

Intramural Sports Participant Handbook



Student Recreation & Wellness

Intramural Sports

www.radford.edu/recreation

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Monday-Friday 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

Student Recreation & Wellness Center

General Rules Everyone Needs to Know

1. No Radford University One Card, no participation.
2. Game time is forfeit time.
3. Maintain professionalism and respectfulness during competition

Radford University Intramural Sports Vision

The vision of the intramural sports program at Radford University is to provide students with a variety of recreational opportunities that allow them to become engaged in healthy competition while developing and maintaining character, integrity, and sportsmanship.

Purpose of the Handbook

This handbook is designed by the Intramural Program to serve as an informative and procedural reference for persons involved or interested in participating in intramurals. It is the responsibility of those who participate to be knowledgeable of the information contained in this booklet. The regulations and guidelines contained within this document provide the basis upon which reasonable decisions, regarding the conduct of participants, can be made.

Awards

At the end of every Intramural event, up to fifteen T-shirts will be awarded to each league's champions. Maximum team roster sizes vary with each sport. If your team has more members than the maximum allotted for your sport, players may purchase additional shirts for \$8.00/ each.

Sport Club and Varsity Athlete Participation Rule

Each Intramural team is allowed a maximum of 3 club or varsity athletes, regardless of gender, on a team roster at any given time.

Intramural Liability Statement

****Warning: Your participation in a recreational activity could result in physical injury.**

Radford University assumes no responsibility for injuries received during an Intramural activity or special event. Students, faculty, and staff are reminded that participation is strictly voluntary and at sole risk of the individual. All participants are strongly encouraged to get a physical exam and secure adequate health insurance before participating. All injuries incurred while participating in an Intramural program should be reported to the supervisor in charge of the program immediately. A complete report of the injury should be recorded in the proper form and filed with the Asst. Director of Intramural Sports &

Recreation.

Need A Team?

Anybody having trouble finding a team may come to the Intramural Sports Office in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center or sign up as a “free agent” on the Fusion play app. Teams may add free agents, or a new team may form from this list, numbers permitting. We encourage individuals to contact team captains and attend captains’ meetings to be placed on a team. If you are unable to find a team after being registered as a free agent, please contact the Intramural Office.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Attire

Proper attire should be worn for each activity. For your protection and that of other participants, NO JEWELRY or non-appropriate headwear are allowed in any Intramural Competition. Persons wearing casts or wrapped/padded appendages will not be allowed to participate. Individuals must obtain prior approval from the Asst. Director of Intramural Sports for the use of orthopedic devices essential to protect an injury. Intramural activities require footwear to be worn, unless otherwise noted. Indoor activities forbid turf shoes, black-soled shoes, shoes with waffle bottoms or protrusions coming from the sides, and shoes suspected of marking the floor. Outdoor activities require only rubber-molded cleats or tennis shoes. Absolutely NO metal or screw-in spikes, work boots, and flip-flop style shoes (sandals or crocs) are allowed.

Regular Season

Schedules for regular season play will be based on the number of teams entered, the number of fields/courts available, and the times they are available. Schedules will be in round robin format unless otherwise noted. The Intramural Office **DOES NOT** reschedule regular season or post-season tournament games once the schedule has been po

Playoffs

Teams advancing to playoffs will vary by sport and number of teams participating. The Asst. Director of Intramural Sports makes all decisions about who will advance to the playoffs. For teams to be eligible for the playoffs they must maintain at least a 3.0 average in the Sportsmanship Rating System.

Injuries

All participation in Intramurals is completely voluntary. Individuals participate at their own risk and assume responsibility for their own health and safety. It is the responsibility of every participant to ascertain whether they have any health conditions that make it inadvisable to participate in that sport. The Student Recreation & Wellness Dept. strongly recommends that each participant have adequate medical insurance before participating. Any injured person must notify the intramural supervisor for assistance.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

Individuals and teams who arrive intoxicated, suspected of consumption, or possessing alcohol or other substances will NOT be permitted to play. The game will immediately be forfeited, and individuals reported to Asst. Director of Intramural Sports. Radford University and the Department of Student Recreation & Wellness will not tolerate such behavior and will prioritize the safety of all participants.

Blood Policy

Participants will be removed from competition if they are bleeding or are wearing blood-stained clothing. The blood may or may not be their own. The participant is ineligible to re-enter the contest until the stained clothing has been replaced, all bleeding has stopped, and any open wound has been covered. Intramural Sports suggests that everyone bring a change of clothes.

Lightning/ Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of threatening or inclement weather a Student Recreation & Wellness staff member will inform the participants and spectators either through the public address system or any other means available of impending severe weather.

The following plan will be in effect for all Student Recreation & Wellness events and Club Sport practices held in SRWC facilities:

Depending on the event being played, a staff member will monitor the weather using the Perry Weather monitoring system.

If lightning is seen during the first half of a game, then the Intramural Supervisor on site will immediately stop the game and the game will count as a cancellation. If lightning is seen during the second half of a game, then the Intramural Supervisor on site will immediately stop the game and whoever is winning at the time the game is stopped will be clarified as the winner. The only exception:

- The game may resume in 30 minutes if lightning is not seen again. Every time lightning flashes and is seen by the Intramural Supervisor, the 30-minute time frame restarts.

What to do if you can't get to a safe location:

1. Find a dry ditch or a large grouping of shrubs and small trees. Find these areas and take shelter.
2. Make your body as small as possible minimizing surface area for lightning strike. Crouch on the balls of your feet, DO NOT lie flat on the ground.
3. Stay away from isolated small trees and large metal objects such as flagpoles and light poles.
4. Stay away from any other metal objects such as bleachers and metal fences.
5. Don't stand in an open field.
6. Stay away from standing bodies of water such as a pool, lake, or pond.

Possible Sensations that a lightning strike may be eminent (assume a crouched position):

1. Hair standing on end
2. Skin tingling
3. A crackling sensation

Eligibility

All Radford University students, both full-time and part-time, enrolled in class and in good standing with the university are eligible to participate in the Intramural Sports Program. Below are some criteria for participation:

- Students paying Comprehensive Student Fee
- Participants may play on one team per league. A player declares a team preference by their first participation.
- No Current/Former Professional Athletes are eligible.
- Current varsity athletes, including transfers, redshirts, and anyone practicing or listed on a roster with a varsity team, may not participate in the related sport in which they are currently participating for at least *ONE CALENDAR YEAR* before becoming eligible to compete.
- Ejected players are suspended from all intramural activities until reinstated by the Asst. Director of Intramural Sports.
- Any team with an ineligible player shall forfeit all games during which said player participated.

Current Radford University Faculty and Staff must purchase a membership or guest pass to

account for each participation date, with the Student Recreation and Wellness Center eligible to participate in the Intramural Sports Program. This includes Emeritus faculty, adjunct faculty, classified, and wage employees.

- Employee rates are based on the proportion of student fees associated with the SRWC. Memberships are offered by semester and follow Radford University’s academic calendar. Faculty and staff membership include Group X classes. Personal Training, Intramural Programming, and Outdoor Programming are available with additional fees. Memberships will be prorated based upon date of purchase.

Membership	Fee
Fall or Spring Semesters	\$238.00
Summer 1-11	\$158.00

**** The fees are subject to change annually based on current student fee structure****

- Memberships are available for purchase at the Student Recreation and Wellness Center Service Desk. Accepted forms of payment at the service desk are cash, check, credit card, OneCard, and salary deduction.

***Fast-track and IMPACT students must pay a rec fee before they are eligible to participate.*

Refunds

Memberships are non-refundable and non-transferable, except extenuating medical circumstances.

Ejections

The decision of an official or intramural staff member to eject a player or spectator for any unsportsmanlike conduct (be it verbal or physical) will be firmly upheld by the Department of Student Recreation & Wellness.

Protests

We believe contests should be won or lost on the field of play. The intramural staff will resolve all disputes immediately. Intramural participants that abuse the protest system shall be penalized at the discretion of the Asst. Director of Intramural Sports. Intramural Sports reserves the right to rule on any matters not covered in this handbook and will apply the spirit of the rules and fairness in all situations.

Steps to protesting a game:

- I.All protests must be registered immediately with the Sport Supervisor on site by the team captain only. A valid protest must either concern

player eligibility or a misapplication or misinterpretation of a sport rule. A protest based on the judgment of an Intramural Sports Official is invalid. An official Protest Form must be completed with the Intramural Sports Supervisor on duty for the protest to receive further consideration.

II. Player Eligibility Protests

- Opponents must verbally make the Intramural Sports Staff (Official or Supervisor) and suspected ineligible player aware of an eligibility protest BEFORE the contest is complete.

III. Game Protests

- Protests must be made during the contest at the time of the incident by the team captain/manager to the game official and/or the sport supervisor before the next “live” ball.
- At that time, the reason for the protest must be given to the game official.
- Protests must involve a misinterpretation or misapplication of a playing rule.
- The captain, the official(s) and any other staff present must sign the game score sheet upholding or denying the protest. Unless this procedure is followed, the protest will not be considered. Every attempt will be made to rule on the protest immediately. In many cases, the protest can be settled on the field of play.

A protest is not valid until a written version of the protest is completed immediately following the play in question, documenting the teams participating, the rule misinterpretation or misapplication, time in play and the scenario offense called (or not called). Otherwise, the protest will be invalid. For weekend games, the same procedure will be followed. If you disagree with the on-site decision, you may appeal the decision to the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports.

If the protest is received by the Sport Supervisor following the play, then IM Sports will review the protest. Additional team members and the other team may be asked to appear by the IM Sports Staff.

Games altered by valid protests will be replayed, if possible, from the point of the game where the protest occurred. Due to facility space and time limitations, IM Sports and both team captains may agree to a non-playing solution.

The Intramural Supervisor is the final authority during an intramural activity. The supervisor will organize the event, direct teams to proper fields and courts, and manage the contests so that good sportsmanship is always practiced.

Forfeit

Game time is forfeit time! Teams are strongly encouraged to arrive 15 minutes early for their games. Any game whose outcome is declared a forfeit will result in a loss being credited to the forfeiting team. A forfeit will be declared under the following conditions:

1. A team cannot field the required number of eligible players by the designated game time.
2. A violation of any rule as stated in the Intramural Sports Code of Conduct.

After a team's first forfeit, there will be a \$10 reinstatement fee that must be paid prior to the next scheduled game, or the team will be removed from the league and not eligible for playoff competition. A second forfeit will result in the team being immediately dropped from the league and ineligible for play-offs.

Defaults:

Any team knowing in advance that they will be unable to play a regularly scheduled contest is given the opportunity to default. A default counts as a loss in the standings but is not considered a forfeit.

To default a contest, the Team Captain must contact the Intramural Office by 3:00 pm on the day of the contest (or by 3:00 pm the preceding Friday for weekend events).

There is no limit to the number of times a team may default.

Guidelines/Responsibilities for Captains

- Register all members of your team by 5:00 PM on the first Friday of competition on Fusion Play through the Radford Rec app. Roster additions during the first week of competition must be made on the day of play before 3:00pm for that participant to be eligible for play. For assistance, come to the Intramural Sports Office.
- Attend the MANDATORY captain's meeting for your sport or send a representative from your team to take your place at the meeting. Teams failing to attend the required meeting on the scheduled date must come to the Intramural office on the following day to pay a \$5 late fee. Failure to do so will result in your team being removed from the league. A team on the waiting list will take your spot in the league.
- Check schedules/emails regularly for updates/changes to game times. Schedules may change due to various reasons (facility availability changes, weather, teams forfeiting out of the league, etc.)

- Inform team members of playing dates, locations, times, and playoff information.
- Serve as a liaison between Intramural staff and team members. (This includes taking responsibility for the sportsmanship of each team member and their spectators.)
- Obtain the playoff schedule after your last regular season game via email and on Fusion Play.
- Be responsible for thoroughly understanding the rules of the sport(s) in which you participate and inform your team members of the rules and regulations.
- Ensure that enough eligible participants are at the games 10 minutes prior to scheduled game time. GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME.
- Ensure that each participant provides their valid Radford University One Card to the scorekeeper/supervisor before the game begins or at the point of their arrival if late.
- Be familiar with the eligibility rules as contained in the handbook and ensure that the team abides by them.
- Check posted results after each contest to make sure they are recorded properly.
- Submit a protest if necessary.
- Model good sportsmanship to teammates and fans before, during, and after all contests.
- Communicate with the Intramural Office regarding any questions, problems, or ideas.
- Sign the score sheet following each game to verify the score and give a sportsmanship rating to the other team.

Sportsmanship Rating System

At the end of each game, the Intramural Staff will assign each team a sportsmanship rating.

Acceptable:

In general, participants display proper sportsmanship towards opponents and IM staff. The captain displays reasonable control over the team and spectators.

Unacceptable:

A team forfeits. Participants constantly complain about officials' decisions. Participants displaying unsportsmanlike conduct towards opponents and/or IM staff. The captain has little or no control over the team and spectators. The game ended due to unsportsmanlike acts. Damage or destruction to facilities or equipment.

Penalty: The team is ineligible to participate in that sport until reinstated by the Intramural Sports Office. The Team Captain must meet with the Assistant Director or his/her designee before the team's next scheduled game. If this does not occur, the team will be removed from the league. Teams that receive two unacceptable ratings during the same sport season will be removed from the league. During the playoffs/tournaments, a winning team who receives an unacceptable rating may be dropped from the remainder of the event upon the discretion of the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports.

The supervisor may intervene to stop playing at any time. Actions such as disorderly conduct, abusive language and fighting can lead to a supervisor terminating the contest, resulting in a forfeit for that team, or removing a player from the game and asking him/her to leave the facility.

Sanctioning of Teams and Organizations

The Assistant Director of Intramural Sports, based upon the actions of an individual team member, can sanction teams and organizations. Any team suspended or placed on probation results in suspension or probation for each member of that team. Repeated violations by an organization may lead to organizational sanctions. Violations older than 2 years from the date of the most recent incident will not be used as part of the historical record in determining organizational sanctions. The Assistant Director of Intramural Sports reserves the right to levy sanctions for actions not specifically covered in the document. In severe cases, a team captain may receive sanctions for team violations.

Sanction Guidelines

The following guidelines are to be used only when an individual or team is found guilty of one or more of the infractions listed. The sanctions levied by the Asst. Director of Intramural Sports will be based on the severity of each act by individual or team.

- Abusive language: 1 game suspension/probation TBD league suspension/semester probation
- Incite fight/conflict: 1 game suspension/probation TBD league suspension/semester probation
- Physical Abuse: league suspension year suspension & judicial charges
- Spirit of the rules: 1 game suspension/probation TBD league suspension/semester probation
- Unnecessary Roughness: 1 game suspension/probation TBD

league suspension/semester probation

- Unsportsmanlike Conduct: 1 game suspension/probation TBD
league suspension/semester probation
- False ID: league suspension semester suspension & judicial charges
- Illegal player: league suspension (team) semester suspension (team)
- Violate probation: semester suspension year suspension

*TBD = to be determined based on severity of behavior

*1 Game suspension = removed from current game + 1 game suspension

Definitions

Abusive language- any language from a participant or spectator deemed offensive or derogatory by an official, or supervisor, not necessarily “swear words.”

Attempting to incite a fight/ conflict- baiting, teasing, threatening, or intentionally provoking the anger of an opponent, spectator, official, score keeper, or supervisor. These actions may or may not instigate a fight/conflict.

Physical abuse- any physical contact by a participant or spectator towards another participant, spectator, official, score keeper, or supervisor that is deemed inappropriate. This can range from a “bump” to an actual “punch”. Any thrown object constitutes physical abuse. (Note all thrown punches and objects are assumed to have intent to injure.)

Not playing within the spirit of the rules- any behavior deemed inappropriate for the sport that is being played. These actions may or may not be Unsportsmanlike (making a travesty of the game)

Unnecessary roughness- actions that are considered threatening to the safety to the participants. These actions are not accepted as part of the “normal” activity of the game.

Unsportsmanlike conduct- behavior by a participant or spectator deemed inappropriate by an official or supervisor, actions are not always physical and do not necessarily involve abusive language.

Using false identification- participants claiming an identity other than their own. This may include using a false ID, recording a false name on a score sheet, or verbally informing an official/supervisor that they are someone else.

Using illegal players- a team that has a player that is currently suspended from intramural sports or has a player that has already been established on another roster within the same sport league, a person not listed on the team’s current roster, or a player that has no affiliation with the university.

Violation of probation- any action taken by a person, team, or organization currently on

probation that requires an appearance before the Disciplinary Board before their probation has ended.

Appeals

All decisions made by the Asst. Director of Intramural Sports may be appealed to the Director of Student Recreation & Wellness and potentially forwarded to the Associate VP of Student Life. Information on appealing the case will be given to the defendant at the initial hearing. Notice of appeal must be submitted within three (3) working days of the initial decision. The appellant must submit a written statement (not to exceed 2 typed pages) of his/her position and the reasons in support of the appeal requested. This should be submitted with the appropriate person hearing the appeal.

A notice of appeal must contain the following:

1. Specific ground for the appeal.
2. Specific relief requested: reversal of sanction, etc.
3. Statement of the appellant's position and reason in support of relief requested.

The appeal should be limited to the following:

1. Whether the incident constituted a violation of policies or regulations.
2. Whether the action taken was authorized and/or warranted under the circumstances.
3. Whether the sanction was fair and appropriate.

Disciplinary rulings may include probation, game/league suspension, community/departmental service, and an expulsion and/or referral to Student Standards and Conduct.