



2021 CHAPTER 7

PART 2

REGISTRATION OF CLUBS

Extension of premises

Sporting clubs

28.—(1) In Part 1 of the Registration of Clubs Order (registration of clubs), after Article 15 insert—

“Extension authorisations

Extension authorisations for sporting clubs

15A.—(1) On the application of the secretary of a sporting club, the district commander for the police district in which the premises of the club are situated may, in writing, authorise the extension of the area of the premises in respect of which the club is registered.

(2) An authorisation under this Article authorises the club to hold a function at which intoxicating liquor may be supplied in the area of the premises to which the authorisation applies to members of the club, and guests of members of the club, who are present at the function (with Article 30 applying in relation to the function accordingly).

(3) An authorisation under this Article authorises the supply of intoxicating liquor during the permitted hours on the day or days specified in the authorisation; but the number of days so specified—

- (a) may exceed one only if the district commander is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which justify granting an authorisation for more than one day; and
- (b) in a case where the district commander is so satisfied, must not exceed 5.

(4) A district commander may refuse an application for the grant of an authorisation under this Article only if the district commander is satisfied that the function is likely to attract people in such numbers that it would not be practicable to accommodate them in the premises in respect of which the club is registered.

(5) An application for an authorisation under this Article must be accompanied by a plan showing the area of the proposed extension.

(6) Not more than 6 authorisations may be granted under this Article to any club in any year.

(7) Regulations may modify paragraph (6) so as to substitute a different number of authorisations for the number for the time being specified there.

(8) In the case of a sporting club in respect of which an authorisation under this Article has effect, a reference in this Order to the premises of the club includes, in relation to any time at which the authorisation has effect, a reference to the area to which the authorisation applies.

(9) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (7) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

(2) In Article 2 of the Registration of Clubs Order (interpretation), in paragraph (2), in the definition of “sporting club”, at the end insert “and, in the case of a sporting club in respect of which an authorisation under Article 15A has effect, a reference to the premises of the club is to be construed in accordance with paragraph (8) of that Article”.

(3) In Article 3 of the Registration of Clubs Order (restriction on supply etc. of intoxicating liquor on club premises), at the end of paragraph (1) insert “or unless the supply or consumption is authorised in accordance with Article 15A”.

Alterations to premises

Consent required for alterations to premises

29.—(1) After Article 12 of the Registration of Clubs Order insert—

“Alterations to club premises

Consent required for certain alterations to premises

12A.—(1) An alteration shall not, subject to paragraph (2), be made to the premises of a registered club if the alteration—

- (a) gives increased facilities for drinking in any part of the premises which contains a bar; or
- (b) adds to any part of the premises which contains a bar or substitutes one such part of the premises for another; or
- (c) conceals from observation a part of the premises in which intoxicating liquor is supplied; or
- (d) affects the means of passage between a part of the premises which contains a bar and the remainder of the premises or any road or other public place.

(2) An alteration such as is mentioned in paragraph (1) may be made if—

- (a) an application under this Article has been made by the secretary of the club to a county court and the court has made an order consenting to the alteration; or
- (b) the alteration is required by order of some lawful authority and, before the alteration is made, notice of the requirement is served by the secretary of the club on the clerk of petty sessions.

(3) The procedure for applications under paragraph (2)(a) is set out in Part 1 of Schedule 4A, and Part 2 of that Schedule has effect in relation to notices under paragraph (2)(b).

(4) If an alteration such as is mentioned in paragraph (1) is made to premises otherwise than in accordance with an order of the county court or an order of some lawful authority, a court of summary jurisdiction may order the registered club to restore, as far as is practicable, the premises to their original condition within a period fixed by the order.

(5) The period fixed by an order under paragraph (4) may be extended by order of a court of summary jurisdiction on the application of the secretary of the club.

(6) If paragraph (2)(b) is not complied with, the registered club and every official of the club are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(7) If the registered club makes default in complying with an order under paragraph (4), the club and every official of the club are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(8) This Article does not apply to an extension such as requires authorisation under Article 15A.”.

(2) After Schedule 4 to the Registration of Clubs Order insert—

“SCHEDULE 4A

APPLICATIONS AND NOTICES UNDER ARTICLE 12A

PART 1

APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT TO ALTERATIONS

1. In this Part “application” means an application under Article 12A(2)(a).
2. The secretary of a club which intends to make an application must, not less than 3 weeks before the time of the opening of the court sitting at which the application is to be made, serve notice of the application upon the chief clerk and at the same time serve a copy of the notice upon—
 - (a) the district commander for the police district in which the premises of the club are situated; and
 - (b) the person whose name is recorded in the register of clubs as the owner of the premises of the club.
3. The notice mentioned in paragraph 2 must be in such form and, without prejudice to paragraph 4, must contain such other information as may be prescribed by county court rules.
4. The applicant must attach a plan of the premises showing the alteration to—
 - (a) the notice mentioned in paragraph 2, and
 - (b) the copy of that notice which is served upon the district commander.
5. The district commander upon whom notice is required by paragraph 2 to be served or the person whose name is recorded in the register of clubs as the owner of the premises of the club may appear at the hearing of the application and object to the court consenting to the alteration to which the application relates.
6. A person intending to object under paragraph 5 must, not less than 1 week before the time of the opening of the court sitting at which the application is to be made—
 - (a) serve upon the applicant notice of the intention to object, briefly stating the grounds for so doing;
 - (b) serve a copy of the notice upon the chief clerk.

PART 2

NOTICES OF ALTERATIONS REQUIRED BY AUTHORITIES

7. The notice must be in such form and, without prejudice to paragraph 8, must contain such other information as may be prescribed by magistrates' courts rules.

8.—(1) The secretary of the club must attach to the notice a plan of the premises showing the proposed alterations.

(2) The alterations shown in the plan mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) must be authenticated by or on behalf of the authority in question in the manner prescribed by magistrates' courts rules."

(3) In Article 16 of the Registration of Clubs Order (register of clubs), in paragraph (2), after paragraph (d) insert—

“(da) particulars of any order made under Article 12A(2)(a), (4) or (5) in respect of the premises of the club and of any requirement in respect of those premises notice of which is served under Article 12A(2)(b);”.

(4) In Part 3 of Schedule 6 to that Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 5 fine) at the appropriate place insert—

“12A(7)	Failure to comply with court order to make alterations etc.	5-6”
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Permitted hours

Removal of additional restrictions at Easter

30.—(1) In Article 24 of the Registration of Clubs Order (general permitted hours), in paragraph (1)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (a), omit “Good Friday or”, and
- (b) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”.

(2) In paragraph (2) of that Article—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (a)(i), omit “Good Friday or”,
- (b) omit sub-paragraph (a)(ii), and
- (c) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”.

(3) In Article 25 of the Registration of Clubs Order (consumption of liquor after permitted hours), omit sub-paragraph (b) and the preceding “or”.

(4) In Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (authorisations for special occasions), in paragraph (3), omit “, Easter Day or Good Friday”.

Removal of restrictions on late opening on Sunday

31.—(1) In Article 24 of the Registration of Clubs Order (general permitted hours), in paragraph (1)—

(a) after sub-paragraph (a) and the following “and” insert—

“(aa) on Sundays other than Christmas Day, from half past 12 in the afternoon to 11 in the evening; and”, and

(b) in sub-paragraph (c), omit “Sunday or”.

(2) In Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (authorisations for special occasions), in paragraph (1)(a), for paragraphs (ii) and (iii) (but not the “or” following paragraph (iii)) substitute—

“(ii) on Sundays, from 11 in the evening to 1 in the morning of the day next following.”.

Extension of “drinking-up time”

32.—(1) In Article 25 of the Registration of Clubs Order (consumption after permitted hours of liquor supplied during those hours), the text of which becomes paragraph (1), in sub-paragraph (a), for “30 minutes” substitute “60 minutes”.

(2) After paragraph (1) of that Article insert—

“(2) Regulations may modify paragraph (1)(a) so as to substitute “30 minutes” for “60 minutes”.

(3) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (2) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

Increase in number of authorisations for special occasions

33.—(1) In Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (authorisation for special occasions), in paragraph (2), for “85” substitute “104”.

(2) After paragraph (2) of that Article insert—

“(2A) Regulations may modify paragraph (2) so as to substitute a different number of authorisations for the number for the time being specified there.

(2B) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (2A) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

(3) After paragraph (4) of that Article insert—

“(5) A person who intends to make an application under this Article shall—

- (a) during the 3 weeks before the first occasion to which the application relates, cause notice of the application to be displayed on or near the premises of the club;
 - (b) not less than 3 weeks before that time, serve a copy of the notice of the application on the district council for the district in which the premises of the club are situated.
- (6) The notice under paragraph (5) must contain such information as may be prescribed by magistrates' courts rules.
- (7) The following provisions of this Article apply where a complaint is made to a court of summary jurisdiction under Part 8 of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 on the grounds—
- (a) that the business carried on in the premises of the club is being conducted during the hours mentioned in paragraph (1) or any period immediately following their termination in such a manner as to cause undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises; or
 - (b) that such hours are causing undue inconvenience to persons residing in the vicinity of the premises.
- (8) Where the court is satisfied that the grounds of the complaint are made out, it may—
- (a) revoke the authorisation; or
 - (b) modify the authorisation or, in relation to the authorisation, the hours mentioned in paragraph (1); or
 - (c) make the continuance of the authorisation subject to such terms and conditions as the court thinks fit.
- (9) The terms and conditions which may be imposed under paragraph (8) (c) include those requested by the district commander of the police district in which the premises of the club are situated.”.

Major events

34.—(1) After Article 26 of the Registration of Clubs Order (but before the following cross-heading), insert—

“Major event orders

Extension of permitted hours for major events

26A.—(1) Where the Department considers that an event which is to take place in Northern Ireland will attract significant public interest (whether throughout Northern Ireland or in certain areas only), it may make an order (a “major event order”) which—

- (a) designates the event as a major event, and
- (b) provides that, during the period specified in the order, the permitted hours for registered clubs to which the order applies are the hours specified in the order.

(2) A major event order may apply to all registered clubs in Northern Ireland as a whole or in the area or areas specified.

(3) In specifying an area for the purposes of paragraph (2), a major event order may in particular do so by reference to the place or premises at which the event is to take place or the area in the vicinity of the place or premises.

(4) A major event order may impose conditions.

(5) The Department may vary or revoke a major event order; and the circumstances in which it may revoke an order include, in a case where the period specified under paragraph (1)(b) includes two or more days, circumstances in which it considers it necessary to do so because of disorder, or expected disorder, at or in the vicinity of the place or premises at which the event is taking place.

(6) The period specified in a major event order may not include Christmas Day.

(7) The hours specified in a major event order have effect in addition to the hours permitted by any authorisation under Article 26 which applies to a registered club to which the major event order applies.

(8) A major event order may make consequential, incidental or supplementary provision (including provision which modifies provisions of this Order for the purpose of giving effect to the major event order).

(9) Before making a major event order, the Department must consult such persons as it considers appropriate.

(10) Any person acting in contravention of a condition imposed by a major event order is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Article 2 of the Registration of Clubs Order (interpretation), in paragraph (2), in the definition of “permitted hours”, for “Article 26” substitute “Articles 26 and 26A”.

(3) In Part 1 of Schedule 6 to the Registration of Clubs Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine) at the appropriate place insert—

“26A(10)	Contravening condition of major event order	3-4”
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Young people in registered clubs

Removal of requirement for children’s certificate, etc.

35.—(1) Article 33 of, and Schedule 5 to, the Registration of Clubs Order (children’s certificates) are repealed.

(2) In Article 32 of that Order (young persons prohibited from bars), in paragraph (4)—

- (a) after “is in a part of club premises” insert “as mentioned in paragraph (1)”,
- (b) omit sub-paragraph (b) and the following “and”,
- (c) after sub-paragraph (c) (but before the following “and”) insert “and
 - (ca) the person under the age of 18 is in the premises at a time when meals, and beverages suitable for persons under that age (including drinking water), are also available for consumption on the premises;”, and
- (d) in sub-paragraph (d), for “the certificate is operational” substitute “the person under the age of 18 is not in the premises in the evening at any time after 9”.

(3) In paragraph (5) of that Article—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (a), for “before the certificate ceased to be operational” substitute “before 9 in the evening”, and
- (b) for sub-paragraph (b) substitute—
 - “(b) the person under the age of 18 is not in the premises in the evening at any time after half past 9.”.

(4) Omit paragraphs (6), (7) and (8) of that Article.

(5) In paragraph (9) of that Article—

- (a) for “, (3), (6) or (8)” substitute “or (3)”,
- (b) in sub-paragraph (a), omit “or (6)”, and
- (c) in sub-paragraph (b), omit “or (8)”.

(6) In each of paragraphs (10) and (11) of that Article, omit “or (7)”.

(7) In Article 34A of the Registration of Clubs Order (duty to display notice relating to age), in paragraph (3)(a), after “intoxicating liquor” insert “or in relation to offences concerning the presence of such persons in club premises”.

Underage functions

36.—(1) After Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order insert—

“Authorisation for underage functions

32A.—(1) On the application of the secretary of a registered club, the district commander for the police district in which the club is situated may, in writing, grant an authorisation under this Article.

(2) An authorisation under this Article may authorise the club to hold an underage function—

- (a) in such part of the club premises as is specified in the authorisation, and
- (b) on the day so specified during such hours as are so specified ending no later than 1 in the morning of the next day.

(3) In this Article, “underage function” means a function which is designed to appeal to persons under the age of 18 in particular.

(4) A district commander must not grant an authorisation under this Article unless the district commander is satisfied that suitable arrangements are in place for securing that persons under the age of 18 attending the function do not have access to any part of the premises which is used for the supply, consumption or storage of intoxicating liquor.

(5) It is a condition of an authorisation under this Article that, during the period for which the authorisation is in force—

- (a) each dispenser of intoxicating liquor at a bar in the part of the club premises for which the authorisation is in force must be incapable of operation, and
- (b) access to any other container of intoxicating liquor in that part must be prevented.

(6) If the condition in paragraph (5) is contravened, the registered club and every official of the club at the time of the contravention are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(7) A registered club must not, during the period for which an authorisation under this Article is in force—

- (a) supply intoxicating liquor to a person aged 18 or over in the part of the premises in which the authorisation is in force; or
- (b) permit a person aged 18 or over to consume intoxicating liquor in the part of the premises in which the authorisation is in force.

(8) If paragraph (7) is contravened—

- (a) the registered club;
- (b) every official of the club at the time of the contravention; and
- (c) the person supplying the intoxicating liquor or, as the case may be, permitting the consumption of the intoxicating liquor,

are each guilty of an offence and each liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(9) A person aged 18 or over who consumes intoxicating liquor in a part of club premises for which an authorisation under this Article is in force is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order (prohibition on young persons from bars), in paragraph (13), after sub-paragraph (c) insert “; or

(d) in a part of club premises for which an authorisation under Article 32A is in force or during the first 30 minutes after the authorisation has ceased to be in force.”.

(3) In Part 1 of Schedule 6 to that Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

“32A(6) or (8)	Contravening conditions on 3-4” access to intoxicating liquor; supplying intoxicating liquor to, or permitting consumption of it by, a person aged 18 or over during underage function
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(4) In Article 106 of the Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (use of gaming machines in registered clubs), after paragraph (7) insert—

“(7A) No gaming machine shall be made available in any premises mentioned in paragraph (1) for which an authorisation under Article 32A of the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (underage functions) is in force during the period for which it is in force.”.

Private functions

37. In Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order (young persons prohibited from bars), after paragraph (3) insert—

“(3A) Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply with respect to a person under the age of 18 who is in a part of club premises as mentioned in paragraph (1) in the evening at any time after 9 if—

(a) a private function is being held in that part of the club premises (and, accordingly, other members or guests of other members do not have access to that part of the premises while the function is being held);

- (b) the person under 18 is attending the function in the company either of a parent of that person or of a parent of another person who is under 18 and attending the function;
- (c) a meal consisting of at least a main course is being served at the function; and
- (d) the person under 18 does not consume any part of the meal at a counter or structure which is being used wholly or mainly as a bar.

(3B) In its application to a sporting club, paragraph (3A) has effect as if the reference to any time after 9 were a reference to any time after 10.

(3C) In paragraph (3A), “parent”, in relation to a person under the age of 18, includes any individual who—

- (a) has parental responsibility for that person (within the meaning of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995), or
- (b) has care for that person.”.

Young people prohibited from bars

38.—(1) In Article 32(13) of the Registration of Clubs Order (young persons prohibited from bars), in sub-paragraph (a), for “during the part of the permitted hours before 10 in the evening” substitute “—

- (i) on a day in the period that begins on and includes 1 May and ends on and includes 30 September, during the permitted hours or, if by virtue of Article 26 the permitted hours continue after 11 in the evening, during the part of the permitted hours before that time;
- (ii) on a day not in the period mentioned in paragraph (i) if solely for the purpose of attending a prize-giving ceremony, during the permitted hours or, if by virtue of Article 26 the permitted hours continue after 11 in the evening, during the part of the permitted hours before that time;
- (iii) on any other day to which neither paragraph (i) nor paragraph (ii) applies, during the part of the permitted hours before 10 in the evening;”.

(2) In Article 32 of that Order, in paragraph (13)(b), for “10 in the evening” substitute “the time in the evening provided for under sub-paragraph (a)”.

(3) In that Article, after paragraph (13) insert—

“(13A) In the case of a sporting club at which more than one prize-giving ceremony is held in a calendar year, paragraph (13)(a)(ii) has effect only for the purpose of allowing persons under the age of 18 to attend up to three such ceremonies in the club premises in that calendar year in reliance on that provision.”.

(4) In that Article, in paragraph (14), for “10 in the evening” substitute “the time in the evening provided for under paragraph (13)(a)”.

(5) In that Article, after paragraph (14) insert—

“(15) Regulations may modify paragraph (13)(a)(i) so as to substitute a different period for the period for the time being specified there.

(16) Regulations may modify paragraph (13A) so as to substitute a different number of prize-giving ceremonies for the number for the time being specified there.

(17) Regulations may not be made under paragraph (15) or (16) unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.”.

Conduct of registered clubs

Prohibition on self-service and supply by vending machines

39.—(1) Before Article 32 of the Registration of Clubs Order (and the preceding cross-heading) insert—

“Self-service and vending machines

Prohibition on self-service and supply by vending machines

31C.—(1) A registered club must not supply intoxicating liquor for consumption in the club premises in a form which would enable the member or guest to whom it is supplied (or a member or guest that person is with) to operate the dispenser of the liquor.

(2) A registered club must not supply by means of a vending machine in the club premises intoxicating liquor for consumption in the premises.

(3) The activities prohibited by this Article include making intoxicating liquor available for consumption in the premises of a registered club which, in the absence of an official, manager or servant employed in the club, members or guests are trusted by the committee of management or governing body of the club—

(a) to pay for by placing money in a container, or by some other process, which the club has provided for that purpose, or

(b) to agree to pay for by recording by a process which the club has provided for that purpose the intoxicating liquor appropriated.

(4) If paragraph (1) or (2) is contravened the registered club is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”.

(2) In Part 1 of Schedule 6 to the Registration of Clubs Order (penalty points for offences punishable with level 3 fine), at the appropriate place insert—

“31C(4)	Supplying intoxicating liquor 3-4” in a form which enables self-service or by means of vending machine
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Restrictions relating to advertisements

40.—(1) In Article 38 of the Registration of Clubs Order (restrictions on advertisements), in paragraph (1), for the words from “no person shall” to “the premises of a registered club” substitute “any advertisement drawing attention to any function to be held in the premises of a registered club must include a clear statement to the effect that the function may be attended only by members of the club and guests of members of the club;”.

(2) For paragraph (2) of that Article substitute—

“(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to an advertisement in so far as it relates to a function the whole proceeds of which are, after deduction of the expenses of the function, to be devoted to charitable or benevolent purposes.”.

Miscellaneous

Code of practice

41.—(1) At the beginning of Part 5 of the Registration of Clubs Order (miscellaneous) insert—

“Code of practice

Code of practice

41K.—(1) Where a person or group of persons which the Department considers to have a relevant interest produces a relevant code of practice, the Department may approve the code.

(2) A person or group has a “relevant interest” if the person or group—

- (a) is representative of registered clubs, or
- (b) is representative of persons whose business involves the production of intoxicating liquor, or
- (c) is representative of persons whose business involves dealing wholesale in intoxicating liquor, or
- (d) is engaged in research into, or otherwise has an interest in, the effects of the consumption of intoxicating liquor on personal or public health or on public order.

(3) A code of practice is relevant if it relates to the display or supply, or activities designed to promote the supply or consumption, of intoxicating liquor in registered clubs.

(4) Where the Department approves a relevant code of practice, it must give notice of its approval in the Belfast Gazette.

(5) Before deciding whether to approve a relevant code of practice, the Department must consult the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

(6) Where a person or group of the kind referred to in paragraph (1) amends a relevant code of practice, the Department may approve the amendments; and paragraphs (4) and (5) apply in relation to approving an amendment as they apply in relation to approving a code, unless the Department does not consider the amendment significant enough for those paragraphs to apply.

(7) The Department may withdraw its approval of a relevant code or of an amendment to it; and paragraphs (4) and (5) apply in relation to withdrawing approval of a code or amendment as they apply in relation to approving it.”.

(2) In Article 5(5) of the Registration of Clubs Order (grant of registration: matters of which court must be satisfied), after sub-paragraph (i) insert “; and

(j) that each of the officials of the club is aware of the responsibilities under any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 41K (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval).”.

(3) In Article 7(4) of the Registration of Clubs Order (renewal of registration by clerk of petty sessions: grounds for clerk to refer to court), after sub-paragraph (b) (but before the following “or”) insert “or

(ba) the clerk is not satisfied that the applicant has been complying with any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 41K (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval).”.

(4) In Article 8(3) of the Registration of Clubs Order (renewal of registration: matters of which court must be satisfied), after sub-paragraph (d) insert “; and

(e) that each of the officials of the club is aware of the responsibilities under, and has been complying with, any code of practice which the Department has approved under Article 41K (and from which it has not withdrawn its approval).”.