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# DOMAIN STATUS FAIR USE RULES

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## 1. Introduction

The status tools in TITAN enable the Registrar to manage a .ie domain to prevent certain actions or events from happening. These tools are made available to Registrars subject to certain use restrictions.

Registrars are expected to abide by these Domain Status Fair Use Rules, in accordance with the Accredited .IE Registrar Agreement:

*The Registrar agrees to adhere to the terms of the Domain Status Fair Use Rules as published on the Site from time to time, or as otherwise made available to the Registrar, and to not use the related domain status tools within .ie technical systems in a manner which is non-compliant with these rules. The Registrar accepts that any behaviour which is incompatible with, or contravenes the Domain Status Fair Use Rules, shall result in the Registry reserving the right to take any action necessary to stop or reverse the unauthorised use of the related domain status tools within .ie technical systems.*

- Clause 4.16 of the Accredited .IE Registrar Agreement.

## 2. Domain Client Status Tools

The following domain client status tools are available within TITAN.

1. **clientDeleteProhibited**  
Applying this status allows the Registrar to ensure that **explicit** requests from Registrar's staff or systems to delete the domain will be rejected.
2. **clientHold**  
Applying this status allows the Registrar to ensure that the domain is suspended (removed from the zone).
3. **clientRenewProhibited**  
Applying this status allows the Registrar to ensure that the Registrar's staff or systems cannot explicitly renew the domain.
4. **clientTransferProhibited**  
Applying this status allows the Registrar to stop a domain from being transferred to another Registrar.
5. **clientUpdateProhibited**  
Applying this status allows the Registrar to ensure that requests from that Registrar's staff or systems to update the domain records are rejected.

## 3. Fair Use Rules

1. All Registrars **must** ensure that these domain client status tools are used in good faith. If the Registry, at its discretion, determines that a Registrar is using any domain client status tools in any way that is **deemed in bad faith** including, inter alia, any examples listed in these fair use rules, the Registry will contact the Registrar advising that it **must** immediately cease the offending action within a defined period of time. If a Registrar is unresponsive or continues using any domain client status tools in a way **deemed incompatible** with these fair use rules, the Registry may suspend or restrict, some or all, of the Registrar's access to the Registry's technical systems, until such time as the Registry is satisfied that the offending action has been addressed and will not be repeated.
2. Registrars **must not** use the domain client status tools to unfairly limit the ability of a Registrant to exercise authority over the domain name registration, which it has been granted the right to use by the Registry. This includes, inter alia, commercial disputes between the parties or allegations of a breach of contract between the parties. For example, a Registrar must not unfairly use the domain client status tools to restrict a Registrant's right to transfer, update, renew or delete their registration.
3. With regard to clientHold, clientUpdateProhibited, clientTransferProhibited and clientDeleteProhibited, a Registrar **must not** unfairly use these domain status tools where a Registrant has failed to make payment of fees owing to the Registrar.

## 4. Examples of permitted use of domain status tools

Below is a sample of instances where the Registry permits the Registrar's use of the domain status tools within TITAN.

If you have any questions about whether a specific use of the domain status tools falls under these fair use rules, please contact [titan@weare.ie](mailto:titan@weare.ie).

Domain Client Status Tool	Use of the domain client status tools is permitted in the following instances:
clientDeleteProhibited	<p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where a Registrar is notified by law enforcement agencies that the domain name is being used in connection with criminal activity and is asked to ensure that the domain is not deleted.</p> <p>Note that this feature will ensure that explicit requests to delete the domain are rejected. However, the domain can still be deleted by the Registrar for non-payment of renewal fees, where auto-renewal fails due to insufficient Registrar funds for 45 days after domain expiry. In these instances, the Registrar may wish to notify the Registry so that it can take steps to prevent the deletion of the domain if needed.</p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> Where a Registrar wants to protect important domains from inadvertent delete requests coming from their staff or systems.</p>
clientHold	<p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where a Registrar is notified by law enforcement agencies that the domain name is being used in connection with criminal activity and is asked to stop the related web service from resolving.</p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> Where a Registrar receives a credible allegation indicating that the domain is being used in connection with criminal activity.</p> <p><b>Use Case 3:</b> Where a Registrar receives a report of serious technical abuse in connection with a .ie domain, which in the view of the Registrar, represents a threat to the .ie namespace and/or its users.</p> <p><b>Use Case 4:</b> Where a Registrar receives a report of technical abuse in connection with a .ie domain which requires investigation, whereby the Registrar determines that it is appropriate to remove the domain from the zone during the course of its investigation.</p>
clientRenewProhibited	<p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where a Registrar is notified by law enforcement agencies that the domain name is being used in connection with criminal activity and is asked to ensure that the domain is not renewed.</p> <p>Note that this feature will ensure that requests to renew the domain explicitly are rejected. However, the domain will be automatically renewed on its expiry date.</p> <p>In these instances, the Registrar may wish to notify the Registry so that it can take steps to prevent the renewal of the domain if needed.</p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> Where a Registrar wants to ensure that any explicit renewal requests from your staff or systems are rejected.</p>

clientTransferProhibited	<p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where a Registrar is notified by law enforcement agencies that the domain name is being used in connection with criminal activity and is asked to ensure that the domain is not transferred to another Registrar.</p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> Where a Registrar receives a credible allegation that indicates that the domain is being used in connection with criminal activity, and whereby the Registrar determines that it is appropriate to ensure the domain is not transferred to another Registrar throughout the course of its investigation.</p> <p><b>Use Case 3:</b> Where a Registrar receives a report of technical abuse in connection with a .ie domain which requires investigation, whereby the Registrar determines that it is appropriate to ensure the domain is not transferred to another Registrar during the course of its investigation.</p>
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## 5. Examples of higher-risk domain action tools

The following domain action tools are available within TITAN and are classified as being at higher risk of being misused either accidentally or deliberately:

1. **Transfer Domain**  
Selecting this action tool allows the Registrar to transfer the sponsorship of a domain name from one Registrar to another.
2. **Delete Domain**  
Selecting this action tool allows the Registrar to delete a domain during any of the following stages of the domain name life cycle: addPeriod, registered, autoRenewPeriod, renewPeriod and transferPeriod. Domain names cannot be deleted if their domain status is either clientDeleteProhibited or serverDeleteProhibited.
3. **Immediate domain deletion request**  
A Registrar may submit a request to the Registry to accelerate the deletion of a domain in the five-day Pending Delete period. The Registry will consider these requests on an exceptional basis.
4. **Restore Domain**  
Selecting this action tool allows the Registrar to restore and renew the domain name again for the Registrant (as an option for resolving renewal problems before the domain name is finally deleted from the registry database).
5. **Link/Add/Edit/Remove Contact (Selling a .ie domain)**  
Selecting this option allows the Registrar to transfer the "right to use" a .ie domain to a new Registrant. This process will require the submission of a single Registrant Transfer request, which must be submitted by the Registrar managing the domain.

Domain Action/Tools	Examples of use cases where domain action tools are at higher risk of being misused:
Transfer Domain	<p><i>In the following use case, the Registrar cannot refuse to provide the Authorisation code when requested:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where the listed Registrant or Administrative Contact requests the transfer.</p>
Delete Domain	<p><i>In the following use case, the Registrar cannot refuse to delete the domain when requested:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where requested by the listed Registrant/Administrative contact of the domain.</p>

	<p><i>In the following use case, the Registrar should not refuse to delete the domain when requested:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> Where a Registrar is officially notified by law enforcement agencies that the domain name is being used in connection with criminal activity.</p>
<p>Immediate domain deletion request</p>	<p><i>The Registry will only consider a quest from a Registrar for an immediate domain deletion request in the following use cases:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 1:</b> To facilitate the deletion of a fraudulent contact.</p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> When documentation has been received by the Registrar in relation to a domain application in the five-day Pending Delete stage, <b>and</b> at least one of the following conditions applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a domain application was submitted with incorrect contact information; <b>or</b>,</li> <li>• a domain application Delete Domain request was submitted in error, while the application was in the 27-day Pending Create state.</li> </ul> <p><b>Use Case 3:</b> In exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Registry.</p>
<p>Restore Domain</p>	<p><i>The following use case is considered to be a fair use:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where restore and renewal action is requested by the Registrant/Administrative contact. Selecting this action tool allows the Registrar to fairly restore and renew the domain name again for the Registrant.</p> <p><i>The following use case is considered a behaviour which is incompatible with these Domain Status Fair Use Rules:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> Restoring a domain from redemption period with no funds in order to restart the redemption period.</p>
<p>Link/Add/Edit/Remove Contact</p> <p>(In cases where a change to the registrant contact is required due to a domain sale, a request for registrant transfer is initiated.)</p>	<p><i>In the following use case, the Registrar shall ensure that contact information for the future Registrant is updated accordingly once the sale is complete:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 1:</b> Where a Registrar registers the domain and wishes to sell or transfer the domain name to a third party (proposed future Registrant).</p> <p><i>The following use case is considered a behaviour which is incompatible with these Domain Status Fair Use Rules:</i></p> <p><b>Use Case 2:</b> Where a Registrar self-registers a domain abusively or in bad faith as defined by the <u>Alternative Dispute Resolution Policy</u> or <u>Registrant Terms and Conditions</u>.</p>