

Ladies Gaelic Football Association

Fixtures Planning & Reviewing Guidelines (2025 Edition)

AIM & OBJECTIVES

The aim of the LGFA in relation to Fixtures Planning and Reviewing is to ensure that all units of the Association have access to appropriate training and support in planning their fixtures and conducting reviews. This enables counties to deliver a co-ordinated programme of meaningful, well-scheduled games for players, appropriate to their needs and abilities.

COUNTY FIXTURES REVIEWER

Each county may appoint a Fixtures Reviewer who will work in conjunction with the County Fixtures Secretary/Committee. In some cases, the role may be undertaken solely by the Fixtures Secretary/Committee.

Recommended Skills

- Knowledge of the club structure in the county at all levels
- Understanding of current fixture planning procedures
- Awareness of the complexities of fixtures programmes at local level
- Logical and structured approach
- Good IT skills
- Ability to identify issues in games structures and propose solutions
- Strong communication skills with the county board, clubs and committees
- Competence to network with other boards to share best practice
- Flexibility in approach to planning
- Ability to set goals and review mechanisms

MINIMUM STANDARDS – PROVISION & SPREAD OF GAMES

Provision of Games

ADULT	UNDER 15 – UNDER 18	UNDER 14 AND BELOW
Minimum of 16 games	Minimum of 12 games	Minimum of 16 games

Spread of Games

- Games should be scheduled with gaps of no more than 21 days between them during April–September.
- Exceptions may be made around exam time (mid-May to mid-June).
- Games in the same grade should be scheduled at least 5 days apart (3 days for non-championship competitions).

Scheduling Target

Counties should ensure that 80% of games are played as originally scheduled (on the designated date or within the timeframe defined in county bye-laws).

ROLE OF THE COUNTY FIXTURES REVIEWER

- Monitor the fixtures schedule on a monthly basis, recording the number of games played as scheduled.
- Audit fixtures on a weekly or monthly basis, recording number of games by grade/code and spread of games.
- Analyse the fixtures programme annually and make recommendations for improvement.
- Provide monthly reports to the executive and fixtures committees.
- Make formal recommendations for the following year in conjunction with the Fixtures Secretary/Committee.
- Evaluate county performance annually against LGFA minimum standards.
- Facilitate feedback from clubs via forums, focus groups or questionnaires.
- Prepare and present a report annually at the AGM and forward it to the National Development Team.

FIXTURES SECRETARY/COMMITTEE & REVIEWER

Fixtures planning should begin as a joint function of the Fixtures Reviewer and the Fixtures Secretary/Committee.

The Reviewer makes recommendations; the Secretary/Committee is responsible for scheduling and arranging fixtures.

The Reviewer is responsible for reviewing fixtures activity and reporting outcomes.

DEFINITIONS

- Planning (joint function): incorporating review feedback, designing competitions, setting competition structures and timelines.
- Scheduling (Fixtures Secretary/Committee): placing fixtures onto a published calendar prior to the season.
- Arranging (Fixtures Secretary/Committee): deciding on fixture specifics (date, time, venue, referee).
- Reviewing (Fixtures Reviewer): collecting statistics, comparing to national standards, producing reports and recommendations.

FIXTURE REPORTS – ANNUAL REQUIREMENT

- Number of games played at each grade.
- Percentage of games played on schedule.
- Details of interaction with clubs (forums, questionnaires, meetings).
- Analysis of spread of games, with recommendations for improvement.
- Recommendations to the Fixtures Secretary/Committee for the coming year.
- Any additional observations relevant to fixtures planning.