



Galway Masters
14th International Basketball
Tournament- 30th Oct – 1st Nov. '26

TEAM POOLS & RULES 2026.

Pool Games

Pool Tables will be used to determine the Finals /Play-Off make-up for Sunday

1. For Groups of 3 Teams , each Team will play a minimum of 2 pool games on the Friday / Saturday of the Tournament.
2. Each Team will play a minimum of 3 games over the weekend.
3. **In the Mens 40s, Womens 40s and Womens 50s, there are 8 teams which will consist of 2 Groups of Four Teams in each Age Group.** The pool stages will be played as a Round Robin Competition and on Sunday there will be a Cup and Plate Final for the 1st and 2nd placed team in each group.
4. **In the Mens 50s there are 10 teams -2 groups of 3 and one group of 4 teams.** In the pool stages each team plays two games (so in group of 4-teams will play two of the 3 other teams in the group). On Sunday there will be finals / playoff games to determine positions 1-10 overall.
5. **In the Womens s 55s, there are 4 teams.** The Competition will be played as a Round Robin with each team playing a minimum of 3 games. -The Competition Winner will be the top placed team .
6. **In the Mens 60s , there are 3 teams in Each Group and the group stages will be played as a Round Robin with each team playing 2 games.** On the Sunday 1st in each group plays for Cup, 2nd for Plate and 3rd for Bronze. All teams have 3 games overall
7. **In the Mens 65s, there are 4 teams and the Competition will be played as a Round robin with each team playing a minimum of 3 games.**
8. Sunday Fixtures are decided by pool position, pool points and where necessary, score difference. The Management Committee will have final say in finalising the Sunday Games Schedule.

9. Teams will be awarding 3 points for a win, 1 point for a loss and no points are awarded for a forfeit or default. If 2 teams are tied on league points then the result of the games involving the 2 teams will resolve the tie. If 3 teams are tied on league points, then a classification is set up which only takes account of the results of the tied teams. Overall, League Stage Positions are determined by points difference calculated for each team.
10. The Schedule of Games for the Sunday Playoffs / Finals will be distributed to Team Managers on Saturday Evening the 31st of October on completion of Saturday Game
11. **FRESH PLAYER RULE**:- Teams cannot add new players to their squad on **Sunday**. A player must be listed on Game Score sheet and attended on Friday or Saturday to be eligible to play on Sunday.

Playing Rules

12. All games will be played under FIBA rules with the following exceptions:
13. The organising committee's decisions are final in all matters and may change or alter any rule or regulation on the day to benefit the smooth running of the tournament.

Punctuality:

14. It is the team's responsibility to be warming up outside or at the side line at the half time stage of the previous game. Published times are the latest start time of the proposed start time but games may start earlier if time permits.
15. Failure by a Team to be ready to start a game on time can result in a default and the Game being awarded to the opposing team.

Game Timing

All Games **Must Be Completed** within the allocated **55 MINUTE Time Slot**.

- a) Each Game will consist of **4 No. 6- Minute Quarters**-
- b) The First Two Quarters are **Running Clock** with clock stopped ONLY for Free Shots and Time Outs
The 3rd & 4th Quarters are **STOP CLOCK**

- c) 2 No. Time-Outs permitted per Game – (Time-Out = 1 minute)
(One in 1st half and One in 2nd half)
- d) 3 Minute Warm Up before games & Half Time will be a maximum of 1 minutes
- e) All Games must be completed in the 55 MINUTE Time Slot. In the event of a game running late, **the Games Commissioner may make a decision to Run the Clock for a portion / all of the Third & Fourth Quarters**

Tied Games

- 16. In the event of a tied game, the five players ON THE COURT for each team will shoot one free throw each with the team scoring the most baskets being deemed winners. If the game is tied after each team has taken their free throws, the game will be decided on a sudden death shoot out with players taking free throws in the same order as the initial shoot out.

Fouls & Free Shots

- 17. Players will be disqualified after **4 Personal Fouls in any match.**
- 18. Teams will be in 'Team Foul' penalty in each Quarter, once they reach 5 team fouls.

SUNDAY –Play Off & Finals Day

- 19. The Schedule of Games for the Sunday Playoffs / Finals will be distributed to Team Managers on Saturday Evening the 31st of October 2026 on completion of all League Games

PLAYER ELEGIBILITY & CONDUCT

- 20. Players are ONLY permitted to play/register for **ONE TEAM in each Age Bracket Competition** within the Masters Tournament. (Players can play in different age brackets)

21. **Age Limits for the 2026 Tournament**

Men playing in the Men's 40's Tournament must be at least 40 by 31st of December 2026

Women playing in the Women's 40's Tournament must be at least 40 by 31st of December 2026, (Women's 40s Teams are permitted 2 over 35 players who must be 35 by the same date.)

Men & Women playing in the 50's Tournament must be at least 50 by 31st of December 2026.

Players in the Women's 55s Tournament must be at least 55 by the 31st of December 2026.

Players in Men's 60's must be at least 60 by 31st of December 2026.

Players in Men's 65's must be at least 65 by 31st of December 2026.

No Underage Players are permitted in any other age bracket other than Women's 40s where 2 No. Over 35 Players are permitted.

22. All Players must provide their Date of Birth if requested. Proof of age may be requested and the playing of underage players may result in immediate disqualification. (The organising committee is entitled to request proof of age from any team in the tournament)

23. In the event that a team is short of players, making them unable to continue to participate, the team can make representation to the Management Panel to request a relaxation of the Player Eligibility rule. This may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

24. It is expected that all players/ coaches conduct themselves in the spirit of master's basketball. Failure to so may incur disciplinary action. Galway Masters Basketball **WILL NOT Tolerate abuse of referees or officials** AND any such abuse will result in immediate player/coach disqualification & possibility of future ban on playing in GMBA tournaments.

25. If a player / coach/manager is ejected from a game for any of the following offences - accumulation of two technical fouls, fighting, unsportsmanlike fouls/ conduct or violent fouls, said person will be disqualified for the next game and depending on offence may be disqualified by the Management Panel for the remainder of the tournament and /or for Future Tournaments.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL REFEREES, TABLE OFFICIALS, VENUE MANAGERS AND HELPERS ARE VOLUNTEERS AND WE REQUEST THAT ALL VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS TREATED WITH RESPECT!!!

Management Panel

The Management Panel will consist of; Tournament Directors, Venue Manager & GMBA Committee & will resolve all matters referred to it, which are not covered by the Tournament Rules, whether they are operational, disciplinary, or management matters.



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