



**RECSPORTS**  
UNIVERSITY *of* FLORIDA

2023-2024  
Intramural Sports  
Participant's Guide

**CONTENTS**

<b>PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>INTRAMURAL SPORTS BUDGET.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LEAGUE OFFERINGS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>TIMES OF PLAY .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>ELIGIBILITY .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>The Collegiate, Sport Club and Olympic eligibility rule applies to the following sports: .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Club Soccer Teams .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Indoor &amp; Outdoor Soccer.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>IMPROPER USE OF IDENTIFICATION.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>ROSTER CHANGES .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Injury Reserve .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>DEFAULTS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>FORFEITS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>FORFEIT CHARGE.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>CANCELLATIONS/RESCHEDULING/GAME DELAY POLICIES.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>LIGHTNING POLICIES.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>T-SHIRT POLICY/UNIFORM GUIDELINE.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>PROTESTS.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>APPEALS.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>EJECTIONS.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>INJURIES.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>PLAYING RULES/MERCY RULES.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>OFFICIAL'S FEEDBACK.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>SPORTSMANSHIP .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>PLAYOFF SELECTION.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>AWARDS.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS AVAILABLE .....</b>	<b>18</b>

## PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the intramural sports program is:

- To provide opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to actively engage in activities involving sport, recreation, and play while providing structure for an experiential education.
- To provide opportunities to actively engage in programs and activities promoting an enhanced quality of life.
- To provide opportunities for personal development through leadership, diversity, and teamwork.
- To provide a forum for an experiential education for students, faculty, and staff.

## INTRAMURAL SPORTS BUDGET

The Intramural Sports Program is funded by Student Government Activity & Service Fees.

## CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The captain and/or co-captain are responsible for:

- Registering the team and completing a captain's quiz.
- Informing his/her team of the rules governing the specific activities, as well as the time and place they will play their games.
- Explaining the team schedule to their teammates. Some sports require captains to sign a team up for rotating time slots (i.e. M01 Mon 5:00/5:50). This means that the regular season contests could occur at EITHER of those times. Captains may not request to only play at one of those times.
- Ensuring proper behavior of teammates and spectators and that no pets are brought to a playing facility by a teammate or spectator (exception: service dog or miniature horse)
- Notifying all players and spectators that alcohol, tobacco and other illegal substances are prohibited at all playing venues and that no one is allowed to participate while under the influence of said substances.
- Completing the Default process no later than 6 hours prior to the scheduled contest start time the day of a contest if the team is unable to show up. This process may only be utilized once per sport, per team, per semester. Proper submission will cause the team to receive a loss for the game but not be assessed a forfeit.
- Verifying that all players have signed in with the Sport Programs Supervisor (all players should check in 15 minutes prior to their scheduled game time).
- Confirming that the game result is recorded correctly on Fusion IM.
- Reminding teammates that parking on service drives and in non-marked parking spaces is prohibited. Vehicles not parked properly will be subject to ticketing and towing by the University Police Department.

## Illegal Equipment

The following items are prohibited in all intramural activities:

- Earrings with hoops
- Casts
- Combat boots, five-fingered (Vibram) shoes, open-toed shoes, metal cleats
- Participating without footwear (exception: sand volleyball)
- Ridged or pointed jewelry which, in the opinion of the staff, may cause harm to any participant

Jewelry (rings, necklaces, ankle bracelets, watches, fitness trackers, non-hoop earrings, rubber bands, etc.) which is not prohibited by the above rules may be worn in activities which do not contain frequent contact with opponents or teammates. Examples include, but are not limited to: sand volleyball, indoor volleyball, softball, dodgeball and kickball.

In activities which involve frequent contact with opponents or teammates (examples include, but are not limited to: basketball, flag football, soccer, team handball and ultimate frisbee), exposed jewelry is prohibited. Participants will be removed from the contest at any point if jewelry becomes exposed and will be allowed to return once the jewelry is covered.

Religious medallions and medical alert bracelets may be worn in any activity and may display proper information. Knee braces are permitted with approved protective covers (neoprene protective covers).

In cases where jewelry is permitted, it must be secured or covered by the participant. Staff will not provide materials to cover any jewelry, religious medallions or medical alert bracelets. Participant safety will be the primary factor in any questions regarding jewelry.

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## Coaches

Captains may choose to utilize a coach for the purpose of providing direction to a team. A coach is defined as a non-player who is appointed by team personnel to represent the team in communicating with the Intramural Sports staff. Prior to the game, the team captain must inform the supervisor and/or officials if a coach will be utilized. Coaches in all sports are allowed to call timeouts. Coaches are not allowed to question the officials' judgment of a call and will be penalized for inappropriate conduct in the same manner as any other participant, with the coach's actions affecting the team's sportsmanship and playoff eligibility. Should the coach be ejected from a contest, the captain will be responsible for providing the coach's identity to the Sport Programs Supervisor. Failure to provide that information will result in the ejection of the captain.

## LEAGUE OFFERINGS

All individuals who meet the eligibility requirements for participation in the intramural sports program are eligible and encouraged to participate. This is a complete listing of possible leagues offered in a sport. Each sport will have some (but not all) of the below offerings. **During the regular season, individuals may participate on as many teams as they wish in leagues that they are eligible to participate. In the playoffs, individuals may only play with teams that list the individual as eligible on their roster. Please check your player page to view your playoff teams.**

**Women's League:** Any student, faculty, staff or spouse/partner, regardless of their skill level, whose biological sex at birth was female, may participate in this league, in accordance with Section 1006.205, Florida Statutes. All teams with a .500 or better winning percentage, zero or one forfeit and proper sportsmanship points during the regular season will automatically advance to the playoffs. Captains of teams below .500 that wish to participate in the playoffs must request to be included in playoffs by completing the Playoff Request Form which will be emailed to team captain.

**Sorority League:** Only students who are registered members with Panhellenic are eligible to participate on their sorority team. The Intramural Sports office does not keep track of the Panhellenic Points Standings. Please contact the Panhellenic Intramural Director for updates on standings.

**Men's:** Any student, faculty, staff or spouse/partner whose biological sex at birth was male, regardless of their skill level, may participate in this league, in accordance with Section 1006.205, Florida Statutes. All teams with a .500 or better winning percentage, zero or one forfeit and proper sportsmanship points during the regular season will automatically advance to the playoffs. Captains of teams below .500 that wish to participate in the playoffs must request to be included in playoffs by completing the Playoff Request Form which will be emailed to team captains.

**Fraternity:** Fraternity leagues will be made up of the Orange and Blue divisions. Teams will be placed appropriately at the conclusion of the fall semester based on the previous year's achievement. Only students who are registered members with the IFC are eligible to participate on their fraternity team. All Fraternity teams will qualify for playoffs unless the maximum number of unsporting fouls is reached, as stated in the Sporting Behavior Policy. The Intramural Sports office does not keep track of IFC Points Standings or place teams in the Orange and Blue divisions. Please contact the IFC Intramural Director for updates and standings.

**Open:** This league is only offered when a gender-specific league is not available for a specific activity. Open leagues do not have any gender-specific playing rules, including but not limited to team composition, participation and scoring. Any student, faculty, staff, or their spouse/partner, regardless of their skill level, may participate in this league. All teams with a .500 or better winning percentage, zero or one forfeit and proper sportsmanship points during the regular season will automatically advance to the playoffs. Captains of teams below .500 that wish to participate in the playoffs must request to be included in playoffs by completing the Playoff Request Form which will be emailed to team captains.

**Co-Rec:** Any student, faculty, staff or spouse/partner, regardless of their skill level, may participate in this league. Co-Rec leagues require a minimum number of male and female participants playing at all times. All teams with a .500 or better winning percentage, zero or one forfeit and proper sportsmanship points during the regular season will automatically advance to the playoffs. Captains of teams below .500 that wish to participate in the playoffs must request to be included in playoffs by completing the Playoff Request Form which will be emailed to team captains.

**Residence Hall:** The Residence Hall league is designed for teams comprised of residence halls to compete against each other. Teams will participate in selected league sports throughout the year. Only students who reside in a residence hall are eligible to participate their Residence Hall team. All teams will qualify for playoffs, regardless of their record, unless the maximum number of unsporting fouls is reached, as stated in the Sporting Behavior Policy

## **League Differentiation**

Some of our sports will differentiate between competitive and recreational leagues. This is to ensure a fun and inclusive playing environment for all levels of skill.

**Competitive Division:** The Competitive league is designed for teams whose primary objective is to win games. Players in this league generally have played high school varsity sports and remain active in that sport. These teams have frequently qualified for and advanced past the first round of the playoffs. Competitive leagues will offer a regular season and a single elimination playoff tournament for all qualifying teams (see playoff eligibility requirements). The winner of this league will receive champion t-shirts.

**Recreational Division:** The Recreational league is designed for teams whose primary objective is to enjoy Intramural Sports and to have fun; winning is secondary. Most players on these teams have not played at the varsity level and may be slightly active in the sport. Most teams that have never played together or are first-time participants are better suited to play in the recreational league. Teams will play a regular season with no playoffs. No winner will be named in this league nor receive champion t-shirts. Recreational teams that finish their regular season with a maximum of one loss and no forfeits may request to join the Competitive League playoffs by completing the Playoff Request Form which will be emailed to team captains.

## Playing With Multiple Teams

**Regular Season:** Participants may play on as many teams as they wish during the regular season. If a participant wishes to play in any game, they must sign up on the roster of their “Home Team” first. Once a participant is on the roster of their home team, they may participate on other teams in that league by checking in with the Supervisor on site and completing the “Rover Rule Form”.

**Playoffs:** If a participant wishes to play in any game, they must sign up on the roster of their “Home Team” first and their eligibility will only be permitted on those teams for playoffs. This means that a participant will only play on a maximum of one co-rec team and one other team in the playoffs. If a participant’s “Home Team” is not participating in playoffs, the participant may not join another team in that league.

## Special Olympics Unified League

The Special Olympics Unified league consists of UF students participating with Special Olympics athletes from the Gainesville and surrounding community. Because of the unique experiential learning opportunity this league provides, participants may play on a Special Olympics Unified team as well as a co-rec and an additional team in sports where this league is offered. These leagues will be categorized as “Unified”. All teams will qualify for playoffs, regardless of their record, unless the maximum number of unsporting fouls is reached, as stated in the Sporting Behavior Policy

## TIMES OF PLAY

Intramural sports normally run during the following times:	
Monday - Thursday	4:00p.m. – 12:00a.m.
Friday	3:00pm – 6:00pm
Sunday	3:00p.m. – 10:00p.m.

- These times are subject to change. Intramural Sports reserves the right, due to facility or time constraints, to reduce the number of teams involved in post-season play, or change the format of the tournament.

## ELIGIBILITY

All individuals who meet the eligibility requirements for participation in the intramural sports program are eligible and encouraged to participate. Individuals may participate in accordance with their personal gender identity and expression in good faith. Participants should bring their own Gator 1 Card or government-issued photo identification to sign in. It is the responsibility of the team captain to ascertain the eligibility of his/her players prior to game time.

The following individuals are eligible to participate in Intramural Sports activities:

### Intramural Sports held inside Southwest Recreation Center, Student Recreation and Fitness Center

- Students
  - a. Currently enrolled, Activity & Service fee-paying students

- b. Professional Students (Vet Med, Dental, Medicine, Public Health, PT, Pharmacy)
- c. \*\*Non-Fee paying students, including but not limited to: Innovation Academy, PaCE, Gator Engineering, Gator Design & Construction
- \*Spouses/partners of:
  - a. Currently enrolled, activity-fee paying students
  - b. Non-Fee paying students, including but not limited to: Innovation Academy, PaCE, Gator Engineering, Gator Design & Construction
  - c. Individuals with a Previously Enrolled membership
  - d. Professional Students (Vet Med, Dental, Medicine, Public Health, PT, Pharmacy)
- Individuals who purchase the Previously Enrolled membership
- \*UF Faculty/Staff and their spouses/partners
- \*Employees and spouses/partners of affiliated university employers including, but not limited to: UFHealth, Shands, UAA, UF Foundation and PK Yonge.
- \*\* Alumni

\*Must purchase a guest pass to enter the facility

\*\*Must purchase a RecSports membership to participate.

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### **Intramural Sports held outside Southwest Recreation Center (Fields, Softball Complex, UVS Field) or inside Broward Outdoor Recreation Complex**

1. Students
  - a. Currently enrolled Activity & Service fee-paying students
  - b. Professional Students (Vet Med, Dental, Medicine, Public Health, PT, Pharmacy)
  - c. \*\*Non-Fee paying students, including but not limited to: Innovation Academy, PaCE, Gator Engineering, Gator Design & Construction
2. Spouses/partners of:
  - a. Currently enrolled, activity-fee paying students
  - b. Non-Fee paying students, including but not limited to: Innovation Academy, PaCE, Gator Engineering, Gator Design & Construction
  - c. Individuals with a Previously Enrolled membership
  - d. Professional Students (Vet Med, Dental, Medicine, Public Health, PT, Pharmacy)
3. Individuals who purchase the Previously Enrolled membership
4. UF Faculty/Staff and their spouses/partners
5. Employees and spouses/partners of affiliated university employers including, but not limited to: UFHealth, Shands UAA, UF Foundation and PK Yonge.
6. \*\* Alumni

\*\*Must purchase a RecSports membership to participate

Spouses and Partners will need to contact Jason Darby, Associate Director of Sport Programs (j.darby@ufl.edu) no later than 5pm the business day before they wish to participate for the first time. Supervisors on site will be unable to create accounts for these individuals, thus prohibiting them from participating. This step must only be taken before the first participation in Intramural Sports.

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### **Olympic & Professional Athletes**

An athlete will be deemed a "professional" if at any point they were given financial compensation for participating on a team in a professional or semi-professional league. Examples include, but are not limited to: NFL, AFL, CFL, MLB, NHL, NBA, WNBA, MLS, Pro Beach Volleyball circuit or PGA/Web.Com Tour. Olympic athletes are considered individuals who competed for their country in the Olympics or World Championships, but not the Olympic trials.



Current/former Olympic and professional athletes are eligible to participate in their related sport once three years have passed from the date the person last appeared on a professional or Olympic roster. Once this timeframe has passed, said athlete may participate in their related sport, though a maximum of one of these athletes is allowed on a roster. In order to protest the eligibility of a said "Professional/Olympic" athlete, the protesting team must provide the name of the individual in question and a copy of the Professional/Olympic team roster.

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### Collegiate & Sport Club Athletes

Present scholarship athletes and walk-ons are not eligible in their related sport until the following academic year (beginning Summer B) after they have quit the team or their eligibility has expired. These players will be considered ineligible if they are participating/practicing with the team during their NCAA sanctioned semester.

For the purpose of determining Intramural Sports eligibility in their related sport, "current sport club members" are defined as individuals who have participated in any team practice or traveled to any sport club event to participate with said club. "Current sport club members" will retain their sport club status for 12 consecutive months after their last participation in a sport club practice or traveling event.

For the purpose of determining Intramural Sports eligibility in their related sport, "former collegiate varsity athlete" is defined as individuals who participated with a collegiate varsity team in said related sport within three (3) academic years (academic years begin in Summer B and end in Summer A). Walk-ons and scholarship athletes are considered as "former collegiate varsity athletes" starting the academic year after they are no longer involved with the varsity team.

Current practice team players, former collegiate varsity athletes and current sport club members may participate in their related sport. In sports with less than four players on the field/court, a team may have only one (1) of the above players (regardless of gender) on their entire roster. In sports with five or six players on the field/court, teams may have a maximum of 2 (regardless of gender) players per team roster. In sports with seven or more players on the field/court, teams may have a maximum of 3 (total of the above regardless of gender) players per team roster. If a team has an Olympic/Professional athlete, as defined in the "Olympic & Professional Athlete" section above, that player counts toward the number of allowed athletes discussed in this section.

**Sport Clubs whose athletes are found in violation of this policy will be subject to further disciplinary action from the Sport Club Council.**

For example, a former NCAA varsity softball player that played softball in the 2017-2018 academic year would be considered a "former collegiate varsity athlete" until the conclusion of Summer A 2021. Questions concerning sport club player eligibility should be directed to [j.darby@ufl.edu](mailto:j.darby@ufl.edu)

THE COLLEGIATE, SPORT CLUB AND OLYMPIC ELIGIBILITY RULE APPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING SPORTS:	
Club Soccer Teams	Indoor & Outdoor Soccer
Club Volleyball Teams	Indoor and Sand Volleyball, Wallyball, Sitting VB



Club Baseball & Softball Teams	Softball
Club Ultimate Team	Ultimate Frisbee, Kan Jam®
Football	All Flag Football
Basketball	All Basketball
Club Water Polo Team	Inner tube Water Polo
Club Cricket	Cricket
Club Golf	Golf Scramble

## IMPROPER USE OF IDENTIFICATION

If a Sport Programs Supervisor determines that an individual is attempting to check-in with false identification in order to participate in an Intramural Sports contest, the ID will be confiscated and that individual will not be allowed to play. The individual will be ejected and asked to show proper identification. If the individual refuses or fails to show proper identification or cooperate fully with the supervisor on site, the team captain may also be ejected from the contest. If a captain is ejected due to a participant not providing proper identification, the captain will have the right to remove that player from his/her roster for the remainder of the semester. If the Supervisor determines that the team captain was aware of the individual's use of improper identification, then that team may default their game and be subject to removal from the league. Any individual caught trying to check-in with an ID that is not their own has jeopardized themselves and the owner of the ID to disciplinary action by the university.

## Rightful Owner

If the rightful owner of a confiscated ID wishes to retrieve their ID the same evening it was confiscated, they may do so at the site it was taken by simply showing their Gator 1 ID or government issued identification to the Sport Programs Supervisor to prove that the ID is being returned to the correct person. Otherwise, the individual may pick up his/her ID at the Intramural Sports office inside the Southwest Recreation Center beginning at 9 a.m. the business day following said confiscation. The owner must speak to a Sport Programs professional staff member to retrieve the ID as well as provide proper identification to verify his/her identity. ID's not retrieved by the rightful owner will be returned to the Gator 1 Card office or University Police Department approximately every two weeks.

## ROSTER CHANGES

A player may be dropped from a roster one time only, during the regular season so long as they have only signed in to participate in one game with the team from which they are looking to be dropped. The player who wishes to be dropped from a team must email the league coordinator in charge of that particular activity by 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the regular season for that sport. No roster drops will be allowed after this time. Once a player has followed the proper drop procedures, he/she is eligible to join one other team for the remainder of the activity.

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## Intramural Roster Additions

Players who have not played on any Intramural Sports team in a league, who are also eligible to play in that league, may be added to a team roster at any time. Instructions for adding players to team rosters are provided on the Intramural Sports website. Additionally, new participants may bring their Gator 1 Card to the game site, sign in with the Sport Programs Supervisor and agree to the participant waiver. Those participants choosing to sign-in at the game site for the first time must log in to [RSconnect](#) and complete the waiver prior to future participation.

## Injury Reserve

This policy specifically applies to players who are classified as current sport club or former collegiate varsity players. A player may be removed from a roster if he/she is injured and cannot participate in Intramural Sports contests for the remainder of the semester. To be removed from the roster, the player must email the league coordinator and inform them of their inability to participate for the rest of the semester. This cannot be done at the game site. The injured player will not be allowed to play ANY Intramural Sports events until the following semester of play. Once a player follows the proper injury drop procedure, he/she may be replaced on the team's roster with one eligible player that has not played on any team in that team's league (Men's, Women's, Co-Rec, etc.).

## DEFAULTS

A default is a game that is not played and is recorded as a loss but is not considered a forfeit. A team may receive a one-time default if they are unable to attend a game. The team captain must complete the default process no later than 6 hours prior to the scheduled start of the contest. Submitting a default past the deadline will be treated as a forfeit. Once the default has been submitted by the team captain, the request cannot be overturned. Teams are not permitted to default at the game site, nor are teams permitted to default a second time. Weekend/1-day tournaments may utilize alternative default policies; those policies, if different, will be explained within the rules of that specific event/tournament.

- If a default has occurred, the teams involved may still use the site to practice until 15 minutes prior to the next contest; however, Intramural Sports staff are not permitted to officiate any practice, scrimmage or contest the teams choose to participate in during that time.

## FORFEITS

An individual or team registering for a league or tournament enters into an agreement with Intramural Sports. Intramural Sports administers the events and provides staffing for said events. Participants must fulfill their obligation by being prepared to play at their scheduled game time, ensuring all teammates are properly checked in and complying with all rules of play. Once a team has registered for an event and the registration deadline has passed, a team wishing to be removed from the event will be subject to a forfeit and forfeit charge. To avoid risking a forfeit, teams should arrive to the game site at least 15 minutes prior to game time.

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## Ten-Minute Rule

A team forfeits when they fail to have any players legally signed in and properly attired to play at the scheduled game time. If a team has less than the minimum number of players, but at least one person legally signed in and properly attired to play, a team will be given ten minutes from scheduled game time to reach the minimum number of players needed to begin a contest. Participants will not be given warm-up time for showing up after scheduled game time, and

will be assessed the point penalty stated below. If the minimum number of players is not met at the end of 10-minutes, the team will forfeit the game and will receive 0 points for the game.

The minimum number of required players ten minutes after scheduled game time (Must meet Co-Rec requirements) is as follows:		Point Penalty for team utilizing ten minute rule.
Softball	8 Players	2-0
Kickball	6 Players	2-0
Outdoor Soccer	5 players (6 for Co-Rec)	1-0 (2-0 for Co-Rec)
Indoor Soccer	4 players	1-0 (2-0 for Co-Rec)
7-on-7 Flag Football	4 players (5 for Co-Rec)	7-0 (8-0 for Co-Rec)
Ultimate Frisbee	4 players	1-0
Dodgeball	4 players	1-Player Penalty in Game 1
5-on-5 Basketball	3 players (4 for Co-Rec)	7-0 (8-0 for Co-Rec)
6-on-6 Indoor Volleyball	4 players	5-0 for First Set Only
4-on-4 Flag Football	3 players	7-0 (8-0 for Co-Rec)
Sand Volleyball/4-on-4 Indoor VB	3 players	5-0 for First Set Only
Team Tennis/Team Racquetball	3 players	1-0 In All Matches
3-on-3 Basketball	2 players	3-0
Cornhole & Spikeball League	2 players	5-0 for First Game Only
Soccer Tennis League	2 players	3-0 for First Game Only

In cases of other events that are not listed in the above sections, forfeit rules will be discussed within the rules of said event or via e-mail from the league coordinator or tournament director.

Except for dodgeball, a team will automatically be removed from the league and assessed a forfeit charge if it forfeits a second contest. In dodgeball, a team will be removed and charged for forfeiting in two separate days of play.

- If a forfeit has occurred, the teams involved may still use the site to practice until 15 minutes prior to the next contest; however, Intramural Sports staff are not permitted to officiate any practice, scrimmage or contest the teams participate in during that time.

## FORFEIT CHARGE

The forfeit charge is designed to stabilize our leagues, reduce the number of forfeits by holding team captains accountable for committing to participate in our program and recuperate staffing funds used during forfeited contests. A team captain is assuming responsibility for that team and agrees that if the team forfeits a second scheduled game/contest in the listed sport(s), the captain will be assessed a \$30 forfeit charge along with the team's removal from the league sport or event. Once a team has registered for an event and the registration deadline has passed, a team wishing to be removed from the event will be subject to a forfeit and forfeit charge. A forfeit charge will be assessed in the following league sports and events:

- Basketball, Bowling, Dodgeball, Flag Football, Indoor Soccer, Indoor Volleyball, Kickball, Outdoor Soccer, Sand Volleyball, Softball, Team Tennis, Ultimate Frisbee

A captain whose team forfeits its first contest in a sport should receive notification informing the captain of its forfeit and reminding them that a second forfeit will result in removal from the league/event and a charge being assessed. This charge will be placed on the captain's UF account approximately 48 hours after said forfeit unless an appeal is filed (see procedure below) and must be paid through the One.UF website or Criser Hall for the hold to be released (it takes approximately 1-2 business days after a forfeit for the charge to show up on a captain's record).

Intramural Sports recognizes that there are extenuating circumstances which may arise that can cause a team to not have enough players to play a contest. These circumstances include, but are not limited to: accidents, family emergencies and other unforeseen incidents. Parking issues, work and class conflicts/tests are not considered extenuating circumstances. Captains must appeal their forfeit charge within 48 hours of their forfeit by e-mailing [j.darby@ufl.edu](mailto:j.darby@ufl.edu) and providing the reason for said appeal. Appeals may take 1-2 days to be reviewed and captains will be notified of the decision once it is made. Appeals for first-time forfeits in a sport will not be heard, as they do not carry a forfeit charge along with said forfeit.

## CANCELLATIONS/RESCHEDULING/GAME DELAY POLICIES

During inclement weather, the Sport Programs Supervisor, Athletic Trainer, Sport Programs administrative staff or Department of Recreational Sports staff at the site can cancel games. Staff will make every reasonable effort to inform teams of cancellations, such as utilizing e-mail, the RecSports website, the RecSports Rainout Line (352-200-2779) and through the "Rainout Line" app (download application and search "UF RecSports" for instant updates). In some cases we will call team captains, though due to the number of teams playing per night this is not always possible. Do not assume the game will be canceled, as weather is very unpredictable. Canceled games during the regular season will not be rescheduled (unless unusual weather circumstances occur frequently during the semester), and both teams will receive seven sportsmanship points. Playoff games that are canceled will be rescheduled as soon as possible.

## Reschedules

Due to various factors in the Fall and Spring semester, a team's regular season games and first playoff game will not be rescheduled for any reason other than weather or facility issues (summer policies are discussed prior to the beginning of the playoffs). Other playoff games may be rescheduled at the discretion of the league coordinator. Please contact the

league coordinator for the sport in question at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled contest for more information on possible rescheduling options.

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### **Game Delay Policy**

Intramural Sports understands that there are cases where players may be competing in a game at one site and be running late to a game at another site. If a team does not have the usual (not minimum) number of players to start a contest, the game start may be delayed in order for the participant(s) to arrive. Participants or teams seeking a game delay should inform the Intramural Sports Supervisor of the situation by halftime of the current game and ask the supervisor to call the other site and relay the information to that Intramural Sports Supervisor.

### **LIGHTNING POLICIES**

The Intramural Sports Lightning Policy is based on the Weather Sentry online monitoring system. Games will be postponed if the system detects lightning within the specified radius. All participants must leave the playing area and seek shelter until the supervisors deem the area safe for play. Games will resume once the area has been cleared according to the Weather Sentry system. For information regarding when games become official, please check the individual sport rules listed on the website.

### **T-SHIRT POLICY/UNIFORM GUIDELINE**

Matching colored team shirts will be required in all variations of basketball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, flag football, and certain special events. The sport of soccer requires each goalie to have a different color shirt than his/her teammates and opponents, and soccer teams/goalies may not wear gold-colored shirts. One or two-digit numbers are required in basketball on the front or back of the shirt only and must be at least 3 inches tall.

Teams will have the opportunity to select a team color during the sign up process of the sport. White, gray and other colors that could be perceived as white or gray will not be permitted (teams may not select yellow in any soccer league). The team is required to have all players wear that same shade of color to every game. All teams will also be required to bring an alternate white jersey to each game. Prior to game time the Sport Programs Supervisor, in conjunction with the game officials, will determine if a conflict exists regarding jersey colors. The team in violation of the policy will be asked to wear their alternate white jerseys. In the event they do not have an alternate white jersey and cannot field the minimum number of players for that sport, that team will forfeit. If two teams are wearing the same jersey color and both teams have alternate white jerseys, a coin flip will determine which team wears the alternate jersey. If both teams do not have alternate jerseys, teams must work together to ensure that the game is played. If neither team has their alternate white jerseys, thus causing a game to not be played, both teams will forfeit their contest. Teams may check out matching pinnies at the SWRC Equipment Checkout Desk.

Intramural Sports recognizes that there are cases in which T-shirt colors will not match exactly. We strive to ensure that participants are able to play while maintaining the integrity of the game. The Supervisor has the discretion to allow a participant to play when their T-shirt shade is close to the same color as their teammates but does not exactly match their teammates. Teams will be reminded that they must always bring their alternate jersey to ensure their ability to play.

## PROTESTS

Only protests based on questions of player eligibility (including gender eligibility) and rule interpretation, when the misinterpretation affects the outcome of the game, will be accepted. Protests which challenge the accuracy of a judgment call made by the officials or Supervisors will not be accepted. The team captain must make any protest involving rule interpretation to the Intramural Sports Supervisor at the time of which the incident in question occurs. Once a situation has passed, however, it is no longer subject to change or protest.

Any team protesting eligibility must provide the player(s) in question's full name. During the regular season, any team found to be using an ineligible player will default all games which that individual played and be subject to removal from the league. All regular season protests must be filed before the final record deadline, which is 4:30 p.m. of the day following the end of the regular season. In the playoffs, if an eligibility protest is found valid, the protesting team advances, but the previous rounds remain the same. During the playoffs, any team protesting the eligibility of a player must do so by noon of the next business day to allow the Sport Programs Staff adequate time to determine the validity of the protest. If their next playoff game is that same day, the protest must be turned in immediately following the protested game. Teams may be randomly screened for ineligible players by the Sport Programs Staff without a protest being filed. In cases where a team chooses to protest eligibility at any point after a championship contest has begun, and the protest is upheld, the specific league will not declare a champion, no championship game will be rescheduled and no t-shirts will be awarded.

## APPEALS

Decisions on participant suspensions made by the Sport Programs administrative staff may be appealed to the Associate Director of Sport Programs within one business day of the suspension. Appeals will take 1-2 weeks to be heard. During the appeals process the individual(s) involved will not be allowed to participate until a final decision has been determined. In cases involving a suspension of longer than 30 days, appeals may not be filed until one-half of the suspension has been served.

Appeals on participant suspensions will only be heard for the following reasons:

1. Additional information provided not available at time of suspension meeting.
  2. Suspension length not consistent with guidelines.
- Appeals concerning forfeit charges are explained in the "Forfeit Charge" section of the Participant's Guide.

## EJECTIONS

Intramural Sports reserves the right to eject any individual, team or spectator who interrupts the flow of a game in any manner. Players do not have to accumulate the required number of infractions to be ejected. Players may be ejected before, during or after any contest and ejections can be made by any official on the contest or any Sport Programs Supervisor or professional/administrative staff. The jurisdiction of staff begins when the participant/spectator enters the visual confines of the field/court and ends when the involved persons leave the facility in which the contest is being held and the visual confines of the playing area. Any ejected player(s) must leave the playing area and facility immediately. If the player refuses to leave within a reasonable time, the game will be defaulted. Captains must assist staff with retrieving the ejected participant's identification. Ejected players are ineligible to participate in all Intramural Sports activities until they meet with the Sport Programs administrative staff and any subsequent suspension has been served. The player must e-mail or call the Coordinator for Sport Programs, Trell Smith ([jsmith10@ufl.edu](mailto:jsmith10@ufl.edu)) and schedule an appointment to seek reinstatement. Repeated unsportsmanlike issues will be monitored by the Sport Programs staff and participants demonstrating a pattern of unsportsmanlike behavior are subject to suspension from all Intramural Sports activities.

## INJURIES

Participation in Intramural Sports activities is completely voluntary. These activities intrinsically involve risks of physical injury greater than those encountered in daily life, and by taking part in sports and other activities, participants acknowledge and assume risks inherent therein. Intramural Sports does not carry accident or injury insurance to cover participants in sports activities. Therefore, all students are strongly urged to purchase health insurance before participating in any activity.

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### Return to Play

Any participant that sustains an injury where the Athletic Trainer feels a physician's referral is necessary, including concussions, assumes the responsibility to obtain the physician's medical clearance prior to returning to participation. The Athletic Trainer will document any referral they make on the Injury Report Form and it will be the responsibility of the participant to ensure they follow all Athletic Trainer recommendations. Any player who requires a physician's referral will be personally responsible for ensuring all return to play criteria set out by the physician (or other certified medical professional) are met before resuming participation in any of the RecSports programs or facilities.

### Athletic Trainers

Intramural Sports provides athletic trainers who are available to evaluate injuries, prep participants and provide immediate first aid at most intramural games. Players wishing to be taped must bring their own white tape and arrive at least 30 minutes prior to their game. Should an injury occur, the athletic trainer will treat to the best of their ability and may refer participants for additional medical attention as necessary.

## PLAYING RULES/MERCY RULES

The rules in all sports are based on national association rules with modifications, when appropriate, to make the activity safe and enjoyable for the players while attempting to maintain the identity of the game. Intramural Sports reserves the right to modify playing rules at any time to meet the best interests of the league. The rules of each sport are available for download on the RecSports website. Sport Programs Supervisors have the authority to rule on items not specifically covered in the rules in cases which the contest officials cannot come to a decision. The supervisor or Sport Programs staff may also assess conduct penalties which the game officials do not call in order to ensure proper safety and sportsmanship, and may default, end games prior to normal conclusion, if deemed necessary. A game becomes official after half of its normal length has been completed.

Many of our leagues have a point differential at which a contest is ended at no penalty, default or forfeit, to either team. This point will not take place until at least half of the game has been completed. A game will be concluded when the mercy rule is reached regardless if both the winning and losing team wish to continue play. Sport Programs staff may end a game prior to its normal completion if the teams are purposefully avoiding reaching the mercy rule.



The "mercy rules" for each sport are as follows:	
Flag Football	50 point lead at or after halftime, or per NIRSA rules at the 2-minute warning.
4-on-4 Football	50 point lead at or after halftime, or per NIRSA rules at the 2-minute warning.
5-on-5 Basketball	35 point lead at or after halftime, or 20 points at the 2-minute mark.
Softball/Kickball	12 run lead after 3.5 innings; both teams must bat in said innings if visiting team is ahead.
Indoor/Outdoor Soccer	10 goal lead (20 for Co-Rec) at or after halftime, or 5 goal lead (14 for Co-Rec) with 5 minutes remaining.

- Sports not listed follow their own specific format and do not have a "Mercy Rule."

## OFFICIAL'S FEEDBACK

During each contest intramural sports officials are monitored and evaluated by Sport Programs supervisors and staff. These evaluations are used as a basis for improving job performance. Participants wishing to provide feedback about the official's performance should contact the league coordinator for that sport by e-mail. E-mail addresses for league coordinators can be found on each individual sport's page on the RecSports website. These comments should be with the intent to help improve the quality of the officiating in our program and in no way have an effect on the official's employment status or future regular season assignments.

Vulgar, obscene or abusive comments made through social media channels directed toward or in reference to student staff members are prohibited. Offenders may be subject to suspension from intramural sports activities and/or RecSports facilities as well as referral to the Dean of Students Office for possible violation of the Student Honor Code.

## SPORTSMANSHIP

Intramural Sports expects all participants and spectators to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. The Sport Programs Sporting Behavior Policy is as follows: *To address unsporting behavior each sport will follow the specific penalties/fouls as outlined in the sport specific rulebooks. If a team accumulates the equivalent of 4 unsporting behavior penalties/fouls or 2 ejections, they will not be allowed to participate in playoffs. These penalties carry over throughout the duration of playoffs (i.e., if a team accumulates more than the allowed number of unsporting behavior penalties during a playoff game, they will be removed from said playoffs). Please reference the sport specific rulebooks to determine what is considered an unsportsmanlike penalty/foul as well as what results in an ejection in each sport.*

Examples of unsporting behavior fouls in specific sports include:

Basketball: Technical Foul

Flag Football: Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Soccer: Yellow Card for dissent or misconduct (Note: Yellow Cards for rules violations, such as slide tackling, do not count towards the Sporting Behavior Policy).

Any questions about sporting behavior should be directed to the sport's league coordinator. Recreational Sports at University of Florida requires scorekeepers, officials, and supervisors to enforce all rules regarding unsportsmanlike conduct by participants, spectators, and coaches. Violators will be ejected. It is strongly suggested you remind all teammates, spectators, and coaches of this policy.

## PLAYOFF SELECTION

For the purposes of the below section, ***“Student”*** is defined as someone who is currently enrolled in classes at UF, while ***“Non-Student”*** is defined as someone who is not currently taking classes at UF.

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### Collegiate Brackets

Collegiate brackets consist of teams which contain zero, one, two or three non-students on their roster. All teams who finish the regular season with a .500 or better winning percentage, meet the sportsmanship criteria (see Sportsmanship), and forfeit zero or one contest during the regular season will automatically be eligible for the playoffs. Teams that finish the regular season with a winning percentage below .500 may request to be included in the playoffs by completing the [Playoff Request Form](#) for said sport by the date/time specified in league emails. All regular season game results and sportsmanship become final at 12pm the day following the end of the regular season. It is the captain's responsibility to ensure that all information is correct prior to that deadline. All qualifying teams will have the opportunity to select their position in the playoff bracket, with the exception of the Fraternity & Sorority league which are automatically seeded by pre-determined league rules.

Teams will be ranked by their winning percentage with the tiebreaker being average sportsmanship points. Further ties will be broken randomly. League Coordinators will notify team captains of the day and time of the selection draft. Qualifying teams that fail to select their spot in the draft prior to its conclusion will be randomly assigned an open spot by the League Coordinator.

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### Community Brackets

Community brackets consist of the following teams:

1. Contain four or more non-students on their roster.
2. Contain one, two or three non-students on their roster. If this team chooses to play in the Community Bracket, they may not participate in the Collegiate Bracket.
3. Contain zero non-students on their roster. These teams are permitted to participate in both the Collegiate and Community Brackets.

All teams who meet one of the above criteria and meet the sportsmanship criteria (see Sportsmanship), and forfeit zero or one contest during the regular season will be eligible for the playoffs. Teams meeting the above criteria that wish to be included in the Community Bracket must complete the Community Bracket Playoff Request form for said sport by the date/time specified in league emails. A Community Bracket must consist of four or more teams to commence.

All qualifying teams will have the opportunity to select their position in the playoff bracket. Teams will be ranked by their winning percentage with the tiebreaker being average sportsmanship points. Further ties will be broken randomly.

League Coordinators will notify team captains of the day and time of the selection draft. Qualifying teams that fail to select their spot in the draft prior to its conclusion will be randomly assigned an open spot by the League Coordinator.

If a Community Bracket does not meet the number of teams needed to commence, the following will occur:

1. Teams containing four or more non-students on their roster will be able to remove enough non-students to be compliant with the Collegiate Bracket rules. Teams who cannot be compliant with the non-student minimum will not advance or participate in any playoff bracket.
2. Teams with zero, one, two or three non-students will be moved to the Collegiate Bracket.

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## Individual Sports

Individual sports, such as tennis and racquetball, may have different qualifications for playoffs due to reduced time to finish a playoff system. Standard playoff format is to finish .500 or better and have proper sportsmanship to qualify. If a league is utilizing a different playoff format, it will be explained by the League Coordinator prior to the playoffs.

## AWARDS

The Champions in the Men's, Fraternity, Sorority, Women's, Residence Hall, Open, Community and Co-Rec leagues will receive champion T-shirts (a minimum of three (four in Community) teams are needed to comprise a league). Players must participate at least once with their team to be eligible to receive a championship shirt.

The maximum number of shirts allocated to a championship team is as follows:

Maximum of 16 shirts for: Softball/Kickball

Maximum of 14 shirts for: Fall Flag Football\*\*, Outdoor Soccer\*\*, Ultimate Frisbee

Maximum of 12 shirts for: Indoor Soccer, Volleyball

Maximum of 10 shirts for: Basketball

Maximum of 8 shirts for: 4-on-4 Flag Football, 4-on-4 Sand Volleyball

Maximum of 6 shirts for: 3-on-3 Basketball, Wallyball and Team Bowling, Team Tennis, Team Racquetball

Maximum of 4 Shirts for: Team Golf, 2-on-2 Sand Volleyball

Esports champion shirts will vary based on the required number of players to participate in each game offered.

\*Allocations for other events will be determined by the tournament director but will not exceed 1.5 times the number of players playing on a team at one time.

\*\* Fall Flag Football and Outdoor Soccer add 1 shirt given for Co-Rec.

While efforts are made to ensure champions receive the proper sized T-shirt, we cannot guarantee accommodation of all champion's sizes. Random shirt sizes will be given to the team captain to distribute to players not present at the championship.

## EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Intramural Sports hires and trains hundreds of student officials and scorekeepers each year. Officials are needed for all Intramural team sports. No experience is necessary! We will train you in the sport(s) you wish to work. We are seeking

officials for flag football, outdoor and indoor soccer, basketball, volleyball, softball and kickball. Hired scorekeepers will work flag football, softball and 5-on-5 basketball. With competitive pay and flexible weekly scheduling, our jobs are some of the best student employment opportunities on campus. For more information, visit our website at <https://recsports.ufl.edu/about/student-employment/sport-programs/>