



Limerick Celtics Basketball Club – Constitution

1. Club Mission Statement

Limerick Celtics Basketball Club (hereafter called Limerick Celtics) is a voluntary not for profit organisation founded upon the core values of sport development, competitive spirit, humility, commitment & dedication. As a Club we encourage all our members to be self-disciplined and hard working. Our primary objective is to develop the basketball skills of all our players, to do our very best to ensure all our players reach their full potential and compete at the highest level possible. This hopefully will allow for a long, enjoyable, rewarding and insightful journey for all involved.

2. Values and Aspirations

- Dedicated to development of Basketball in our City and County & to provide the opportunity for the members to participate in the game of basketball.
- To enable all participants to perform to the best of their ability.
- To provide an environment of fair play and enjoyment.
- Broad based volunteer driven organisation.
- Highly competitive in North Munster, Cork, Tournaments & National competitions
- Nurture and develop elite players who graduate to regional, provincial, national teams and beyond.
- Develop basketball Coaches, Referees, Table Officials, Team Managers & Administrators.
- Committed to highest standards of sporting behaviour for players, coaches & supporters.
- Annual income is sufficient to meet annual operating costs.

3. Best Practice

To ensure that best practice is being followed, Limerick Celtics will:

- Adopt and implement the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport (<https://www.sportireland.ie/news/archive-code-of-ethics-and-good-practice-for-childrens-sport>) in Ireland as defined by Basketball Ireland as an integral part of its policy on children in the club.
- Ensure that the Club Officials are elected and endorsed at each AGM by those interested parties attending the AGM.
- Appoint and empower a Child Protection Officer.
- Ensure best practice throughout the club by having available its code of conduct to all its members.
- Develop effective procedures for responding to and recording accidents.
- Ensure that all club members are given adequate notice of AGMs and other meetings.
- Ensure that all minutes of all meetings (AGM's/EGM's/Committee) are recorded and safely filed.

- Provide for the safety and well-being of members and children by endeavouring to ensure that all Mentors, Coaches and visiting coaches, as well as parents volunteering as managers, are vetted to the satisfaction of An Garda Síochána.
- Endeavouring to ensure that visitors to the Club are adequately supervised thus ensuring that no visitor is ever alone with a child
- Endeavour to ensure the responsible use of mobile phones and cameras by both adults and children.
- Promote the game and club through various media including photographs, reports & video, with prior permission.

4. General Terms

Name / Branding:

- The name of the Club is Limerick Celtics Basketball Club
- The club logo is as defined at the top of this page
- The club website is www.limerickceltics.com

The Club's Headquarters will be c/o The Chairperson.

The Club will affiliate annually with Basketball Ireland and the North Munster Area Board.

The club will enter teams in North Munster league and Cup Competitions, Cork league and Cup competitions, basketball tournaments throughout the country and Basketball Ireland National Competitions.

The Primary Club Colours are Green and Black will be used as a secondary colour in the event of a clash. Team kits remain the property of Limerick Celtics. All members have been allocated a kit number. The parent manager of each team will bring the kit to games and is responsible for washing after. An up-to-date register of all equipment/kits is held by the club.

Communication:

- The primary method of communication is via the club website www.limerickceltics.com and our club Facebook pages.
- Email will be used for updates to club officials, coaches, managers & club members as appropriate
- Coaches will communicate with players and/or parents via text messages, email or Social Media Apps (Team App).
- Additional websites of interest are www.basketballireland.ie and www.fiba.com

5. Membership

Full Membership of the club shall be open to the following category of members, subject to the acceptance of the Club Officials and payment of a relevant yearly membership fee.

- a) Senior Players - Any player who is 18 years old or older and is registered on a Senior team.
- b) Junior Players - Any player who is 17 or younger.
- c) Coaches – Any coach or assistant coach.
- d) Team Managers - Any team manager.
- e) Club Officials – Officers who are responsible for the organisation and running of the club.
- f) Non-Playing Members - This category facilitates interested parties to become members of the club, with no playing, coaching or administration roles. Non-Playing members will be included on all communications and will be able to participate in all club activities.
- g) Honorary Members - The club may bestow Honorary Membership on a person who has made a significant contribution to the development club. This is at the discretion of the Club Officials.

All members must agree to abide by the Constitution of the Club, The Code of Ethics of the Club and the rulings of the Club Officials.

6. The Committee

Limerick Celtics Basketball Club Committee shall comprise of a group of volunteers who look after the day to day running of the club and also plan the development of the club going forward. The Committee shall consist of the following Club Officers:

1. Chairperson
2. Treasurer
3. Secretary
4. Public Relations Officer
5. Protection and Inclusion Officer
6. Health and Safety Officer
7. Plus, up to 8 other members, elected at an Annual General Meeting.

- All committee members must be members of the Club.
- The Officers of the Club are all honorary (non-paid).
- Committee Members shall hold office from the date of appointment until the next Annual General Meeting unless otherwise resolved at a Special General Meeting.
- One person may hold no more than two positions of Club Officer at any time. Two members may share a position.
- The Club Committee shall be responsible for the management of all the affairs of the Club.
- Decisions of the Club Committee shall be made by a simple majority of those attending the Club Committee meeting.
- The Chairperson of the Club Committee meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie.
- The quorum for the transaction of business of the Club Committee shall be five.
- Decisions of the Club Committee of meetings shall be recorded and circulated to all committee members.
- Any member of the Club Committee may call a meeting of the Club Committee by giving not less than 7 days' notice to all members of the Club Committee.
- The Club Committee shall hold not less than four meetings a year.
- An outgoing member of the Club Committee may be re-elected. Any vacancy on the Club Committee which arises between Annual General Meetings shall be filled by a member proposed by one and seconded by another of the remaining Club Committee members and approved by a simple majority of the remaining Club Committee members.
- The Club Committee shall have the power to decide all questions and disputes arising in respect of any issue concerning the Club Rules.

7. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Once the adult membership of the club has grown to one third of the total membership the club will summon an AGM which will normally be held after the end of the season each year. The following business shall be conducted at the AGM:

- a) Nomination and Election of Club Officials.
- b) Summary of season completed.
- c) Plans for upcoming season.
- d) Presentation of accounts.
- e) Motions presented and passed.
- f) AOB

Twenty-one days' notice shall be given to all full members, excluding Junior Players, in advance of the AGM. All notifications will be sent by email or by text.

All nominations and motions proposed by full members must be in the hands of the Club Secretary at least ten days before the meeting.

In the event of an election for any club official, the vote shall be taken by way of a secret ballot. Should there be more than two nominees the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated until the successful candidate received more than 50% of the vote of those members present and eligible to vote. In the event of a tie, the presiding officer shall be deemed to have vacated the position.

Voting at AGMs and Extraordinary Meetings shall be confined to the all Full Members, excluding Junior Players. Only members fully paid up before the last date of registration shall have the right to propose or second motions, or have a right to vote or to be eligible for election to the committee.

A quorum of at least 1/3 full Senior members will be required to ensure the AGM takes place and at least 1/3 of the sitting Club Officials are also required to be present.

8. Policies

Please see Celtics Basketball Club's Health and Safety statement.

Please see Celtics Basketball Club's Child Protection and Safeguarding policy document.

Please see Celtics Basketball Club's Diversity and Inclusion policy document.

Please see Annex A for Codes of Conduct

9. Financial Management

Courses

Celtics Basketball Club runs a coaching course every year (usually Introduction to Coaching) and Level 1 and the cost is covered for those who commit to volunteering for the Club. A contribution to the costs of undertaking referee and table officials courses is also provided for those who volunteer with Celtics Basketball Club.

Remuneration

There is no remuneration for coaches in Celtics Basketball Club. Coaching gear is provided.

Membership Fees

Annual membership fees are agreed by the committee / determined at the AGM and set out annually on the club Membership/Registration page. and all players must be registered with the club for the season in order to play or train with the club that season.

Membership fees will be set to cover member contributions to Basketball Ireland, (North Munster Board) although registering members may not automatically be enrolled in all of these.

Any members who are in arrears for membership may at the discretion of the Club Officials, have their membership suspended until the balance due is paid in full.

Membership fees will only be refunded at the beginning of the season if a player ceases to be a member of the Club.

Collection of Training Fees

The parent manager / assistant manager of each team should ensure that all training fees are collected, labelled separately, and passed to the Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer on a regular basis. The regular weekly training session fee will be agreed at the start of the season by coaches and committee. Fees for additional training sessions and blitzes will be set as appropriate. Players will also contribute to referees' fees at games.

Fundraising & Sponsorship

Prior approval is required from the Committee in respect of any fundraising activities proposed. Sponsorship of clothing, equipment, prizes or otherwise requires the agreement of the Committee.

Quarterly and Year End Accounts

Limerick Celtic's financial year end is 31 December. It is the responsibility of the Treasurer to:

- Prepare year-end accounts for consideration at the AGM.
- Submit accounts to coaches and committee prior to AGM.
- Safely retain all relevant information, bank statements and cheque books for seven years.

10. Hire of Premises for training and games

- The hire of premises for games is the responsibility of the Fixtures Co-ordinator.
- The hire of premises for training and allocation of slots is agreed with the coaches and club officials at the start of the season. The schedule may change during the season depending on the availability of venues and scheduling of games.
- The home venues of Limerick Celtics are currently the Crescent Comprehensive Secondary School, St. Munchin's Secondary School and Salesian's Primary School.
- In addition, outdoor courts may be used from time to time due to COVID-19 restrictions.

ANNEX: CODES OF CONDUCT

Code of Conduct for Children/Young members

Children/young members of Celtics Basketball Club are expected to:

- Treat all coaches, managers, selectors, Club and tournament organisers and officials. with respect, listen to instructions and respect their decisions.
- Abide by the rules set down by team managers when travelling to away events.
- Behave in a manner that avoids bringing the game of Basketball into disrepute.
- Play fairly at all times, do their best.
- Respect all members, regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background or religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Show support and commitment to all players and display team spirit.
- Respect opponents, be gracious in defeat or victory.
- Be punctual for training sessions and matches – inform coaches / managers in advance of any late arrival.
- Be friendly and particularly welcoming to new members.
- Talk to the Club's Protection Officer if they have any problems or witness inappropriate behaviour.

Children/young members of Celtics basketball club should never:

- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage on or off the court.
- Pass on gossip or spread rumours about another player or adult.
- Make false allegations against other players or adults.
- Cheat.
- Use violence or physical contact that is not allowed within the rules.
- Shout or argue with officials, coaches, selectors, team mates or opponents.
- Smoke, consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the Club.
- Take inappropriate photography and/or recordings of club members.

Children/young players are entitled to :

- Be happy, have fun & enjoy basketball.
- Be treated with dignity and respect.
- Be safe and to feel safe.
- To have the support of the adults within the Club.
- To say No where they deem appropriate.
- To be listened to.
- To be believed.

Code of Conduct for Parents and Guardians

Parents/guardians are expected to:

- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport. Do so at your child's pace.
- Deliver and collect your child punctually to and from coaching sessions/matches.
- Ensure that your child has the correct footwear.
- Provide details of any relevant health conditions on the registration form and inform the manager and coach of any changes before training and games.
- Encourage your child to do his/her best and play for fun.
- Praise good performance, not just results.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play, praising good performance and accepting officials' decisions.
- Acknowledge the importance and role of the club coaches and other club volunteers who provide their time free to ensure children's participation in the club.
- Request authorisation (from parents in the case of a child/youth member) prior to taking and/or sharing photos or videos of other members.

Parents/Guardians have the right to:

- Know their child is safe.
- Be informed of problems or concerns relating to their children.
- Be updated on their child's progress.
- Be informed if their child is injured.
- Have their consent sought for issues such as trips and for photographs/recordings.
- Contribute to decisions within the club.
- Report any concerns about the standard of coaching.

Code of conduct for coaches

Please follow link below to BI code of conduct for coaches: http://sportlomo-userupload.s3.amazonaws.com/uploaded/galleries/638_uploaded/f8a36ba4f8ebf051e7e07c18b898ca2ac2879e69.pdf This should be read by all coaches involved in Limerick Celtics. In summary, coaches are expected to;

- Act as good role models.
- Encourage and be positive during sessions so that players leave with a sense of achievement.
- Set challenging, realistic but achievable goals.
- Plan and prepare each session appropriately and ensure proper levels of supervision.
- Ensure that all activities are inclusive and allow all players to participate in an enjoyable way.

- Put the welfare and enjoyment of players first and strike a balance between this and winning or achieving results.
- Enforce the principles of fair play treating each player equally, with dignity and respect and ensure that all players play within the rules.
- Be aware of the developmental stages and needs of players.
- Avoid over training and over emphasis on competition.
- Involve parents/guardians and other club members in what we do.
- Be qualified and up to date with the latest coaching knowledge and skills.

Complaints

Basketball Ireland have developed a guidance document for Complaints, Disciplinary and Disputes. This is available [HERE](#) or the document can be downloaded from the Governance tab under the About section on the website.

Depending on the nature of the complaint, it should in the first instance be submitted to the Child Protection Officer or the Team Manager. Should this not be appropriate the complaint may be submitted to the relevant coach or the Club Chairperson.