of the Laws of the Union and a copy of the bye-laws of the Branch.
- (f) The Committee may admit as a Club, a Club which is not located in Ireland.
9. (a) The annual subscription of each Club to the Union shall be such sum as the Committee may decide upon which shall be paid before 1st October in each year to the Branch to which the club is affiliated.
- (b) A Club whose subscription to the Union is unpaid on 1st October in any year shall receive notice from the Branch that in the event of its subscription remaining unpaid Thirty Days after the date of such notice the name of the Club will be struck off the list of Clubs; and a Club whose name has been so struck off shall not be eligible for membership of the Union until all moneys due by it to the Union shall have been paid.
10. (a) Every Club, save in the case of Universities and Schools, shall, before 31st October each year, send to the Union and the Honorary Secretary of the Branch to which such club is affiliated, the names

of its honorary secretary and honorary treasurer together with the number of paid up members during the preceding season, and an audited statement of its accounts for that season.

- (b) A Club shall not be entitled to send delegates to any meeting of the Branch or take any part in the management of such Branch unless the number of its paid up members during the preceding season shall have exceeded thirty, and unless an audited statement of its accounts for that season shall have been furnished in accordance with these Laws.
 - (c) Any Branch or Club must at any time produce their books for inspection on being requested to do so by the Committee.
 - (d) Every Branch shall submit to the Committee 21 days before the Annual Council Meeting accounts showing the receipts and expenditures during the preceding year.
 - (e) No Club or member thereof shall take part in a league or cup match or in any other Rugby Football competition, not under the jurisdiction of a Branch, or of the Council, without the prior consent of the Committee.
 - (f) A player shall not be permitted to play for more than one Province nor for the Exiles in addition to a Province during the same season without the prior consent of the Committee.
 - (g) League and Cup and other matches under the jurisdiction of any Branch and league and cup matches under the jurisdiction of the Union shall be played under such Regulations as the appropriate Branch and the Union respectively shall determine.
 - (h) Save as authorised in advance by the Committee, no person shall take part in the management of the Union, nor hold any office under these Laws, nor under the bye-laws of any Branch nor the regulations governing the Exiles, unless he is a member of a Club or an Exile.
11. The Committee may make Regulations governing the administration, presentation and conduct of the Exiles.

Council

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- (a) The supreme authority over the affairs of the Union shall be vested in the Council, the membership of which shall consist of, the President of the Union, all Past Presidents, two Vice Presidents, the Honorary Treasurer, the Trustees of the Union, the Chairman of the Management Committee, the President of each Branch, ten delegates appointed by each Branch, and one delegate appointed by the Exiles.
 - (b) Any member of the Committee who is not a person mentioned in Law 12(a) above may be entitled to attend a meeting of the Council but he shall not be entitled to vote thereat.
 - (c) The Auditors appointed to audit the accounts of the Union shall be invited to attend a meeting of the Council but they shall not be entitled to vote thereat.
 - (d) The Secretary of each Branch, and of the Exiles, respectively, shall send to the Chief Executive at least 21 days before the date of any meeting of the Council the names and addresses of the delegates appointed to attend that meeting and of any substitute who may be called upon to attend if a delegate originally appointed cannot be present at the meeting.
 - (e) No delegate, save the Exiles' delegate, shall be entitled to attend a meeting of the Council, unless all subscriptions due by the Club of which he is a member shall have been paid to the Union and the appropriate Branch.

- (f) No Branch shall be entitled to send delegates to a meeting of the Council unless the Union shall have received from it the payments required by Law 9.
13. (a) The Annual Meeting of the Council shall be held on the last Friday in June in each year or on such other day as the Committee shall decide.
- (b) A Special Meeting of the Council shall be convened by the Chief Executive on his being instructed to do so by the Committee, or on his receiving a requisition to do so signed by the honorary secretary of any Branch or by the honorary secretaries of not less than twenty Clubs, (the requisition stating that the said twenty Clubs have in annual or special meetings of each such Clubs resolved to request a special meeting of the Council), accompanied by a fee of €5000 and a statement of the reason for which such special meeting is desired; provided that the said fee may be returned if the Council so directs in its absolute discretion.
- (c) The date and place of a Special Meeting of the Council shall be determined by the Committee.
- (d) Notice of the Annual Meeting of the Council, and of any special meeting thereof, shall be sent by the Chief Executive at least fourteen days before the date on which such a meeting is to be held to the members of the Council, and to the respective secretaries of each Branch, and of the Exiles.
- (e) The accounts of the Union shall be audited and abstracts thereof printed and sent to all the persons entitled to receive notice of the Annual Meeting of the Council.
- (f) The quorum for a Meeting of the Council shall be thirty.
- (g) A Meeting of the Council may be adjourned to such date and place as the Meeting shall direct.
- (h) Where it is provided in these Laws that any office shall be filled by election the mode of election shall be by secret ballot in respect of candidates duly proposed and seconded at the meeting. The chairman of the meeting shall declare the result of the ballot to be, and after any necessary recount which has been called for, the candidate or candidates receiving the most votes to be elected. In a ballot any voting paper which purports to cast votes for a greater or a lesser number of candidates than the number of offices to be filled shall be deemed to be a spoiled vote.
14. (a) The Council shall at each Annual Meeting or at any adjournment thereof transact the following business:-
- (i) Consider and approve, with or without amendment, the minutes of the previous meeting;
- (ii) Receive a report from the Committee, and adopt or make any order or amendment that may be appropriate in regard to same;
- (iii) Receive the accounts and balance sheet of the Union for the preceding financial period and the auditor's report thereon and adopt or make any order that may be appropriate in regard to same;
- (iv) Elect a President, two Vice Presidents and an Honorary Treasurer;
- (v) Receive nominations from the Committee of two Members of the Union to represent the Union on the I.R.B.;
- (vi) Receive the nomination from the Committee of a person to be Chairman of the Management Committee;
- (vii) Elect six persons to be members of the Committee;

- (viii) Receive nominations of two persons from each Branch to represent that Branch and a nomination of one Exile to represent the Exiles on the Committee;
 - (ix) Appoint a firm of auditors to audit and report upon the accounts;
 - (x) Adjudicate on all matters submitted by any Branch or Club or by the Exiles;
 - (xi) Consider, with or without amendment, accept or reject any amendment or alteration to the Laws of the Union duly proposed and of which due notice shall have been given, or dispensed with, in accordance with Law 21.
- (b) The Council may at any Annual Meeting or adjournment thereof transact in accordance with these Laws any business relating to the affairs of the Union and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of this paragraph) may:-
- (i) Set aside or amend any regulation, adjudication, interpretation, or decision made by the Committee;
 - (ii) Make any such regulation or regulations, as it shall think fit, for the administration, management and control of the Union;
 - (iii) Make any interpretation of the Laws of the Union or the bye-laws of any of the Branches as it shall consider appropriate;
 - (iv) Hear and decide any appeal by a Branch, or Club against expulsion or suspension determined by the Committee pursuant to Law 15(e)(iv) provided that a majority of two to one of those present and voting at the Council shall be necessary to carry a resolution to expel or to confirm a decision to the Committee to expel any Branch or Club.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other Law herein contained, the Council shall not have power to consider, hear, adjudicate on, set aside, amend or to decide any matter referred to it by any Branch, Club or member thereof or by the Exiles relating to ethics, discipline or any drug or doping related offence. The decision of the Committee as to whether any matter relates to ethics, discipline or any drug or doping related offence shall be final and binding on all parties.

The Committee

15. (a) The Committee shall consist of the President, the two Vice Presidents, the immediate Past President, the Honorary Treasurer, the two persons appointed to represent the Union on the I.R.B., the Chairman of the Management Committee, the six persons elected pursuant to Law 14(a)(vii), the nine persons nominated pursuant to Law 14(a)(viii), and the persons (if any) co-opted pursuant to paragraph (e)(x) of this Law.
- (b) Subject to the supreme authority of Council the affairs of the Union shall be administered and managed by and under the control of the Committee in accordance with these Laws. The Committee shall have power to make such regulations and decisions as it thinks fit for the well-being of the Union and the Game that are not inconsistent with these Laws and the Bye-Laws of the I.R.B.
- (c) The Committee shall have the same powers of administration, management and control of the property of the Union for the objects of the Union as if they were absolute owners beneficially entitled thereto.

- (d) All regulations and decisions of the Committee shall be binding upon the Branches, the Clubs, the members thereof and where applicable, the Exiles.
- (e) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, and subject to any direction of the Council, the Committee shall have the following powers and duties:-
 - (i)
 - (a) To control and apply the finances of the Union subject to any direction of the Council and to incur any expenses it may consider desirable to further the interests of the Union and of the Game and to make donations out of the income of the Union to the Irish Rugby Football Union Charitable Trust as it may from time to time determine;
 - (b) To authorise the purchase, or taking on lease, licence or otherwise any property (real or personal) and to authorise the sale, exchange, disposal, lease, licence, charge, mortgage, or other disposition or dealing with any such property;
 - (c) To borrow or raise money or moneys worth or any sums of money with or without security for any purpose which it considers necessary to further the objects of the Union and to secure the repayment of same on behalf of the Union and its Trustees by mortgage, charge, guarantee, negotiable instrument or otherwise whether over the property of the Union or otherwise;
 - (ii) To appoint and remove a Chief Executive and such other employees upon such terms and such remuneration as it may deem necessary and think fit;
 - (iii) At its first meeting following upon the Annual Meeting in each year or at such other times as it thinks fit to appoint, and remove from time to time, such Sub Committees as it deems necessary and to delegate to such Sub Committees such of its powers as it deems appropriate and necessary subject always to the following:-
 1. The Committee shall specify such of its powers, consistent with the policy of the Union to be delegated to each Sub Committee.
 2. The Committee may determine the reporting relationship and the terms of reference of any Sub Committee to it.
 3. Each Sub Committee shall have power to co-opt persons who are not members of the Committee, subject to the approval of the Committee.
 4. Each Sub Committee shall decide its own quorum and procedures.
 5. The Chairman of each Sub Committee shall be appointed by the Committee and shall have authority to act on behalf of the Standing Committee or Sub Committee in dealing with day to day matters within the competence and powers of such Sub Committee.
 6. The Committee shall designate from time to time which of its Sub Committees shall be known as Standing Committees and unless and until the Committee decides otherwise the standing committees shall be known as:-(a) the Representative Games Committee,(b) the Domestic Games Committee,(c) the Finance Committee, and (d) the Commercial and Marketing Committee.
 7. The Chief Executive may on his own initiative convene a meeting of any Sub Committee. The Chairman of each Sub Committee shall also, subject to notifying the Chief Executive, be entitled to convene a meeting of the Sub Committee of which he is Chairman.

- (iv) To investigate and where appropriate to hear any allegation of an infringement, by a Branch, a Club or member thereof or any player of the Laws of the Union, the Regulations relating to the Game, the Laws of the Game, or any alleged conduct by any of the foregoing, alleged to be detrimental to the best interests of the Union or of the Game, and depending on the outcome of the hearing, to expel or suspend from the Union, the Branch or Club, as the case may be, or otherwise to punish by such sanction or otherwise as it deems appropriate, the Branch, Club or member thereof or any player or to otherwise decide in such manner as it may deem fit. Where a Branch or club is expelled or suspended such Branch or Club shall have the right to appeal to the Council within thirty days of the notification of the decision of such expulsion or suspension to it;
- (v) To investigate and where appropriate to hear any allegation of an infringement of the Laws of the Union, the Regulations relating to the Game, the Laws of the Game or any alleged conduct alleged to be detrimental to the best interests of the Union or of the Game by any player or administrator of the Exiles and to deal with same in such manner as it deems proper and appropriate;
- (vi) To make regulations and to repeal, amend or change such regulations for dealing with players sent off the field-of-play by a referee or cited under the Regulations relating to the Game and such regulations shall be binding on each Branch, Club, member thereof, and so far as possible the Exiles;
- (vii) To direct, order and empower each Branch to set up a disciplinary committee and a committee of appeal;
- (viii) To hear any appeal by a player or other person or club or Branch affected by a decision of the Committee or any of its Sub Committees and to make such ruling or rulings as may seem fit;
- (ix) To adjudicate on any dispute save where in its absolute discretion in its opinion the matter is such that the decision of a Branch ought to be final;
- (x) To co-opt not more than two persons to be members of the Committee, and in its absolute discretion, by co-option to fill any vacancy on the Committee howsoever arising; such co-option shall take place only if three-quarters of the members of the Committee support the proposed co-option and provided that 14 days notice of the proposal to co-opt has been given to the members of the Committee;
- (xi) To nominate for acceptance by the Council in accordance with Law 14(a)(v) two representatives of the Union on the I.R.B.; to appoint a substitute to act where necessary in place of one or other of the said representatives and generally to appoint persons to represent the Union at any conference or meeting including substitutes for such appointees;
- (xii) To interpret the Bye-Laws, the Laws of the Game, the Regulations relating to the Game, the Laws of the Union and the bye-laws of the Branches and, where appropriate, to submit to the I.R.B. proposals for alterations to the Laws of the Game and the Regulations relating to the Game;
- (xiii) From time to time to make or assist in the making of regulations governing the participation by Branches or Clubs or members thereof in matches against teams from other Unions in membership of the IRB;
- (xiv) To present an international cap to any player who has represented Ireland in a senior international match against any Union in membership with the I.R.B;
- (xv) To control and distribute admission tickets to international and representative matches under the auspices of the Union;

- (xvi) To appoint one or more of its members or any other person or persons, whether a body corporate or otherwise, as it may decide to act in legal proceedings in the name of and on behalf of the Union on such terms if any, as it may decide;
 - (xvii) To appoint the team manager and coach or coaches for all the International teams and squads and in whatever manner and on whatever terms and conditions are most advantageous to the administration and promotion of the Game in Ireland;
 - (xviii) To determine the procedure for, and nominate, persons charged with and deemed responsible for the selection of all International teams and squads;
 - (xix) To decide on the criteria for determining the qualifications which shall govern the eligibility of players for selection on a national or provincial (Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connacht) squad or team. Any issues arising on the matter of eligibility shall be decided and determined by the Committee in its absolute discretion;
 - (xx) The game shall not be played in Ireland between 1st May and 1st September unless with the prior consent of the Committee;
- (f) The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be twelve.

Management Committee

16. (a) The Management Committee shall be a Sub Committee of the Committee consisting of a Chairman appointed under Law 14(a) (vi), the President of the Union, the Chairmen of each of the Standing Committees, the Honorary Treasurer of the Union who shall be Chairman of the Finance Committee, one or both (at the discretion of the Committee) I.R.B. representative(s) nominated by the Committee, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Union.
- (b) The function of the Management Committee shall be to oversee the operation and implementation of the policy of the Union and to deal with matters arising from time to time within the guidelines, directions and parameters set for it by the Committee.
- (c) The Chairman of the Management Committee shall be appointed by the Committee and nominated to the Council for a three year term, subject to annual review and approval by the Committee, and the entitlement of the Committee to remove the chairman from office at any time. No person may be Chairman of the Management Committee for more than six consecutive years.
- (d) No person may be President of the Union and Chairman of the Management Committee at the same time.
- (e) The Management Committee may co-opt, with the approval of the Committee, two additional persons to be members of the Management Committee.

Branch Disciplinary Committee and Committee of Appeal

17. Each Branch, or any disciplinary committee or other committee set up by a Branch, shall have power to hear any matters that may be referred to, or reported to, the said Branch, and to make such decision or decisions as it thinks fit. Each Branch, Club and any member thereof, whether it be the player or person affected by any such decision, shall be bound thereby.

18. Any player or other person affected by a decision of a Branch or its disciplinary or other committees may appeal that decision to the committee of appeal of the Branch, within seven days of the date of the decision of the said Branch or its disciplinary or other committee. The decision of the committee of appeal thereon shall be final.

Honorary Vice Presidents

19. The Committee may recommend to the Council the appointment of any person who, in its opinion has rendered outstanding service to the Union to be an Honorary Vice President of the Union for life, with such privileges as the Committee may accord him. An Honorary Vice President shall not have the right to attend meetings of the Committee but shall have the right to attend the Annual Meeting of the Council and any Special Meeting thereof without the right to vote thereat. The number of Honorary Vice Presidents to be recommended to the Council for appointment shall be at the discretion of the Committee.

Property and Trustees

20. (a) All property, real and personal, of whatever nature and kind, of the Union shall be vested in the Trustees or vested in a company, to be formed by the Trustees on the instructions of the Committee, to act as a property holding company (the "Property Company"). The Trustees and such Property Company shall, in relation to property vested in them, obey the lawful instructions of the Committee, and shall not in relation to that property act otherwise than with the sanction of a resolution of the Committee, which shall be voted on by not less than twelve members of the Committee and such resolution shall only be deemed to have been passed provided a majority of at least three fourths of those voting have cast a vote in favour thereof.
- (b) There shall be not less than four Trustees, to be appointed by the Council, and who may be removed by the Council. The Trustees shall remain in office until death, resignation or removal. The surviving or continuing Trustees, being not less than two, shall have power to act notwithstanding the vacancy in the number of Trustees.
- (c) The Committee may authorise any two or more of the Trustees or any such Property Company to give a valid receipt on behalf of the Union for any property.
- (d) No Trustee or member of the Committee shall be liable for any loss or diminution in value of the property of the Union unless that person dishonestly participated in a wrongful act which was a contributory cause of such loss or diminution.
- (e) The Officers of the Union and the Trustees shall be at liberty to consult one another on matters pertaining to the wellbeing of the Union, from time to time.

Amendments and Alterations to the Laws of the Union

21. (a) No amendment or alteration to the Laws of the Union shall be considered by the Council unless it shall have been proposed by either (i) the Committee, or (ii) a Branch, or (iii) any twelve Clubs, and unless notice thereof shall except in the case of amendment or alteration proposed by the Committee, have been sent in writing to the Chief Executive at least 21 days before the meeting of the Council at which such amendment or alteration is intended to be proposed. Notice of every such amendment or alteration shall be sent by the Chief Executive to the several persons entitled to receive notice of the Annual Meeting under Law 13, at least 14 days before the said meeting of the Council. No amendment or alteration shall be considered by the Council unless notice shall have been given or unless two-thirds of the members of the Council present and voting shall resolve to consider such proposed amendment or alteration, notwithstanding the omission to give such notice.
- (b) No Law of the Union shall be altered, rescinded or added to without the consent of at least two-thirds of the members of the Council present and voting at a meeting of the Council.

- (c) The Laws of the Union may be amended under the foregoing procedure to enable the Union to be converted from its present form as an unincorporated association into an industrial and provident society under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893-2001. Any such amendment shall authorise the Chief Executive and any seven members of the Committee to be designated by the Committee to apply on behalf of the Union to the Registrar of Friendly Societies for the registration of the Union as such a society pursuant to the said Acts. The amendment shall approve the Rules with which the Union proposes to be registered, and shall authorise the Committee to do all things necessary to bring about its registration, including the making of any amendment of the proposed Rules to accommodate any requisition or objection thereto raised by the Registrar.
- (d) The Laws of the Union may be amended under the foregoing procedure to enable the Union to be converted from its present form as any unincorporated association into a company registered under the Companies Acts 1963-2002. Any such amendment shall authorise any seven members of the Committee to be designated by the Committee to subscribe to the memorandum of association of such a company. The amendment shall approve the memorandum of association and the articles of association of the proposed company, and shall authorise the Committee to do all things necessary to bring about its registration, including the making of any amendment of the proposed memorandum and articles of association to accommodate any requisition or objection thereto raised by the Registrar of Companies, and including the making of an application under Section 24 of the Companies Act 1963 for a licence to omit the words “limited” from the name of the company. The amendment shall state the names of the first directors of the company so formed. The amendment shall authorise the transfer of all property of the Union to the said company free of the trusts and agreements presently affecting the same, imposed by the Laws of the Union or arising out of its present unincorporated association.

Fiscal Provisions

22. (a) All the assets, funds and income of the Union including profits and surpluses howsoever arising in each financial period and from time to time shall be applied to the administration, promotion, development, general advancement and benefit of the Game.
- (b) In the event of the dissolution of the Union for any cause or purpose, all funds and assets remaining after due settlement of all liabilities and claims shall be apportioned and distributed amongst the Branches and Clubs in such proportions as the Committee may determine but subject to the express condition that such funds and assets may only be applied in the manner specified in paragraph (a) above.

Indemnity

23. (a) In this Law the expression “official of the Union” shall include a member of the Council, a member of the Committee, a Trustee, the Chief Executive and any other person holding office in the Union whom the Council shall decide is an official of the Union.
- (b) Every official of the Union for the time being and his executors and administrators shall be entitled to be indemnified out of the assets of the Union from and against all actions, claims, demands, costs, losses, damages and expenses which he shall or may incur or sustain by reason or on account of any act undertaken or omission by him on behalf of the Union in his capacity as such official or by reason or on account of any liability incurred by him in his capacity as such official, provided always in the case of liability incurred in his capacity as such official that such liability was not incurred through his own fraud.

Interpretation

- 24 (a) In the event of a doubt arising at any time on any matter not provided for herein, or as to the meaning or construction of these Laws, the Committee shall determine same.

- (b) These Laws and any regulations made thereunder shall in all respects be governed by and construed in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Ireland and any dispute arising thereunder shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of the Republic of Ireland.