

TUI DIRECTIVE ON CROKE PARK HOURS

Frequently Asked Questions for Members



Table of Contents

<i>1. What does a TUI directive not to engage in Croke Park Hours mean?.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>2. Does the directive mean that members stop carrying out their normal teaching duties?</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3. What types of activities should members not undertake?.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>4. What happens to the teacher-led/high-trust Croke Park Hours?.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>5. Are meetings and parent/teacher meetings under Circular M58/04 affected?</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>6. What is the difference between an M58/04 staff meeting and a Croke Park staff meeting?.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>7. My school has a two-hour staff meeting fully outside school time and one hour is listed as Croke Park time. What do I do?</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>8. Which parent/teacher meetings may still go ahead?</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>9. What about an additional parent/teacher meeting that is on the Croke Park calendar?.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>10. Can a meeting or event already identified as Croke Park time simply be re-labelled as M58/04?</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>11. Can management re-schedule a Croke Park meeting, open night or other Croke Park event to another date?</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>12. Should the Croke Park calendar be changed so that cancelled hours can be worked later in the school year?.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>13. What if management says that an open night, information evening or graduation is “part of the job” and not Croke Park time?.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>14. What about CPD?</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>15. Does the directive apply to part-time and job-sharing members?</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>16. Can I attend a Croke Park event voluntarily even if TUI has directed members not to engage? ...</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>17. What should I do if management disputes whether an activity is M58/04 or Croke Park time?... </i>	<i>4</i>

1. What does a TUI directive not to engage in Croke Park Hours mean?

Under the current agreed arrangements, the 33 Croke Park Hours comprise a whole-school element of 19 hours and a teacher-led/high-trust element of 14 hours. A directive covering Croke Park Hours applies to both elements.

The directive means that, from 12th October 2026 and for as long as the directive remains in force, TUI members must not undertake any work that is being required, scheduled or counted as part of the 33-hour Croke Park commitment.

2. Does the directive mean that members stop carrying out their normal teaching duties?

No. Members continue to carry out their normal teaching and other contractual duties during the normal school day. The directive concerns the additional Croke Park Hours commitment.

3. What types of activities should members not undertake?

Members should not engage in any activity scheduled as part of the Croke Park calendar for the duration of this directive.

4. What happens to the teacher-led/high-trust Croke Park Hours?

The TUI directive covers all Croke Park Hours, including the 14 teacher-led/high-trust hours.

5. Are meetings and parent/teacher meetings under Circular M58/04 affected?

No. Circular M58/04 is a separate contractual commitment. It provides for one staff meeting per term and three formal parent/teacher meetings per year. Those obligations continue and members should attend these meetings (see below).

6. What is the difference between an M58/04 staff meeting and a Croke Park staff meeting?

Circular M58/04 provides for one staff meeting per term on a “half-in/half-out” basis. For example, a staff meeting consists of two consecutive hours - one hour within normal school time and one hour outside normal school time. Schools have commonly used a Croke Park hour to “buy out” the in-school element so that the full two-hour meeting takes place after school. TUI members are directed not to engage in Croke Park Hours. If management wishes to hold the full meeting, the M58/04 half-in/half-out arrangement must be respected.

7. My school has a two-hour staff meeting fully outside school time and one hour is listed as Croke Park time. What do I do?

Attend the portion that arises under M58/04 and do not attend the portion that is being counted as a Croke Park hour. Management should clearly identify which part of the meeting is being held under M58/04 and which part is Croke Park time.

8. Which parent/teacher meetings may still go ahead?

The three formal parent/teacher meetings required under Circular M58/04 may continue.

9. What about an additional parent/teacher meeting that is on the Croke Park calendar?

If the meeting is an additional parent/teacher meeting scheduled and counted as Croke Park Hours, TUI members must not attend it while the directive is in force. The school calendar must identify which parent/teacher meetings arise under M58/04 and which arise under Croke Park Hours.

10. Can a meeting or event already identified as Croke Park time simply be re-labelled as M58/04?

No. A Croke Park meeting or event cannot be retrospectively re-labelled as an M58/04 commitment in order to circumvent the TUI directive. The two sets of obligations have different origins and must be clearly distinguished. Members should follow the designation set out in the school calendar and should seek TUI advice where management proposes to alter that designation.

11. Can management re-schedule a Croke Park meeting, open night or other Croke Park event to another date?

Members should not agree to the moving, replacement or re-scheduling of a Croke Park commitment for the purpose of avoiding or postponing the effect of the directive.

12. Should the Croke Park calendar be changed so that cancelled hours can be worked later in the school year?

No. Management are not permitted to bank, defer or require TUI members to “make up” Croke Park Hours affected by the directive.

13. What if management says that an open night, information evening or graduation is “part of the job” and not Croke Park time?

There is no such contractual obligation. If the activity is on the agreed Croke Park calendar and is being counted against Croke Park Hours, the TUI directive applies and members must not attend.

14. What about CPD?

Where whole-school CPD is scheduled outside normal school hours and is being counted as Croke Park time, members must not attend it while the directive applies. CPD or teacher professional learning that occurs during the normal school day, or under a separate agreed arrangement, is not affected by the Croke Park directive.

15. Does the directive apply to part-time and job-sharing members?

Yes. Part-time and job-sharing teachers normally have a pro-rata Croke Park Hours obligation. Where TUI directs members not to engage in Croke Park Hours, this applies to all members.

16. Can I attend a Croke Park event voluntarily even if TUI has directed members not to engage?

No. A national industrial action directive is a collective instruction to members. TUI members must comply consistently and follow

directives and must not make individual arrangements to undertake Croke Park Hours voluntarily while the directive remains in force.

17. What should I do if management disputes whether an activity is M58/04 or Croke Park time?

Check the agreed school calendar and the stated source of the hours. The school calendar must distinguish M58/04 commitments from Croke Park commitments.

Where the calendar does not clearly identify whether the activity falls under M58/04 or Croke Park Hours, members must assume, for the purposes of this industrial action, that it falls under Croke Park Hours. The directive therefore applies, and members must not attend.

In the event of any difficulty in this regard, refer the matter promptly to the school branch, Area Representative or TUI Head Office.

TEACHERS' UNION OF IRELAND
• AGONTAS MUINTEOIRI ÉIREANN •

Adhere to the Croke Park Hours Directive

CROKE PARK HOURS DIRECTIVE

- ☒
- ☒
- ☒

Follow the directive

Show the full picture
It helps highlight to Government that members do far more than teach.

Support fair pay increases
Your adherence strengthens our collective case for appropriate pay increases that recognise the full range of work undertaken by teachers and educators.

Our work goes beyond the classroom.
Together, we can secure the recognition and pay we deserve.