
2017–2018

Intramural Sports Manual



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Program Overview

Over the past 100 years, the Intramural sports program at The Ohio State University has become one of the premier programs in the country. In 1913, Ohio State and the University of Michigan became the first universities to formally organize and manage an intramural sports program for students on their respective campuses. Intramural sports has come a long way since then, but our goal is still the same: to provide the Ohio State community with opportunities to engage and interact in a fair, safe, recreational sports program at a wide range of skill levels.

The intramural sports program offers more than 30 different individual and team sport activities throughout the academic year with over 10,000 unique participants annually. The program is also committed to promoting the development of leadership qualities in students. Student employment opportunities include officiating, supervising, scorekeeping and office administration. More than 200 students are hired each school year.

Sport offerings are scheduled into both competitive and recreational leagues for men and women and fraternities, sororities, independents, co-recreational, scholar and faculty/staff groups. Persons not affiliated with a team may sign up as an individual participant for most team sports.

Our ability to offer a diverse program affords students the opportunity to understand different sport cultures and styles of competition. It is the hope of the competitive sports staff that their dedication to the overall development of students will assist in fostering the student's commitment to recreation and pave the way for a healthy lifestyle long after their time at The Ohio State University.

Recreational Sports

Motto

Life in Motion

Mission Statement

To engage the university community in physical and wellness activities by offering the finest collegiate recreation programs, services, staff and facilities.

Vision Statement

We will be global leaders in developing lives of balance, physical activity and well-being.

Values

- Advocate for lifelong movement and an active campus
- Build personal development opportunities
- Celebrate our proud and progressive heritage
- Deliver extraordinary service experiences
- Enrich through collaboration and diversity

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Office Hours and Contact Information

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. *

Phone: 614-292-2732

Room: RPAC, Recreational Sports Office Suite, Room B147

Email: Intramurals@osu.edu

Website: Recsports.osu.edu/intramural-sports

Competitive Sports Hotline: 614-688-8695

For break and summer hours, please see website

Policies and Procedures

Section 1: Eligibility

Article 1: Eligibility

A participant may be an Ohio State student taking a minimum of four credit hours. Student Life Recreational Sports defines a student as any individual who is currently enrolled at The Ohio State University and is registered with the University Registrar. Students taking four or more credit hours automatically pay the Recreational Sports student fee and therefore, do not need to purchase a membership.

The following people are eligible to participate after purchasing the appropriate Recreational Sports membership through the RPAC Welcome Center for the semester in which they intend to participate. A participant may be:

- an Ohio State student taking less than four credit hours
- the spouse of a student
- a faculty or staff member of The Ohio State University. Student Life Recreational Sports defines faculty and staff as all current faculty and staff and visiting professors at The Ohio State University who are paid through the university payroll department
- the spouse of a faculty or staff member
- an affiliate of the department (alumni, member of the President's Club, other recognized affiliate groups)
- a member-sponsored adult

Article 2: Professional Athlete Rule

Professional athletes, current or former, may not participate in their respective or alike sport, activity or event. A professional athlete is defined as a person who has been paid to participate in a sport, under contract with a professional team, included on a professional team roster, practiced with a professional team and/or compensated for trying out for a team.

Article 3: Intercollegiate Athlete Rule

Intercollegiate athletes are not eligible to participate in their respective or alike intramural sport, activity or event until a period of one year has passed following completion of all activities for the Department of Athletics. After the period has passed, former intercollegiate athletes must participate at the highest level of competition offered in their respective sport. Intercollegiate athletes are defined as individuals who are practicing with or competing with a team recognized by the Department of Athletics as a varsity sport. Included in this rule are red-shirt athletes and practicing proposition 48 athletes. Intercollegiate athletes may participate in intramural sports programs other than their intercollegiate sport.

Article 4: Sport Club Athlete Rule

No more than two club athletes may participate for the same team in their respective or alike intramural sport, activity or event. Sport club members must participate at the highest level of competition (Premier and/or A) offered in their respective sport. A sport club member is defined as an individual who has practiced or played in a contest for a registered sport club during the academic year.

EXCEPTION: Ice hockey teams may not have more than four club hockey members per team. Club hockey members must play at the Advanced level.

Article 5: Identification Policy

To participate in any intramural sport, event or activity, all participants must show a valid Ohio State issued photograph identification card OR a government issued photo identification card. This includes, but is not limited to, BuckIDs, Ohio State Medical Center identification cards, Ohio State Vet Center identification cards and Recreational Sports membership cards. An Ohio State identification card must include the following information and be clearly visible to be considered valid: the individual's name, photograph and identification number. A government issued photo identification card can be a driver's license, passport or non-driver photo identification card. Identification cards that do not have one or more of these requirements will not be accepted and the individual will not be allowed to play.

Misuse of an identification card (borrowing, lending, counterfeiting, altering, etc.) is a violation of The Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct. The identification card will be confiscated and the individual attempting to use the card will be ineligible to participate. If the card belongs to another student, that student must meet with a professional staff member to regain possession of their identification card. This misuse of an identification card will also count as an ejection toward the team, thus lowering their sportsmanship rating to a "C" and may result in a one-week suspension from Rec Sports facilities. If two players attempt to misuse an identification card, the game will result in a forfeit.

Article 6: Number of Teams

Men may play on:

- 1 Premier Level Team AND
- 1 Men's Team (MA or MB) AND
- 1 Co-Rec team (COA or COB) AND
- 1 Graduate/Faculty Team or 1 Fraternity Team
- 1 All Scholars Team

Women may play on:

- 1 Premier Level Team AND
- 1 Women's Team AND
- 1 Co-Rec Team (COA or COB) AND
- 1 Graduate/Faculty Team
- 1 All Scholars Team

Article 7: Gender Restriction

Individuals who identify as a woman are eligible to play on women's and co-rec teams; individuals who identify as a man are eligible to play on men's and co-rec teams. Transgender participants are eligible to play based on their expressed gender identity so long as they comply with all Player Eligibility Guidelines.

Article 8: Illegal Participation

Teams found to have participants not following the above eligibility policies may have games forfeited to its opponent regardless of the actual outcome. The participants in question may be suspended from that specific team or all intramural activities and Recreational Sports facilities for any length of time deemed appropriate. Participation is defined as the individual's name appearing on the roster, signing the Release of All Claims Form, and/or stepping onto the field of play for any period of time during game play. The Competitive Sports Office reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of any participant at any time. It is not necessary for a team to file a formal protest for a player to be ruled ineligible.

NOTE: Captains believing that the opposing team has ineligible players are highly encouraged to file a formal protest. Refer to Section 10: Protests. Your help in making our intramural sports program as fair as possible is greatly appreciated, and your formal protest assists the competitive sports staff in providing fair and safe opportunities.

Section 2: Captain's Responsibilities

Article 1: Team Captain

When registering for a team sport, a captain must be designated to the Competitive Sports Staff. This person will be the main contact between the competitive sports program and the team.

Article 2: Responsibilities

The team captain is a vital link between the individuals participating in a sport and the Competitive Sports Staff. For this reason, any person assuming the role of a team captain has a number of responsibilities he or she is obligated to. The captain is responsible for:

- Knowing that all team members are eligible to play in an intramural contest. This not only includes whether or not they are an eligible student or faculty/staff member at Ohio State, but also having full knowledge that each member is playing on a legal number of teams.
- Inviting all teammates to join their team through the intramural sports online registration and management system at IMLeagues.com. Note: Please be aware that emails from IMLeagues may be sent to the SPAM Folder
- Ensuring that all teammates are registered on IMLeagues.com before game time on the day of the event
- Selecting playoff position in the bracket after regular season play
- Informing all players of the game time and location, including checking the playoff schedules the first day of posting and every day following competition.
- Requiring all team members to present a valid Ohio State ID prior to the start of every game. IDs are required at all intramural events and must be presented each time an individual plans to participate in an event.
- Representing each member of their team and being the only participant to discuss rule interpretations and calls with game officials.
- Filing all protests, officials' evaluations, etc., with the competitive sports staff on time.
- Knowing all scheduled meetings, rules, policies and procedures of the intramural sports program and passing this information along to all team members.
- Assisting the Competitive Sports Staff with implementing the sportsmanship policy to all team members.
- Arriving at the game site at least 15 minutes prior to the start of every contest to be sure all teammates are checked in and that any necessary equipment is checked out.
- Communicating with the Competitive Sports Staff throughout the season about any problems or concerns that may be occurring at the site. This includes frequently checking and responding to emails sent by the competitive sports staff.
- Cooperating with the competitive sports staff at the game site concerning any protests, incidents or accidents that may occur and with the competitive sports staff the day following such occurrences.

Article 3: Mandatory Captain Quiz

Each captain will be required to complete a captain's quiz prior to registering his/her team online on the IMLeagues site at intramurals.osu.edu. The captain will be prompted to complete the quiz when creating a team. The captain must score 100 percent on the quiz to register the team. All questions will come from the Intramural Sports Handbook and the specific rulebook of the sport.

Article 4: Inclement Weather Situations

Intramural activities are subject to cancelation due to poor weather and/or field conditions. The decision to cancel games will not be relayed to competitive sports staff until 4 p.m. In the event of inclement weather (rain, snow, etc.), the Competitive Sports Hotline at 614-688-8695 will have a recorded message indicating whether or not any or all of the events for that day have been canceled. It is the responsibility of each team to call the Competitive Sports Hotline. Intramural sports will not call participants to inform them that games are canceled due to weather. Game status will not be given out over the Competitive Sports Office phone.

Article 5: Team Evaluations of Officials

Teams are always afforded the chance to evaluate the officiating crew after each contest/event. Captains may find a Competitive Sports Supervisor after their contest/event to fill out the appropriate form. These evaluations will be reviewed by a professional staff member and used as a learning tool for our officials. Please take time to evaluate performance that you consider excellent, poor or anywhere in between.

Article 6: Rules and Eligibility Protests

All protests must be filed at the time of the incident in question by the team captain. Sports may have a specific set of rules regarding when a protest may be filed. Please refer to Section 10: Protests.

Section 3: Participant Responsibilities

Article 1: Responsibilities

The Competitive Sports Staff is proud to offer a variety of activities for the Ohio State community.

However, each person participating in an intramural event assumes responsibilities as an individual participant. Participants are responsible for:

- Creating an account for the intramural online registration system, IMLeagues, at intramurals.osu.edu.
- Joining your team roster on IMLeagues.com before game time on the day of the event.
- Knowing their team's game time and location.
- Signing the Release of All Claims Form prior to any participation.
- Arriving at the site at least 15 minutes prior to the start of every contest to make sure that his or her name is properly documented and that any necessary equipment is checked out.
- Bringing a valid Ohio State ID to all intramural sport competitions. IDs are required at all intramural events and must be pre-sented each time an individual plans to participate in an event.
- Being familiar with all rules, schedules, policies, and procedures including the sportsmanship, the inclusion & bias incident, and eligibility policies of the Intramural Sports Program.
- Cooperating before, during and after competition with the competitive sports staff on site.

Article 2: Mandatory Participant Quiz

Each participant will be required to complete a quiz prior to joining a team online on IMLeagues at intramurals.osu.edu. The participant will be prompted to complete the quiz before joining a team. The participant must score 100 percent on the quiz to join the team. All questions will come from the Intramural Sports Handbook and the specific rulebook of the sport.

Article 3: Participant Safety and Injuries

The possibility of injury exists in all sports. The Department of Recreational Sports assumes no responsibility for injuries. However, basic first aid will be available at game sites. All participants acknowledge an assumption of risk by their voluntary participation in intramural activities. All participants must sign the Release of All Claims Form on IMLeagues at intramurals.osu.edu prior to participating in any intramural activity.

When a participant is bleeding, has an open wound, or has blood on his or her uniform, the player will be directed to leave the game. The injured player may not return to the game until the bleeding has stopped, the open wound covered, and/or the bloody uniform is changed. The game may continue play without the injured player at the discretion of the competitive sports staff.

Knee and ankle braces unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production shall be permitted and do not require additional padding. Please review sport specific rules for additional equipment restrictions and requirements.

Any participant displaying concussion-like symptoms, as identified by the competitive sports staff, shall be removed from play immediately. Participants will not be allowed to participate until a Concussion Clearance Form has been completed and submitted to the Competitive Sports Office during normal business hours. Concussion Clearance Forms will not be accepted on-site.

Article 4: Concussion Protocol and Clearance Policy

Concussion Policy

Any participant displaying concussion-like symptoms, as identified by the competitive sports staff or athletic trainers, shall be removed from play immediately. Participant will not be allowed to participate until a Concussion Clearance Form has been completed and submitted to the Competitive Sports Office during normal business hours. Concussion Clearance Forms will not be accepted on-site.

Clearance Policy

Any athlete who is diagnosed with a concussion or any other physical injury that requires an appointment or treatment by a medical provider must have a licensed health care provider of your choice complete the Return to Play form.

Once an athlete sustains an injury which requires medical attention, the athlete will not be allowed to participate until the Return to Play form has been completed and returned to the Athletic Training Staff at Ohio State University Sports Medicine Department for review. All injuries should be reported to a coach immediately. Return to Play forms are available from the Competitive Sports Supervisors and located on our website.

The Competitive Sports Program requires that all athletes diagnosed with a concussion must also have exertion testing performed prior to full return to play status. These services can be performed by an approved licensed health care provider of your choice (Medical Doctor, Doctor of Osteopathy, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, Physician's Assistant or Licensed Certified Athletic Trainer) trained in the evaluation and management of concussion injury. If the provider of your choice is unfamiliar with the 5-step exertion testing, they can refer the injured athlete to Ohio State Sports Medicine.

If a player has or appears to have a concussion or is displaying concussion-like symptoms, the student is ineligible for further competition in club sport and intramural programs until they provide the Competitive Sports Office a clearance form signed by a medical doctor. Students that attempt to continue participation without receiving medical clearance may be ruled ineligible from registration and participation in all future Office of Student Life Recreational Sports programming.

Academic Accommodations

Please be aware that suffering a concussion can temporarily affect academic performance. The Office of Student Life Student Advocacy Center is available to all students who may need accommodations following a concussion. They will work to connect the participant with other resources, advise participants on how to manage their condition in relation to school, and offer whatever support they can provide. The Student Advocacy Center's phone number is 614-292-1111.

Article 5: Equipment Check Out

Basic equipment for most intramural activities may be checked out through the indoor/outdoor facility staff at game sites. Please check the availability of equipment prior to your game. A valid Ohio State ID must be presented at the time of check out to be eligible to use this equipment.

Section 4: League Definitions

Article 1: Team Sports

Intramural sports provide premier and recreational levels of participation. The levels of play vary with each sport. All leagues play regular-season games and teams must qualify for playoffs.

The levels commonly offered by the intramural sports program include:

Premier Level

This level is the most competitive level of play and offered only in flag football, soccer, and basketball. Teams are comprised of highly skilled, competitive individuals, often with significant playing experience. Teams will receive seven regular season games.

Recreational Level

Teams participating at this level are less competitive than the Premier Level. Player ability is not as important as having fun and socializing. Recreational levels are offered for a range of interests including competitive play, social gathering and/or individuals learning a new sport. The Recreational Level competes once a week and encompasses the following leagues:

Men's (MA or MB)

This league is designed for men only. The “A” division is considered more competitive and designed for more talented, experienced athletes. The “B” division is more recreational and encompasses athletes of all skill levels and experience.

Women’s (WA or WB)

This league is designed for women only. The “A” division is considered more competitive and designed for more talented, experienced athletes. The “B” division is more recreational and encompasses athletes of all skill levels and experience.

CoRec (COA or COB)

This league is designed for teams consisting of both men and women participants. These leagues have a gender ratio requirement of men and women. The “A” division is considered more competitive and designed for more talented, experienced athletes. The “B” division is more recreational and encompasses athletes of all skill levels and experience.

Fraternity

This league is designed for the participants who are current members of fraternities recognized by the university only.

Open

This league combines both the competitive and recreational teams and is offered for both men and women without a gender ratio requirement. This division is typically offered when there are not enough teams to operate both into a competitive and recreational division.

Graduate/Faculty/Professional Staff (GFPS)

This league is designed for teams consisting of graduate students, faculty members and professional staff of the university only.

All Scholars

This league is specifically designed for participants enrolled in a University Scholars Program through the Honors and Scholars Center. A list of all 17 Scholars Programs can be found at <http://honors-scholars.osu.edu/scholars/programs>. This league will be played under co-rec rules.

Unified Sports

This league is designed for Intramural participants, consisting of both men and women participants, to partner with Special Olympic Ohio Athletes, consisting of both men and women participants, who are similar in age and ability levels.

Team captains are responsible for ensuring their team members follow all eligibility requirements. Team captains are also advised to seek clarification on special eligibility requirements, if necessary.

Section 5: Registration Information

Article 1: General Information

Intramural sports registration will take place throughout the semester based on when each sport begins. Register by visiting intramurals.osu.edu; this site will direct you to our online management system through IMLeagues.com. Participants can find complete details on how to register your team and create an IMLeagues.com account at intramurals.osu.edu. Participants are responsible for checking the intramural sports website for complete details, including times and locations

Article 2: How to Register for Intramural Sports

All participants are required to create an account with IMLeagues.com. Note: [IMLeagues](http://IMLeagues.com) offers a live a live support button on the right side of all pages. Use this button if you encounter any difficulties. You may also contact the Competitive Sports Office during office hours.

1. Go to <https://register.osu.edu/> and click on [IMLeagues](http://IMLeagues.com)

2. For any participant who is a member but doesn't have an IMLeagues account, please choose sign in with your OSU Name.#. Enter your Name.# and password then click Competitive and Recreational Sports & Activities
For any participant whom already has an account please login in with your account information.
3. For those who don't have a local account, click Sign up, then enter your information. NOTE: You must enter an Member ID Number (this is the ID number you use to swipe into the Recreational Sports Facilities)
4. You will be sent an activation email. Click the link in the email to login and activate your IMLeagues.com account.
5. You should be automatically joined to your school – if not, you can search schools by clicking the "Schools" link.

Pre-Registration

- Prior to the official registration date for each sport, team captains will be able to pre-register their team to assist with the process.
- The captain must pass the online captain's quiz prior to completing the team creation. The quiz will cover responsibilities of the captain, as well as rules for the sport.
- Teams will not be required to pay until the team is moved into a division during registration.
- Pre-registering does not guarantee any team a spot in the intramural sports season; it is designed to speed up the process during registration. When registration officially opens the team captain must go onto IMLeagues and move their team into the division of their choosing.

To Register

- Log in to your IMLeagues.com account at <https://recregister.osu.edu/>
- Click on The Ohio State University link to go to your school's homepage on IMLeagues.com.
- The current sports will be displayed; click on the league/division you wish to play.
- Click the green register/signup button to create a team. Follow instructions from there.
- Once you create your team, invite members to join by clicking the invite member's link on the team page. Any invited member must accept the invitation to be joined to your team.

To Join a Team Two options:

- Accept an invitation from a captain.
- Find the team and captain name on division/league page and request to join.

No Team, No Problem (Individual Registration)

You can list yourself as a free agent in as many divisions within a league as you want. You will be visible to all members of the site and can request to join teams or post information about yourself so teams can request to add you to their team.

NOTE: Check the intramural sports website for registration information for each specific sport. Some sports such as team tennis and ice hockey follow different procedures.

Article 3: Refund Requests

Refunds will be automatically processed by the Competitive Sports Office for teams that have paid, but are not in a division when the schedule is posted online. The refund process takes approximately 6-8 weeks and refunds will be delivered directly to the card which was used for initial payment.

Any team requesting a refund for any additional reason must request that refund by the last day of classes during the semester in which the team was registered.

Section 6: Rosters

Article 1: Creating a Team Roster

All team rosters must be created in the intramural sports online registration system, IMLeagues, at intramurals.osu.edu. The captain must invite eligible individuals to join through the website. All roster additions must be completed before game time on the day of the event. If a participant is not on the roster at the field, they will not be able to participate.

If an individual's name, ID number, or photograph are indecipherable or faded out on their Ohio State ID, that individual will not be eligible to participate.

Article 2: Playoff Rosters

All rosters are locked after the final regular season game. No additions to rosters may be made during the playoffs.

NOTES: The Competitive Sports Staff will review situations on a case-by-case basis if a team requests to add players after the regular season. Only extremely special circumstances will be taken into account. Contact the competitive sports professional staff a minimum of 24 hours prior to the game affected.

The Competitive Sports Program reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of teams and players. These investigations may result in forfeiture, probation, and/or suspension. Teams must follow the eligibility requirements stated in this handbook and reviewed during the captain's quiz.

Section 7: Defaults and Forfeits

Article 1A: Default

Any team knowing in advance that they will be unable to play a regularly scheduled contest is provided the opportunity to default the contest. This will result in the team receiving a loss but will maintain an "A" sportsmanship rating for the contest. To receive a default, the captain must call the Competitive Sports Office by 4 p.m. on the day of the contest with their request. For teams playing on Sunday, the deadline is Friday at 4 p.m. The opposing team will then be contacted by the Competitive Sports Office to let them know they do not need to arrive for their scheduled contest.

NOTE: During summer intramural sports, the captain must call the Competitive Sports office by 3 p.m. the day of their contest to request a default. A team is allowed one default per sport per season. Any request after the first default will be counted as a forfeit. If a team has been granted a default and the contest is then canceled due to weather or scheduling issues, the default will be removed and the contest will be played normally if it is rescheduled.

Article 1B: On-Site Default

Any team who shows up to game location and has one player less than the minimum amount of team members required to play will qualify for an on-site default. Please see sport specific rules for information regarding the minimum amount of team members needed to start each sport. The team who is using the on-site default will receive a loss and a "D" Sportsmanship and the opposing team, whom has the correct amount of players will receive a win and "A" sportsmanship. Teams can only receive one on-site default or regular default for each season.

Article 2: Forfeit

A forfeited game will be marked as a forfeit in the team standings and the team will receive an "F" sportsmanship rating for the contest. Three situations will result in a forfeit:

- Not Enough Players – Team does not have the required number of players to participate 10 minutes past the scheduled start time unless otherwise stated above.
- Eligibility – One or more of the players participating is ineligible and therefore may not participate. Ineligibility may be due to the player misusing an ID, being listed on multiple rosters within the same league, ruled ineligible for sportsmanship-related issues, etc.
- Sportsmanship – Game is ended by staff for sportsmanship-related issues.

Article 3: Forfeit Policy

There will be a 10-minute grace period for all games. Each sport has a different forfeit policy and penalty for being late. A late team will automatically be dropped to a “B” sportsmanship rating. Please see the sport specific rules to learn the forfeit policy for that sport. Failure to arrive and check in before 10 minutes past game time will result in the competitive sports supervisor declaring the game forfeited. If both teams fail to appear, a double forfeit will be declared; the game will not be rescheduled. Each sport requires a specific number of participants to begin a game. It is the captain’s responsibility to be at the game site on time with the minimum number of players required to play.

Article 4: Winning by Default or Forfeit

If the opposing team has defaulted or forfeited, the winning team will receive an “A” sportsmanship rating and the contest will be marked as a win in the team standings. Winning teams and teams losing by forfeit are still allowed to add players to their roster at the game site even without playing. Any team choosing to default will not be allowed to add players to their roster for that game.

NOTE: Refund requests will not be granted for contests not played due to default or forfeit.

Section 8: Sportsmanship

Article 1: Captains

The team captain is responsible for the actions of his or her team and their spectators. Additionally, the captain will ensure that his or her team is familiar with the rules of play and intramural sports policies and procedures contained in this handbook. Sportsmanship is a vital component for success in every intramural sports contest. Participants and spectators are expected to display good sportsmanship toward opponents and the competitive sports staff at all times.

Article 2: Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Participants and spectators shall not commit acts of unsportsmanlike conduct. This includes, but is not limited to, arguments with staff, flagrant fouling, fighting, etc. before, during or after a contest. No player or team shall:

- Use foul or derogatory language, threaten or verbally abuse any other participant or competitive sports employee before, during or after the game.
- Participate in a game for which he or she is ineligible.
- Argue or talk back to the competitive sports staff. Only the captain should address an official, and only if done so in a courteous manner.
- Intentionally strike, push, trip, or flagrantly foul another participant, spectator or competitive sports employee.
- Mistreat the facility, equipment or supplies of The Ohio State University and/or Student Life Recreational Sports.
- Attempt to sign in using another person’s BuckID, medical pass or Recreational Sports pass.
- Any other act that violates the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Article 3: Individual Sportsmanship - Definitions

Any participant displaying unsportsmanlike conduct will be issued either a conduct warning or ejection by the game officials or competitive sport supervisors. These conduct warnings or ejections are classified differently in each sport. The following are examples:

Soccer

- One conduct yellow card – Conduct warning
- Two yellow cards or one red card – Ejection

Basketball

- One conduct technical foul – Conduct Warning
- Two technical fouls or one flagrant foul – Ejection

Flag Football

- One unsportsmanlike conduct penalty – Conduct warning
- Two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties – Ejection

Sports without Levels of Sportsmanship Penalties

- Verbal warning resulting in incident report – Conduct warning
- Ejection of participant with/out warning – Ejection

Article 4: Individual Sportsmanship – Discipline

The competitive sports program reserves the right to apply any suspension deemed appropriate for each incident that occurs. All participants ejected from a game will be automatically suspended indefinitely from ALL Recreational Sports facilities and programs until he/she meets with professional staff to discuss disciplinary action. Severe cases involving students may result in referral to the Office of Student Conduct.

Any member who violates Intramural Sports Handbook policies may be subject to having their Recreational Sports membership suspended or rescinded. Sponsoring members may likewise have their membership suspended or revoked based on the actions of their sponsored member. In either situation, no refund will be given.

If a participant receives multiple conduct warnings across a number of games, a disciplinary meeting may be required and a suspension may be administered.

Article 5: Team Sportsmanship Rating System

The competitive sports department has developed the Sportsmanship Rating System with the purpose of making each individual participant responsible for his or her actions while participating in any intramural sport, activity or event. The rating system is similar to a GPA system and based on the following criteria:

“A” - Excellent Conduct and Sportsmanship: Players cooperate fully with the officials and opposing team members. If necessary, the captain converses calmly with officials about rule interpretations and calls. (4 Points)

“B” - Average Conduct and Sportsmanship: Team members verbally complain about some decisions made by the officials and/or show minor dissension, which may or may not merit a conduct warning. Teams receiving one conduct warning will receive no higher than a “B” rating. (3 Points)

“C” – Poor Conduct and Sportsmanship: Team constantly comments to the officials and/or the opposing team from the field/court and/or sidelines. The team captain exhibits little or no control over teammates or him/herself. Teams receiving one ejection or two conduct warnings will receive no higher than a “C” rating. (2 Points)

“D” - Deplorable Conduct and Sportsmanship: Team constantly comments to the officials and/or the opposing team from the field/court and/or sidelines. The team captain exhibits little or no control over teammates or him/ herself. Teams receiving one ejection and one conduct warning will receive no higher than a “D” rating. (1 Point)

“F” – Intolerable Conduct and Sportsmanship: Team is completely uncooperative. Captain has no control over teammates and/or him/herself. Any team that receives three conduct warnings or two ejections will receive an “F” rating and the game will be forfeited. (0 Points)

NOTES: The Competitive Sports Staff reserves the right to lower a team’s sportsmanship rating based on the severity of the conduct warning or ejection.

Any team receiving an “F” rating must have its team captain meet with a member of the professional staff the following day to determine their team’s eligibility to play their next contest.

Each individual participating on a team should choose his or her team members carefully, as all team members will suffer the consequences of any disciplinary action taken by the competitive sports program against a team or individual for violation of the rules. The

team captain is responsible for actions by an individual member of the team and for spectators directly related to that team. This includes conduct of all players and spectators before, during and after a game. If a team does not maintain a “B” average throughout the regular season, that team will not be eligible for the playoffs at the end of the season.

Article 6: Bias and Inclusion Incident Policy and Action Plan

Inclusion Statement: The Ohio State University Office of Student Life Recreational Sports celebrates a culture of open-mindedness, compassion, and inclusiveness among individuals and groups. We strive to create a community comprised of members from diverse cultures, backgrounds, and life experiences both on and off the field of competitive play.

Bias Incident Policy: If an incident of reported or observed bias occurs, the contest will be ended by the Competitive Sports Supervisor with no determination made by the supervisor of outcome, fault, or consequences for the bias incident. The contest at play will be declared a forfeit. Competitive Sports will gather information from the contest on site and report the incident to the Bias Assessment and Response Team. Any determination of the outcome of the contest will be made following the completion of the BART Report and subsequent follow up process. Responses to bias incidents will be made on an individual case basis.

All Students participating in an Intramural Sport contest are subject to this policy of bias response and to the Student Code of Conduct.

Under Section 3335-23-04 of the Student Code of Conduct, Prohibited conduct includes but is not limited to:

(B) Endangering health or safety.

(1) Endangering behavior: Taking or threatening action that endangers the safety, physical or mental health, or life of any person, or creates a reasonable fear of such action.

Article 6: Defaults and Forfeits

- Any team losing by default will receive an “A” sportsmanship rating.
- Any team losing by an on-site default will receive a “D” sportsmanship rating.
- Any team losing by forfeit will receive an “F” sportsmanship rating.
- Any team winning by default or “no show” forfeit will receive an “A” sportsmanship rating.
- Any team winning by “eligibility” or “sportsmanship” forfeit will receive the grade deemed appropriate by game officials at the time of the forfeit.

Section 9: Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Policy

Article 1: Alcohol and/or Drug Use

In accordance with Ohio State policy, alcohol consumption and drug use prior to or during an intramural sports contest is not only unsafe, but also a violation of university rules, and, if you are underage, it is illegal. The competitive sports staff strictly enforces a zero tolerance policy regarding alcohol and drugs during all intramural sport contests. Consequences for the violation of this rule may include, but are not limited to: being prohibited to continue participating in intramural sports activities, ejection from Recreational Sports facilities, judicial referral and, in egregious situations, arrest.

Article 2: Tobacco

Use of all tobacco products (cigarettes, chewing tobacco, cigars, etc.) is strictly prohibited on all of Ohio State’s property. The Competitive Sports Staff strictly enforces a zero tolerance policy regarding the use of tobacco to allow all participants a pleasant experience during contests and events.

Section 10: Protests

Article 1: Rules Protests

Questions pertaining to interpretation of rules on the part of game officials must be addressed to the Competitive Sports Supervisor at the time the interpretation occurs and prior to the next live ball or play. The procedure shall be:

1. If a team feels the official has made a misinterpretation of a rule, the captain shall calmly and immediately request a “time out” and inform the official that he or she wishes to have a ruling on the interpretation by the competitive sports supervisor in charge.
2. No protest which involves the judgment of the official(s) shall be upheld. The judgment of the official(s) is final. This also includes competitive sports staff when necessary. Example: One foot in-bounds while in possession of the ball constitutes a legal catch in flag football.

Case 1: An official rules a pass incomplete because the “player did not have two feet in- bounds.” This is a rule misinterpretation, AND the team captain may protest.

Case 2: An official rules a pass incomplete because the “player’s first foot landed on the sideline.” This is a judgment call, AND the team captain may NOT protest.

3. If corrections are necessary, the competitive sports supervisor shall rule immediately and the team shall not be charged with a time out; however, if the official’s interpretation was correct, the team will be charged with a time out.
4. If the participant still does not agree with the decision at the game site, the Competitive Sports Supervisor will give the participant the designated professional staff’s contact information. The contest will continue from this point “under protest.”

Article 2: Eligibility Protests

Protests involving player eligibility must be called to the immediate attention of the Competitive Sports Supervisor prior to the completion of the contest while the protested individual is present. Participants may not make eligibility protests after the completion of the contest. A Protest Form should be obtained from the competitive sports supervisor and completed. The contest will continue from this point “under protest.”

Competitive Sports reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of any participant at any time. It is not necessary for a team to file a formal protest in order for a player to be ruled ineligible.

Article 3: Protest Forms

Protests that require a Protest Form to be filled out will be reviewed by the competitive sports professional staff the following business day. The captains of both teams involved will be notified of the decision. Once the professional staff has made a decision, it is final.

Section 11: Postseason Eligibility and Scheduling

Article 1: Postseason Eligibility – Team Points

To be eligible for the playoffs, teams must have a positive playoff point total, assuming their sportsmanship qualifies. Teams will accumulate playoff points for their performance throughout the regular season based on the following point designations:

- Win – Two (2) playoff points
- Tie – One (1) playoff point
- Loss – Zero (0) playoff points
- Forfeit – Negative two (-2) playoff points
- Default/On-Site Default – Zero (0) playoff points

Example: A team loses one game and wins two games. The team would receive zero points for the loss and four points for the two wins. Because they have a positive playoff point total, they are eligible for the playoffs, assuming their sportsmanship qualifies.

EXCEPTION: The top four teams in each division participating in the Premier level for flag football and basketball will make the post-season bracket. Small league sports may also adopt a similar policy. Please refer to specific sport rules for exact playoff qualifications and tiebreakers.

Article 2: Postseason Eligibility – Team Sportsmanship

In addition to a positive playoff point total, teams must also maintain a “3.0” or “B” sportsmanship average during the regular season to be eligible for the playoffs. Team’s averages will be formulated in the same way a student’s GPA is calculated. Each sportsmanship letter grade is assigned a numerical value:

- “A” – Four (4) points
- “B” – Three (3) points
- “C” – Two (2) points
- “D” – One (1) point
- “F” – Zero (0) points

The grades for each regular season contest will be added together and divided by the total number of contests scheduled to equal the team’s sportsmanship average.

Example: A team receives two “A” grades and one “C” grade. The “A” grades are worth eight points, and the “C” grade is worth two points, totaling 10. Ten divided by three equals an average of 3.33; therefore, the team qualifies for the postseason, assuming they have a positive playoff point total.

Teams who forfeited one regular season contest but won all other regular season contests and received an “A” sportsmanship rating in each of those wins are also eligible for the postseason pending a review by the Competitive Sports professional staff.

Article 3: Postseason Rosters

All rosters will be frozen at the conclusion of the regular season. Players may not be added to the team during the postseason. To be eligible to participate in the postseason, an individual must have legally signed in for one regular season contest.

Article 4: Postseason Scheduling

When prompted, captains should select their team’s bracket position on IMLeagues. Since teams will not be playing on its regularly scheduled night during the playoffs, captains will be able to select a bracket position corresponding to a path through the bracket that best fits their team’s availability. Bracket positions must be filled out properly and by the deadline or the team will be randomly input into the bracket by the Competitive Sports Office.

Article 5: Postseason Re-Scheduling

Due to the high volume of games that must be played in a short amount of time, captains should check their online schedule after every completed contest to see when the next contest has been scheduled. It is the captain’s responsibility to check their postseason schedule.

Article 6: Maintaining Sportsmanship during the Postseason

Teams must achieve at minimum a “B” sportsmanship rating in all postseason contests to continue moving on through the bracket. If a team wins a postseason contest but does not receive an “A” or “B” sportsmanship rating, they automatically forfeit their game and their opponent advances, assuming they received a rating of “A” or “B.” If neither team achieves an “A” or “B” sportsmanship rating, neither team will advance. Teams are reminded that one conduct warning automatically drops them down to a “B” sportsmanship rating and an ejection will automatically drop them down to a “C” sportsmanship rating. Once a team automatically drops below a “B”, the game shall be called and a victory given to the opponent.

Exception: In ice hockey, two ejections or two unsporting penalties or one unsporting penalty and one ejection are required to forfeit a playoff game and remove the team from playoffs.

Section 12: Postseason Awards

Article 1: Championship T-shirts

Intramural sports champion T-shirts will be given as awards for the champions in every intramural sport, activity and event offered throughout the school year. The T-shirts will be handed out on-site immediately following the championship contest.

The number of T-shirts awarded is based on each individual sport and the number of participants who are on the roster of the winning team. If a team needs more than the allotted number of shirts, those individuals may purchase additional shirts for \$10.00 in the Competitive Sports Office the day following the championship game

Section 13: Game Officials

Article 1: Officials

Intramural officials may be requested for non-intramural contests such as tournaments and sport club events.

Officials must be arranged through the Buckeye Officials Association at least two weeks prior to the event. To inquire about availability, please call the Competitive Sports office or email buckeyeofficials.osu@gmail.com