



Dublin Ladies Gaelic Football

FÓ DLÍTHE **Cumann Peil Gael na mBan** **Coiste Átha Cliath**

BYE-LAWS [2026-V1], Confirmation received to 10th March 2026 of changes Approved by LGFA, formally notified to Dublin County Board Meeting of 24.03.2026

Dublin Ladies County Committee Bye-Laws with Bye-Law changes Notified as approved by Central Council to 11/04/2025

This document was notified to the County Committee to include the changes to Bye-Laws 17.1, 17.2, 18.1 and 18.2 at the County board Meeting of 20th May 2025

Note: the explanatory notes relating to Rule 49 have been crossed out as have the cross reference in Bye-Law 3.5(h) as rule/rule numbers do not apply with reference current Official Guide.

Official Guide Rule numbers, where quoted, have been updated to 2025 numbering

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General

1. Definitions

- a. The Dublin Ladies Football County Committee [hereinafter referred to as the County Committee *and commonly called "The County Board"*] shall be affiliated to Cumann Peil Gael na mBan [hereinafter referred to as the Association] and be governed by its Official Guide [The Rule].**

- b. The County Committee shall be the sum of its affiliated Clubs and its officers and others as referred to in the Rule**

- c. References in the text and appendices to correspondence with the County Secretary may for ordinary purposes be understood to be directed through the Administrator at the address of the County Committee**

- d. The Mission Statement shall be**
To proactively promote and develop the ideals of Female Participation in Sport while serving the needs of our Association and Members

2. Annual Convention

- 2.1 The Annual Convention shall take place no later than 15th December but shall normally be set in November each year.
- 2.2 The quorum of Annual Convention shall be any three outgoing Executive Committee Officers and one fifth of those otherwise entitled to attend and vote.
- 2.3 The members shall elect onto the Executive Committee by nomination and motion at Annual Convention or Ordinary Meeting a person ~~[Explanatory note: Official Guide Rule 49 applies i.e non-members may be elected and must register with the Association within 7 days]~~ to fill a vacancy.
 - a. Where there is no contest for any position, the candidate shall be deemed to be elected unless a motion of dissent is proposed and a vote taken.
 - b. Where there is no candidate, nominations for the position shall be requested from Clubs and put to the next County Committee meeting.

3. Officers & Executive Committee

- 3.1 The Elected Officers of the County Committee and any other persons co-opted, appointed or elected as set out in 3 above shall be known as the Executive Committee.
- 3.2 The term of office for members of the Executive Committee shall commence at the end of the meeting of their election or appointment and terminate at the end of the following Annual Convention.
- 3.3 No member of the Executive Committee shall hold more than one position on the committee
- 3.4 The Executive Committee shall set plans for longer term development within the county; and shall establish measurable and achievable targets and objectives for any and each of the County sub-committees.
- 3.5 The Executive Committee shall meet one week before the County Committee. It shall
 - a. Arrange for proper and effective systems of communication within the County.
 - b. At its meetings, examine motions submitted for County Convention and County Committee meetings and decide whether such motions are in order.
 - c. At its meetings, examine and recommend on Player and Team matters put in correspondence to the County Secretary and decide whether such matters are in order
 - d. At its meetings, examine and correspondence with the County Secretary or any officer and it shall determine the suitability of such correspondence for the County Committee agenda.
 - e. At its meetings it shall put a motion in order where there is a failure to quote the reference numbers of rules affected, where the wrong reference numbers are quoted or where there are minor clerical errors.
 - f. As set out in these Bye-Laws make recommendations for the betterment of Ladies Football in the County.
 - g. Recommend to the County Committee to form sub-committees to oversee and complete projects for the betterment of Ladies Football in the County as per Bye-Law 6.1. [explanatory note; these shall be for example, to raise funds for a project, to organise Féile, etc]
 - h. Determine the dates of County Committee meetings which shall be held in at least eleven out of twelve months in accordance with Bye-Law 3.5; it shall set the date of Annual Convention in accordance with Bye-Law 2.1 it shall be empowered to convene Special Meetings of County Committee as set out in [~~Rules 27 and 28 of~~] the Official Guide

- i. It shall be empowered to raise funds through sponsorship and fundraising activities
- j. Appoint a Management Appointment Committee which shall recommend the nominee(s) for Inter County team management positions to the County Committee for ratification
- k. It shall manage, direct and have control of Inter County Management teams on behalf of the County Committee [as per Bye-Laws 21.1 to 21.4]
- l. It shall be the sole body responsible for the design and style of the playing gear and accessories (i.e.: jersey, tracksuit, t-shirts etc) of all Dublin County teams subject to ratification by a meeting of the Dublin County Committee

3.6 The Executive Committee may refer a matter to be dealt with under CODA Rules at any time when it deems that there has been a breach of Rule or bye-Law

3.7 The members of the Executive Committee individually shall;

- a. Abide by the Cumann Peil Gael na mBan 'Guidelines for Officers' insofar as his/her position is stated therein and shall discharge his/her responsibilities in accordance with the wishes of the County Committee in compliance with that document.
- b. Forfeit his/her position on the Executive Committee if absent from three consecutive meetings without an acceptable excuse.
- c. Step aside from a debate or decision if there is a conflict of interest

4. Bye-Laws

4.1 These Bye-Laws shall be published annually.

- a. Alterations and / or additions to these Bye-Laws may be made at any Annual or reconvened County Convention
- b. Alterations and / or additions to these Bye-Laws may be made at a meeting of the County Committee following notice of motion being given to the previous County Committee meeting and also providing that the resolution proposing same is carried by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting.
- c. Such alteration or amendment shall come into effect upon the ratification of Central Council and henceforth be titled "Dublin Ladies County Committee Bye-Laws ratified by Central Council on *date*"

4.2 The onus shall be on each affiliated Club to be aware of these Bye-Laws. It shall be understood that any person having business with the County Committee,

including players, mentors, supporters, Club Officials and others, shall be aware of these Bye-Laws.

4.3 Failure to adhere to the Bye-Laws may be subject CODA Rules

Administration

5. Communications

5.1 It shall be the responsibility of each Club to ensure it has reciprocal communications facilities. Communications from Clubs to the County Committee shall come from the Club Secretary or other such person(s) nominated by the Club Secretary through the County Secretary or other such person(s) nominated. Explanatory note: Matters such as motions, official complaints, appeals, etc., should come officially from the Club to the Co. Secretary. Matters such as registrations will go to the Co. Registrar or queries regarding fixtures to the Fixtures Committee, etc.

5.2 References to written communication within these Bye-Laws, or within the administration of the Dublin County Committee, its officers, managers or sub-committees shall be taken to include recordable electronic mail, text messaging and printed or handwritten copy; or any one or a combination of any of the above.

6. Sub Committees

6.1 The Standing Sub Committees shall be

- a. Fixtures Sub Committee
- b. Fundraising Sub Committee
- c. CODA Hearings and Appeals Committee

Other Sub Committees shall be added to the standing list by motion to the County Committee.

7. Meetings

7.1 The quorum of all meetings of County Committee shall be one fifth of those entitled to attend and vote and shall be inclusive of any three Executive Committee Officers. [see appendix A]

7.2 Ordinary Meetings of the County Committee shall normally be on the third Tuesday of each month wherever possible. The dates for the Annual Convention (in accordance with Bye Law 2.1) and dates for other meetings, shall be determined by the Executive Committee

- a. Notice for Ordinary Meetings; time and venue and/or changes to the above shall be notified by the County Secretary in writing.
- b. Voting on matters presented to an Ordinary meeting shall be by a simple majority of those members present and voting, signified by a show of hands.
- c. Where there are no dissenting opinions, the chairperson shall have discretion to declare the matter decided by general assent.
- d. Decisions passed by motion and recorded in the minutes of previous meetings being re-presented shall only be overturned by a two thirds majority of those members present and voting.
- e. Club delegates shall be designated by their club, who shall provide a panel. A delegate may be substituted by means of written communication prior to 5pm on the day of a meeting.

7.3 Meetings shall be considered as an important element of the administration of the County and the following points shall always be addressed:

- a. Punctuality is of the essence
- b. The agenda and all reports coming under discussion shall be issued before the meeting no later than 1pm on the day before the meeting.

The Agenda headings or sub-headings shall provide sufficient information for delegates to be fully advised of the nature of the items being proposed for discussion. The Agenda shall list items of correspondence received from designated official correspondence addresses since the last meeting with a brief summary of the nature of the correspondence that, subject to the provisos of Bye Law 3.5(d), would warrant being brought to the attention of the County Committee.

- c. Draft minutes shall be issued as soon as possible after meetings but in all cases within ten days of the meeting unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. meetings in successive weeks).
- d. Agreed points shall not be revisited at a later stag

Membership & Affiliation

8. Membership

8.1 Membership shall be as set down in the Official Guide. The fees shall be as determined by the Councils and by the County Committee. Changes brought about by the Councils become effective at the time and date set by the Councils and any monies outstanding by members shall be the liability of their Club and shall be remitted by the Club to the County Committee within 13 weeks of notification to the Club.

9. Affiliation

9.1 Any club with monies outstanding to the County Committee shall not be allowed to affiliate to the County for the forthcoming season until all monies have been paid in full (subject to rule 41 of the Official Guide).

9.2 The Affiliation Fee shall be as agreed by the County Committee and shall be inclusive of any levy set by Central Council or Leinster Council at the time of the affiliation.

Finances

10. Finances

(Bye-Law 10.1, no longer in force)

10.2 An auditor may be appointed to audit the financial books of the Dublin County Committee.

10.3 The financial year of the Dublin Ladies County Committee shall be the 1st November to the 31st October

10.4 The County Treasurer shall present to the Annual Convention a set of accounts
These accounts shall include:

- a. An income and expenditure account giving a true and fair view of the income and expenditure of the County Committee for the period of the preceding financial year.
- b. A balance sheet giving a true and fair view of the state of the financial affairs of the County Committee as at the end of the preceding financial year.
- c. A report with respect to the County Committee's financial affairs to include a statement of monies outstanding and a list of creditors and monies owing at the time of the Annual Convention.

Fixtures & Games Organisation

11. Preparing for the Playing Season

11.1 A Fixtures Officer is appointed under each year to organise fixtures.

- a. The Fixtures Officer shall be supported by a Fixtures Sub-Committee ratified by the County Committee in advance of the playing season.
- b. Additional Sub-Committees to oversee particular events [e.g. Féile] shall be formed from time to time as set out in Bye-Law 6.1
- c. The Fixtures Sub-Committee shall recommend to the County Committee the gradings and structure of the competitions prior to the commencement of the season.
- d. A draft Fixture Calendar list and Final Draft Team Grading for the season shall be drawn up and circulated to all affiliated clubs at least one week in advance of a County Committee meeting to ratify these matters.
- e. The Fixtures Sub-Committees shall prepare Regulations for the governance of the games and recommend these to the County Committee.
Explanatory note: Regulations approved by the County Board are thus enacted under this Bye-Law and any breaches of the Regulations are breaches of Bye-Law 4.3 and may be dealt with under Bye-Laws 20.1 to 20.7
- f. The Fixtures Sub-Committee shall be mindful of the requirements of the National Grading Committee when deliberating and recommending gradings.
- g. The County Committee shall ratify all team gradings and regulations prior to the commencement of the competition(s).
- h. Championship at all grades and age levels [where played] shall default to a 'league round' to determine semi-finalists unless otherwise agreed by the County Committee. Provision shall be made in the regulations to prevent equality of points where possible.
- i. Draws shall be determined by Regulations or where not regulated, by the Executive Committee. by Regulation or where not regulated, by the Executive Committee
- j. A fixture list for the season shall be drawn up in advance and put in writing before the commencement of the competition(s)
- k. That there shall be a minimum of 20 official referee assessments planned to take place per year.

12. The Fixtures Schedule

12.1 Changes may be made to the structure of division or fixtures where deemed necessary. Any alterations to the structure of any competition must have the approval of delegates at a County Committee meeting.

12.2 The Fixtures Schedule shall be adhered to except:

- a. Where both teams agree to postpone their fixture to another date, within the

permitted ratified playing rule parameters with due deference to other fixtures, by mutual consent in writing and with the consent of the Fixtures Officer or a person delegated to administer the age or group category.

- b. Where circumstances outside of the control of one or both teams require the game to be rescheduled, and where the provisions of clause (a) above cannot be agreed by both parties, the Fixtures Officer in written consultation with the members of the Executive Committee shall re-fix the game at a time and date as advised by the majority of that Committee.
- c. Where circumstances which should have been foreseen by a team, or an omission occurs and a game is not played, the Fixtures Officer or a person delegated to administer the age or group category in consultation with the Fixtures Officer shall re-fix the game giving advantage to the team which has been disadvantaged.

explanatory note

"due deference" to other fixtures relates to play-offs, rounds, etc where delay will impact on the decision of such rounds or upon other teams in the competition

The circumstances referred to in clause (b) may include [the list serves to illustrate this clause and is not complete]: Pitch declared unplayable by the Referee; Inter County requirements; Clash of fixtures proposed by the Board; Bereavement; etc.

The circumstances referred to in clause (c) may include [the list serves to illustrate this clause and is not complete]: Student examinations and graduations; Church events; Failure to book pitch; Failure to confirm Referee; Family Days or other Club events; Late notification of unplayable pitch;

13. Home Club Arrangements

13.1 It shall be the responsibility of the home club to make the necessary arrangements for fixtures i.e., contact the referee at least 48hrs in advance, contact the opposition at least 48hrs in advance and provide a pitch.

- a. Where a home team's pitch is unplayable for any fixture the game must be switched to a suitable agreed alternative or to the opponent's pitch. It shall be the responsibility of the home team to find a suitable alternative and to make all necessary arrangements i.e.; notify the opposition, notify the referee, advise the Fixtures Secretary or his/her representative, etc
- b. Each club shall provide to the relevant County Officer a contact name for each team together with a contact phone number and email address on or before the 1st February of each year, through which the team can be contacted. And cc this information to the county secretary

14. Friendly, Challenge and Tournament Games

14.1 All Friendly, Challenge and Tournament games shall be arranged in accordance with the Official Guide.

- a. Club arranging any of the above games shall seek and obtain the permission of the County Secretary [or person authorised] with at least 24 hours' notice where the clubs participating are under the control of the Dublin County Committee
- b. In giving permission for the game the County Secretary [or person authorised] shall indicate the procedure in place to arrange that the fixture be refereed by a qualified LGFA referee.
- c. The County Secretary [or person authorised] shall notify the applicant that permission is granted or denied and a record shall be kept. The Friendly, Challenge or Tournament game is then deemed to be under the control of the County Committee and subject to all Rules, Bye-Laws and Regulations in force.
- d. Referee expenses and method of payment for Challenge games shall be as set out in the Regulations for the age category concerned for official fixtures. For Tournaments, the expenses shall be agreed beforehand with the assigned Referees.

15. Trophies

15.1 All trophies except Féile must be returned to the County Committee not later than the April meeting following the season in which they were won. [Féile trophies to be returned at the January meeting following the year in which they were won]. The club is responsible for the trophy's safe keeping and liable for the cost of repair or replacement. Clubs which have not returned trophies on time shall be fined €100.

15.2 Medals may be made available through a voucher system or as otherwise decided by a motion to the County Committee

Players & Teams

16. Clubs – Multiple Teams

16.1 Clubs may field more than one team at any grade. They shall play their second and subsequent teams in the level of competition as decided by the County

Committee.

a. Where a Club fields a team in an age group competing in an alternate week competition format from U13 upwards, and/or where a Club fields more than one team in Adult Competitions or in an age group from U13 to Minor the club shall submit player panels to the County Secretary prior to commencement of competitions [for underage not less than 15 players in Division 1; 13 players in Division 2 and 11 players in Division 3 or lower, and in adult grades not less than 15 players per team]. The players named on a panel may not field on a team at that age category that competes at a lower division than the panel on which they are named for the competition. The provision of a panel applies to each team except the lowest graded team in Adult Competitions.

If it is the case that a club fails to submit a panel for a team competing in league (U14 and upwards in age) then the first 15 players fielded shall be recorded as that team's panel.

For U13 League only, players may be swapped between panels until they become tied to the higher panel (i.e. have fielded in more than two league games for the higher panel)

b. Panels when 2 or more teams in same division

That a panel be submitted for each team when two or more teams compete in the same division (other than league for U13). Panel requirements otherwise to be aligned to panel requirements generally.

16.2 Clubs shall not include on their lower grade club championship adult team: a player who was tied to their club's higher grade adult Club Championship team in any of the previous three year's club championship competition, unless she has been regraded by the County Committee.

Clubs shall not include on their lower grade club league adult team: a player who was tied to their club's higher grade adult Club League team in any of the previous three year's club League competition, unless she has been regraded by the County Committee.

These rules also apply to underage players in respect of their playing on adult teams.

Eligibility to play Adult Cup is to be determined by the player's Adult league status on the match date. Adult Cup is not a grading competition.

Eligibility to play Adult Cup to be determined by the player's Adult league status.

17. Player Regrading and Eligibility

17.1 A Player seeking to be regraded shall write to the County Committee outlining the reasons why she is looking to be regraded. Players must submit their regrading requests not later than the deadline **set by the** County Committee. No regrading requests will be heard after this date.

- a. Regrading applications shall be approved by the County Committee. A Club representative for the applicant shall be present at the County Committee Meeting to give a brief outline of the application and to answer delegates' questions.
- b. A club may regrade no more than seven players per team annually except where a new second or subsequent new team is being affiliated – where an additional 5 players may be regraded to an existing or a newly formed

team. Players seeking to be regraded must write to the County Committee outlining the reasons why they are looking to be regraded. Players must submit their regrading requests on or before **the deadline set by the County Committee to be considered at a County Committee meeting** or a specially convened meeting for this purpose; NO regrading requests will be heard after this date. Players who have not fielded for the previous three seasons are not required to regrade. Where a Club is forced to withdraw an adult team from competition at any time after competition grading has been ratified the team to be withdrawn must be the lowest graded team from that Club. This regulation applies to both league and championship.

17.2 Where a Club has more than one team at Adult or in an Age Category the following shall apply:

(a) Adult :

A player, whether or not listed on a lower division team panel for the league may play league games at a higher division level for her club for a maximum of **three** games per season while still remaining eligible to play at the lower division. Should she play **four** higher division games she is deemed to have joined the panel of the higher grade team and must remain on this panel for the remainder of the league season. Should she wish to play at a lower grade in adult league competition in the following season(s) regrading is required [see 16.2 above].

(b) Age Group (U13 to U18)

A player, whether or not listed on a lower division team panel for the league may play league games at a higher division level for her club for a maximum of **two** games per season while still remaining eligible to play at the lower division. Should she play **three** higher division games she is deemed to have joined the panel of the higher grade team and must remain on this panel for the remainder of the league season.

(c) A player whether or not listed on a lower division team panel for the Championship may play Championship games at a higher Division level for her club. Should she play championship at higher division at Adult or in an Age Category (including being introduced as a substitute) she is deemed to have joined the panel of the higher grade team for the remainder of the Championship season [see 16.2 above].

In respect of Underage players playing 'up' in age category to another Underage category, see (c) and (d) below.

(d) An underage player playing up in age category may not play on a lower league team in the particular higher age group if she has already played more than two league games at a higher grade in that higher age group in the current year.

(e) An underage player playing up in age category may not play on a lower championship team in the particular higher age group if she has already played championship at higher grade in that higher age group in the current year.

18. Transfers and Sanctions

Explanatory Note: The mechanism by which transfers are made is set out in the Rule

18.1 Administering transfers

18.1 Administering transfers

(a) Annually, the opening date for the receipt of transfer applications, for a player, who wishes to leave one club to join another in the same county, at all ages, shall be the 1st January and the closing date shall be 5.30pm on 15th January, with a second opening date of 1st July and the closing date shall be 5.30pm on 8th July. Exception: Transfers involving a change of permanent address of a player eligible to field in underage games. In this instance an application may be submitted (without reference to the dates above) for consideration.

This shall not apply to applications by a player seeking an Inter-Club transfer outside the county in which she last played or where a team has disbanded such that there is no football available for player(s).

This shall also not apply if the player applying to transfer has not participated in games at Under 15 or above and if both clubs have indicated their agreement to the application

In addition this shall not apply to players formerly affiliated to Parnells in respect of transfer applications to Pobal Parnell.

(b) The Executive Committee shall examine all applications to transfer and it shall be satisfied that all the Rules and Bye-Laws are complied with before making its recommendation.

(c) Transfers out of the County shall be signed by the County Secretary. Such transfers out shall be notified to the County Committee and recorded in the Minutes.

18.2 No club shall receive more than seven transfers into it in any one season except in exceptional circumstances as decided by motion of the County Committee.

Adult Players transferring back to their home clubs after a spell abroad shall not be counted as one of the seven transfers. Only approved transfers for players who have participated in games at Under 15 or above shall count towards the limit of seven.

The limit of seven transfers shall not apply to players formerly affiliated to Parnells in respect of transfer applications to Pobal Parnell.

The transfer of a player or players who have not fielded for three years prior to their transfer shall not be counted as one of the seven transfers.

18.3 Transfers into Clubs with more than one team at Adult or in an underage category must be graded by the county Executive and approved by county board and transferees cannot join a team with a grade lower than her grade in her previous club, except were all the teams in her new club are at a lower grade

where she shall join the highest grade unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated.

18.4 Transfers into the County shall not become effective until passed by Dublin and the relevant Council [explanatory note: Transferees must be registered with their new club, even if a 'Nil' return is made]

18.5 Application to temporarily transfer [Official Sanction] to North America or Europe for the summer months shall be signed by the County Secretary and the County Committee so notified at its next meeting

19. Team Regrading

19.1 Applications for Team regrading for the following season which require consideration by National Regrading Committee shall be lodged with the County Secretary before the deadline for the November County Committee meeting.

19.2 For the purposes of these Bye-Laws and matters dealt with under Rule 128 (c) & (d) of the Official Guide the period referred to commences with the Annul Convention and expires at the end of the competitions following it.

Discipline

20. Discipline

20.1 Refer to LGFA CODA Rules

Inter County

21.1 The County colours and crest shall be those of the GAA

21.2 Inter county management teams shall follow the directions set down from time to time by the Executive committee [bye-Law 3.5(k)]. Each inter county management team shall consist of at least one Female Liaison Officer who shall be the 'point of Contact' between the panellists and management and one team administrator who shall provide secretarial expertise to the management and liaise on the day to day operation of the panel with the County Executive's officers.

21.3 Juvenile Inter County Panellists [player]shall be selected by

- a. notification by advertisement in writing to all clubs
- b. nomination from her club

c. a predetermined and advertised process which shall include feedback to the nominee's club where the panellist is unsuccessful

21.4. Selection for adult teams shall be at the discretion of the Management Team having taken advice from the Executive Committee.

Appendices

A: Calculation of Quorum:

Number of Affiliated Clubs x 3 Delegates + Elected Officers + Delegates to Councils (4) + any Council Officers within the County divided by 5 [and be inclusive of 3 Executive Committee Officers]

B: Rules of Debate:

Motions, Amendments, etc:

1. In all cases, a proposer should move the motion and it should have a seconder before any debate or decision is taken. Likewise, any subsidiary amendment should be proposed and seconded before debate commences. Thus, when the Chairperson closes the debate the vote can be taken directly.
2. Debate should be opened by the proposer and the seconder should speak next.

Incidental Motions – such as accepting the Minutes of the previous meeting, verifying the quorum, approving the finances and the like, are decided usually on a show of hands and are recorded.

Save for changes to the Bye-Laws, notice of which must be given at the meeting previous to that at which the motion is to be moved, Main Motions will be submitted to the Executive Committee before the deadlines indicated and will appear on the agenda. These may include proposals from the Executive

Committee to form a new Sub Committee, or from a Club to regrade a team.
These motions will usually involve a debate and may invite a subsidiary motion.

3. The subsidiary motion may take the form of an amendment which can be:
 - a. Inserting or adding words or paragraphs.
 - b. Striking out words or paragraphs.
 - c. Striking out words and inserting or adding others, or substituting an entire paragraph or complete motion for another
4. When the motion has been debated, it will be put to a vote
5. The Chairperson will:
 - Put the amended motion to the floor
 - If this is unsuccessful, the original motion will then be put without further debate and a vote taken.

If there is dissent during a debate, the Chairperson may decide and move:

- To table the motion – the original motion will be moved in the usual way without further debate and a vote taken.
- To postpone the decision – which should have a date for reconsideration
- To refer – which will go to a sub-committee or other person(s) for recommendation at a later date, which should be specified

Occasionally, a member or committee may bring an urgent matter to the County Committee which requires attention. By its nature, this will not appear on the agenda. In order to put this motion to the floor permission must be sought to move a 'privileged motion'. When this has been obtained, the usual format explained above will take place.