**Policy:**

**For reasons of Safety and Security it is GAA policy that small unmanned aircraft also known as drones should not be used during any live events such as matches or concerts. The use of such aircraft is strictly excluded under the GAA Liability Insurance program.**

**Risks**

* Loss of control of the drone over spectators
* Loss of control of the drone over or near a structure or building.
* Potential disruption to the sporting event, and possible consequences of that disruption.
* Potential terrorist activity.

**Action in the case of a drone intrusion**

* Gathering evidence of use of drones within the ground through CCTV, photographs etc.
* Asking stewards and staff outside the ground to remain vigilant, and if appropriate look for the operator (many devices have to be operated within a 100m radius).
* Advising staff on actions to take whilst the drone is within the stadium, which may include providing reassurance to spectators and continuing with existing duties.
* Identifying staff to monitor the drone’s activity from different locations to enable quick reaction to any potential issues.
* Considering communication with spectators via PA system, for example around authorised or unauthorised activity, reassurance messages etc.
* Considering whether any ancillary activity is due to take place that may affect the drone, for example pyrotechnics.
* Informing Gardaí and the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) or the Police Service for NI (PSNI) and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).
* Considering what other contingency plans might be required or affected should an incident occur.

**Further information:**

[*Small Unmanned Aircraft (Drones) and Rockets Order S.I. 563 of 2015*](https://www.iaa.ie/docs/default-source/publications/statutory-instruments-(orders)/small-unmanned-aircraft-(drones)-and-rockets-order-s-i-563-of-2015.pdf?sfvrsn=2)

*Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (Green Guide) Sixth Edition 2018*

*GAA National Health & Safety Committee*

*GAA Liability Insurance Policy Schedule 2018 – 2019*