



## **Gasógaíocht Bródúil**

Guidelines for Scouters & Scout Groups  
participating in Pride

**Pride Events Coordinator**

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## Bród in Éireann/Pride in Ireland

### What is Pride?

Pride is a celebration of LGBTQIA+ identity. Held in towns and counties throughout the country, Pride celebrations generally consist of a **parade**, a **community market** or 'Pride Village', and a variety of **events** in local venues.

- **Parades:** These are the heart of most Pride celebrations. Their length is dependent on the size of the town they are being held in but are generally comparable to a St. Patrick's Day parade. Some larger Prides require you to register ahead of time.
- **Community Markets/Pride Villages/Family Fun Days:** like a Christmas market, these consist of stalls and different forms of entertainment (e.g. music, crafts). Usually the hub of any Pride, a parade may finish with a Pride Village. Consider running a stall to reach out to new members locally!
- **Other Events:** Pride celebrations can go over a period of days, and so other events in local venues are organised. Although many of these have age restrictions, some Prides are known to have a youth sub-committee holding events for young people. If your local Pride doesn't have one, consider reaching out to their committee to help facilitate youth-orientated events!



## A Brief History of Pride in Ireland

Inspired by the Stonewall Rebellion in 1969, public demonstrations in Ireland began in 1974 in Dublin. 1983 saw the first established Pride in Dublin. Northern Irish Gay Rights Association (NIGRA) sent delegations to London Pride until establishing their own in 1991.<sup>1</sup> Some important milestones for LGBTQIA+ rights are, but are not limited to:

- Decriminalisation of Homosexuality (1993).<sup>2</sup>
- Civil Partnerships Act (2010).<sup>3</sup>
- Marriage Equality (2015).<sup>4</sup>
- Gender Recognition Act (2015).<sup>5</sup>

Ireland was the first country in the world to legislate marriage equality.



Thomas O'Shea, Irish Queer Archive/National Library of Ireland.

BeLonG To was established in 2003 and began as a youth movement in Pride that has allowed young people to express themselves openly in ways that they were not able to before.<sup>6</sup> In the North of Ireland, Cara-Friend has offered youth services to sexual and gender minority youth since 1974.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 'The History of Pride in Ireland', Story Maps, 2021.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/df083b34c03f4f52ac166adcb60a871a>

<sup>2</sup> 'Marking 30 years since the decriminalisation of homosexuality', Oireachtas, 2023.

<https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/press-centre/news-and-features/20231206-marking-30-years-since-the-decriminalisation-of-homosexuality-with-brod-93-23/>

<sup>3</sup> 'Civil Partnerships Act', Irish Statute Book, 2010.

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2010/act/24/enacted/en/html>.

<sup>4</sup> 'Marriage Equality Act', Irish Statute Book, 2015.

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/35/enacted/en/html>

<sup>5</sup> 'Gender Recognition Act', Irish Statute Book, 2015.

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/25/enacted/en/html>

<sup>6</sup> 'Who We Are', BeLonG To, 2026. <https://www.belongto.org/about/who-we-are/>

<sup>7</sup> 'About Cara Friend', Cara-Friend, 2026. <https://cara-friend.org.uk/about/>

## Scouting Ireland and Pride

Scouts participate in Pride celebrations all over the world. Attending your local Pride as a Scout Group offers our youth members and Scouters the opportunity to express themselves and show their support for their fellow Scouts.

In 2011 a National Council was held, where a proposal to amend our constitution was put forward. This acknowledged that membership of Scouting Ireland should be open to any young person or adult, regardless of their sexual orientation. The motion was passed with overwhelming support. The constitution as of now reads:

*“Open to all without distinction of origin, race, creed, gender, sexual orientation, or ability”.<sup>8</sup>*

It became apparent that, despite best intentions, we’re not always prepared for or unaware of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression, Sexual Characteristics (SOGIESC) best practices to adequately meet the needs of our LGBTQIA+ members. The following years saw an effort to assemble an LGBT Fellowship Patrol within Scouting Ireland to participate in BeLonG To’s youth block of Dublin Pride. Over 300 young people attended, Scouts among them.

As Pride celebrations continue to crop up all over the country we, as Scouts in Ireland, can participate in Pride at group, county and national levels. This guide aims to raise awareness and encourage you to join in the fun!



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<sup>8</sup>‘Scouting Fundamentals: Constitution’, Gasóga na hÉireann, 2022. pp. 27.

<https://www.irelandscouts.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Policy-SIDCR01-Constitution-of-Scouting-Ireland-v2209.pdf>



## Terminology

Below is a non-exhaustive list of terms which you may encounter. **Many of these may intersect in ways that do not invalidate others. Terms of gender and sexuality are social constructs and labels do not fully encompass their fluidity.**

### LGBTQIA+

LGBTQIA+ is the acronym most commonly used in Irish legislation or published work. It stands for:

- **Lesbian:** Woman attracted to another woman.
- **Gay:** Man attracted to another man.
- **Bisexual:** Attracted to two or more genders. Related terms are:
  - **Pansexual:** Attracted to people regardless of their gender.
  - **Polysexual:** Attracted to various different genders.
- **Trans/Transgender:** The umbrella term for people whose gender identity and assigned sex don't align. Related terms are:
  - **Non-Binary:** An umbrella term covering gender identities outside of the gender binaries of male or female.
  - **Genderfluid/Fluid:** Someone whose gender identity changes over time. Pronouns may shift also.
  - **Genderqueer/Gender Non-Conforming:** Term describing when someone's gender fits outside the gender binary in some way.
  - **Agender:** Someone whose gender doesn't align with any known gender.
- **Queer:** An umbrella term for people who fall anywhere under the acronym. Since being reclaimed many prefer the accessibility and flexibility of it.
- **Questioning:** A term for those who may be queer in some way but have not come out to themselves or others.
- **Intersex:** An umbrella term describing variations of sex characteristics outside of binary medical definitions of sex. Can be apparent at birth, puberty, or chromosomally.
- **Asexual:** An umbrella term describing when someone is disinterested or averse to sex in some way. It can be a rejection or an indifference. Related terms are:
  - **Demisexual:** A more flexible term for asexuality that can refer to sexual attraction only when an emotional connection/bond is made.
  - **Aromantic:** This term refers to when someone is disinterested or averse to romance.
  - You may come across the abbreviation **aroace** referring to both asexuality and aromanticism.
- **Plus:** referring to various other identities.

**Assigned Sex:**

Designating a person as either male or female at birth, based on sex characteristics. Commonly referred to as **AFAB** (Assigned Female at Birth) and **AMAB** (Assigned Male at Birth).

**Cis/Cisgender:**

A person whose gender identity aligns with their assigned sex at birth.

**Deadname:**

A commonly used term amongst TIN people to refer to the name they were given at birth and have since stopped using. Respecting our trans members' names is crucial to their inclusion in scouts. You may also hear the terms **birth name** or **former name**.

**Coming Out:**

The act of announcing one's queer identity when they feel ready and safe to do so.

**Gender:**

The specific societal and cultural characteristics which define men, women, and non-binary people. Includes: social norms, behaviours, and the societal notions of what is considered masculine, feminine or androgynous.

**Gender Expression:**

The visual manifestations of gender identity. Examples of gender expression are: mannerism & social behaviours, how one dresses/accessorises, how they may style their hair, and if they wear makeup. Gender in society is coded as either masculine or feminine, changes with time, and varies culture to culture.

**Gender Identity:**

A personal sense of self in regard to their gender, whether male, female or non-binary. May not correspond with someone's assigned sex. Not a visual manifestation like gender expression.

**Gender Dysphoria:**

The psychological distress of your gender and sex not aligning, or the feeling of being perceived. Many but not all TIN people experience gender dysphoria.

**Pronouns:**

Personal identifiers rather than using someone's name (e.g. **she/her**, **he/him**, and **they/them**). Consider an icebreaker activity where youth members in your group introduce themselves and say their pronouns.

**Sex Characteristics:**

Biological and anatomical traits corresponding to a person's sex. This includes: genitalia, reproductive organs, chromosomes, hormone levels, and secondary characteristics (e.g. voice, body hair).

**Sexuality:**

The sexual feelings, thoughts, attractions, and behaviour someone may have towards other people.

**SOGIESC:**

The acronym used for inclusivity best practice. It stands for: [Sexual Orientation](#), [Gender Identity](#) or [Expression](#) and [Sexual Characteristics](#).

**TIN:**

An acronym for [Transgender](#), [Intersex](#) and [Non-Binary](#) people.

## Pride Flags Guide

# SEXUAL ORIENTATION PRIDE FLAGS



Lesbian



Gay (male)



Bisexual



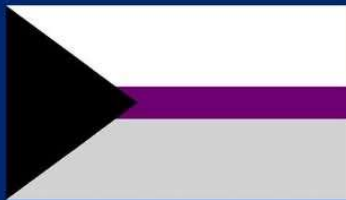
Pansexual



Asexual



Polysexual



Demisexual

# LGBTQ+ FLAGS



Original Pride



Traditional Pride



Progress Pride

# GENDER PRIDE FLAGS



Intersex



Non-binary



Transgender



Genderqueer



Agender



Genderfluid

## Planning Ahead for Pride

### Safeguarding Guidelines

The safeguarding of our youth and adult members is at the forefront of scouting best practice. Below are recommendations for mitigating risks while preparing to attend a Pride celebration as scouts:

- Remember: **Plan-Do-Review**.
- Fill out a **Risk Assessment**. Assess the venue, means of transport, activities, participants.
- Ensure that parents are briefed of any plans made. and have signed **Activities Consent Forms** for any youth members attending.
- Ensure that proper **Ratios** guidelines are followed.
- Ensure accompanying Scouters are **Vetted** and have completed their **Mandatory Training**.
- A good plan will include the **Right Kit**. Bring water, suncream, medication as needed, etc.
- Prioritise **Youth Involvement**. Ensuring youth members enjoyment includes keeping them updated on the planned activity.

The Safeguarding Programme Team has created a guide that goes over all these points in greater detail.<sup>9</sup>

A sample template for a risk assessment can be found in the same document on page 37.<sup>10</sup>

Please refer to the updated *Ratios Policy* for any related concerns.<sup>11</sup>

## Who to Contact?

Scouting Ireland has a **Pride Events Coordinator** and you can contact them via their email, [Pride@Scouts.ie](mailto:Pride@Scouts.ie), if you have any questions surrounding Pride.

As there are so many celebrations occurring all throughout the country, Scouting Ireland will try to officially attend as many as they can, but scout groups/counties/provinces are welcome to reach out to their local celebrations. Be sure to check if they have application forms for registering for their parades, applying as volunteers, or for a stall at their Pride Villages/Family Fun Days.

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<sup>9</sup> 'Scouting Safely', Gasóga na Éireann, 2025.

[https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/scouting\\_ireland\\_scouting\\_safely\\_-\\_safety\\_guide/](https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/scouting_ireland_scouting_safely_-_safety_guide/)

<sup>10</sup> 'Risk Assessment Template - Scouting Safely'. Gasóga na hÉireann. 2025. pp. 37.

[https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/scouting\\_ireland\\_scouting\\_safely\\_-\\_safety\\_guide/37](https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/scouting_ireland_scouting_safely_-_safety_guide/37).

<sup>11</sup> 'Ratios Policy'. Gasóga na hÉireann. 2025. [https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/safeguarding\\_-\\_ratios\\_policy\\_-\\_09.25](https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/safeguarding_-_ratios_policy_-_09.25)

The celebrations highlighted in blue are the ones Scouting Ireland are attending in 2026.

PROVINCE	CELEBRATION	CONTACT INFO
LEINSTER	Dublin Pride	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://dublinpride.ie/">https://dublinpride.ie/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@dublinpride.ie">info@dublinpride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/dublinpride/">https://www.instagram.com/dublinpride/</a>
	Trans & Intersex Pride (Dublin)	<b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/transpridedublin/">https://www.instagram.com/transpridedublin/</a>
	Kilkenny Pride Festival	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://kilkennypride.ie/">http://kilkennypride.ie/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:Hiya@kilkennyPride.ie">Hiya@kilkennyPride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/kilkennypride/">https://www.instagram.com/kilkennypride/</a>
	Thomastown Pride (Kilkenny)	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://thomastownpride.wordpress.com/">https://thomastownpride.wordpress.com/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:Thomastownpride@gmail.com">Thomastownpride@gmail.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/thomastownpride/">https://www.instagram.com/thomastownpride/</a>
	Pride of the Déise (Waterford)	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.prideofthedeise.com/">https://www.prideofthedeise.com/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@waterfordpride.ie">info@waterfordpride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/prideofthedeise/">https://www.instagram.com/prideofthedeise/</a>
	Wicklow Pride Festival	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.wicklowpride.com/">https://www.wicklowpride.com/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@wicklowpride.com">info@wicklowpride.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/wicklowpride_">https://www.instagram.com/wicklowpride_</a>
	Carlow Pride	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://carlowpridefest.ie/">https://carlowpridefest.ie/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:johnpaul@carlowpridefest.ie">johnpaul@carlowpridefest.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/carlowpridefest/">https://www.instagram.com/carlowpridefest/</a>
	Laois Pride	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.midlandslgbtproject.com/laois-pride">https://www.midlandslgbtproject.com/laois-pride</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:Pro@laoispride.com">Pro@laoispride.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/laoispride/">https://www.instagram.com/laoispride/</a>

<b>LEINSTER CONT.</b>	<b>Navan Pride Festival</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://navanpride.ie">navanpride.ie</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:hello@navanpride.ie">hello@navanpride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/navanpridefestival?igsh=MWY1cnFpdGJnOGtvdg==">https://www.instagram.com/navanpridefestival?igsh=MWY1cnFpdGJnOGtvdg==</a>
<b>ULSTER</b>	<b>Belfast Pride Festival</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://belfastpride.com/">https://belfastpride.com/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@belfastpride.com">info@belfastpride.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/belfastpride/">https://www.instagram.com/belfastpride/</a>
	<b>Trans Pride NI (Belfast)</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://transprideni.com/">https://transprideni.com/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@transprideni.com">info@transprideni.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/transprideni/">https://www.instagram.com/transprideni/</a>
	<b>Foyle Pride Festival (Derry)</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://linktr.ee/foylepride">https://linktr.ee/foylepride</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:foylepridefestival@gmail.com">foylepridefestival@gmail.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/foylepridefest/">https://www.instagram.com/foylepridefest/</a>
	<b>Letterkenny Pride</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/f/letterkenny-pride-2026">https://www.gofundme.com/f/letterkenny-pride-2026</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:letterkennypridefest@gmail.com">letterkennypridefest@gmail.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/letterkennypride/">https://www.instagram.com/letterkennypride/</a>
	<b>Cavan Pride</b>	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:cavanpride@gmail.com">cavanpride@gmail.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/cavanpride/">https://www.instagram.com/cavanpride/</a>
<b>CONNACHT</b>	<b>Galway Pride</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.galwaypride.ie/">https://www.galwaypride.ie/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@galwaypride@gmail.com">info@galwaypride@gmail.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/galway.pride/">https://www.instagram.com/galway.pride/</a>
	<b>Mayo Pride</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://mayopride.com/">https://mayopride.com/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:hello@mayopride.com">hello@mayopride.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/mayopride/">https://www.instagram.com/mayopride/</a>
		<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://linktr.ee/heartlandspride.athlone">https://linktr.ee/heartlandspride.athlone</a>

	<b>Heartlands Pride (Athlone)</b>	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:heartlandspride.athlone@gmail.com">heartlandspride.athlone@gmail.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/heartlandspride_athlone/">https://www.instagram.com/heartlandspride_athlone/</a>
	<b>Roscommon Pride</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://roscommonpride.ie/">https://roscommonpride.ie/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@roscommonpride.ie">info@roscommonpride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/roscommonpride/">https://www.instagram.com/roscommonpride/</a>
<b>MUNSTER</b>	<b>Kingdom Pride (Kerry)</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.discoverkerry.com/event/kingdom-pride/69937101/">https://www.discoverkerry.com/event/kingdom-pride/69937101/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@kingdompride.ie">info@kingdompride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/thekingdompride">https://www.instagram.com/thekingdompride</a>
	<b>Cork Community Pride</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.corkcommunitypride.ie/">https://www.corkcommunitypride.ie/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@corkcommunitypride.ie">info@corkcommunitypride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/corkcommunitypride/">https://www.instagram.com/corkcommunitypride/</a>
	<b>Trans Pride (Cork)</b>	<b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/transpridecork/">https://www.instagram.com/transpridecork/</a>
	<b>Limerick Pride Festival</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://limerickpride.ie/">https://limerickpride.ie/</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@limerickpride.ie">info@limerickpride.ie</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/limerickpride_officialaccount/">https://www.instagram.com/limerickpride_officialaccount/</a>
	<b>Trans Pride (Limerick)</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://linktr.ee/transpridelimerick">https://linktr.ee/transpridelimerick</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:transpridelimerick@gmail.com">transpridelimerick@gmail.com</a> <b>Social Media:</b> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/transpridelimerick/">https://www.instagram.com/transpridelimerick/</a>

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[https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/safeguarding\\_-\\_ratios\\_policy\\_-\\_09.25](https://issuu.com/scoutingireland/docs/safeguarding_-_ratios_policy_-_09.25)

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<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2010/act/24/enacted/en/html>

Irish Statute Book (2015). *Gender Recognition Act*. Available at:  
<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/25/enacted/en/html>

Irish Statute Book (2015). *Marriage Equality Act*. Available at:  
<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/35/enacted/en/html>

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<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/df083b34c03f4f52ac166adcb60a871a>