



Galway Community Pride Festival Constitution



1. Name

Galway Community Pride Festival

2. Vision Statement

Galway Community Pride Festival aims to reflect equally the diversity within the LGBT+ community by encouraging positive participation from the community in the Galway Community Pride Festival committee and events.

3. Aims

To ensure the committee reflects the LGBT+ community, works in an effective manner and is both transparent and accountable.

To organise an accessible and safe Galway Community Pride festival.

To source funding for the future development of the Galway Community Pride Festival through grant applications and fundraising events.

To highlight issues relevant to the LGBT+ community through the Galway Community Pride Festival.

4. Membership

The membership is open to LGBT+ people or those working with the LGBT+ community and who are interesting in organising Pride festivals.

The committee shall consist of a minimum of seven (7) members and a maximum of fifteen (15).

The committee membership will aim to reflect a gender balance and representation from all strands of the LGBT+ community.

If a committee member misses three consecutive meetings without an apology then the member may be deemed no longer a member of the committee.

New members may be brought onto the committee at any time but must be proposed and seconded by existing committee members.

Members will be required to sign up the voluntary agreement and abide by the ground rules and policies and procedures of the committee and be committed to promote its aims and values.

Committee members who do not adhere to this constitution will no longer be deemed a member of the committee.

5. Officers

The committee will have three key officer positions – Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

Additional officers may be elected as required by the committee such as a PRO.

6. Meetings

No decision can be made at committee meetings where a quorum is not present. A quorum is made up of 50% of the committee plus one.

A minimum of six (6) committee meetings will be held each year including the Annual General Meeting.

The committee aims to hold at least one general meeting each year with the wider LGBT+ community.



7. Decision Making

The committee will endeavour to reach a consensus on decisions. In the event of this not happening decision will be taken by a majority vote.

Voting will be open.

Each committee member, bar the chairperson, is entitled to one vote. The member must be present to vote.

In the event of a tied vote the chairperson will have the casting vote.

8. Annual General Meeting – AGM

The committee will hold an AGM each year.

Notice will be given to the wider LGBT+ community at least 21 days in advance in writing, which will include the time, date and venue of the AGM.

All of the committee will step down at each AGM, but will be eligible for re-election, subject to a maximum of five years consecutive service.

All officers who have served for three consecutive years may not be re-elected into the same office but may be re-elected into another office, subject to a maximum of five years in consecutive service.

9. Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) will be called in cases where changes are to be made to the constitution of where there is misconduct on the part of a member or officer.

An EGM may be called by submitting the reason for the EGM to the chairperson and/or secretary in a letter signed by not fewer than three members of the committee.

In such an event the committee will be obligated to organise an EGM within ten days. This task may be designated to the chairperson or secretary.

10. Amendment to Constitution

A proposal to amend the constitution may be made by the committee, any individual member of the committee or any three members (not being committee members) of the organisation.

The proposal will be placed in the AGM or EGM Agenda of the Organisation. The amendment will be deemed effective if passed by a two thirds majority of the meeting.

11. Sub-Groups

Sub-groups such as a finance sub-group; a PRO sub-group will be set up by the committee. These sub-groups will operate out of be guided by a Terms of Reference ratified by the committee.

Sub-groups can consist of the membership from outside the committee. The sub-groups will always be chaired by a member of the committee.

Each sub-group will be required to keep minutes of the meetings and provide a written report to the committee after each sub-group meeting.

The committee may set up or disband sub-groups or working groups as required.

12. Links to regional/national structures

The committee may participate in relevant national and regional structures.



13. Financial Accountability

The committee will cause proper books of accounts to be kept according to the Financial Policy of the Galway Community Pride Festival.

14. Dissolution of the Committee

The Galway Community Pride Festival committee may only be dissolved by a special meeting called for that purpose. Such a meeting shall come about following a proposal in writing signed by a simple majority of those remaining on the committee being submitted to the secretary.

All members shall be informed, in writing, of such a meeting at least 21 days before the date of the meeting.

Dissolution of the committee shall only take effect if agreed by two thirds of the members present and voting at that meeting.

Any assets remaining, after meeting liabilities, must be distributed among local LGBT+ community groups with similar aims of the Galway Community Pride Festival committee. These groups will be nominated during the meeting.

Any money received via funding bodies should be returned to the funders in relation to the funding criteria.

On dissolution, any documents belonging to the committee shall be disposed of in a manner agreed by that meeting.

15. Disciplinary Procedures

A proposal to expel a member of the committee may be made in the event of:

The committee member acting in a manner contrary to the vision and values, aims and objectives of the Galway Community Pride Festival committee.

Persistent non-attendance at committee meetings or sub-group meetings.

Misuse of funds.

Misconduct including:

- Breaching the rules of the constitution
- Offensive, abusive behaviour

In the event of member being removed from committee due to misconduct that person will not be entitled to stand in an election of officers for a minimum of two years.

16. Agreement

Each member of the committee or sub-group, whether elected at an AGM, EGM or committee meeting, will be expected to sign a copy of this constitution and agree to abide by, uphold and act in accordance with the constitution of the Galway Community Pride Festival committee.

Name _____

Signed _____