Intramural Sports Participant Handbook
2013-2014

Campus Recreation & Wellness
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<td>Table Tennis Singles</td>
<td>8.20 (Tues)</td>
<td>6pm, on-site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billiards Singles</td>
<td>8.20 (Tues)</td>
<td>8pm, on-site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Volleyball</td>
<td>8.23 (Fri)</td>
<td>8.21 (Wed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornhole/Ladder golf</td>
<td>8.28 (Wed)</td>
<td>8.26 (Mon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ultimate Frisbee</td>
<td>9.3 (Tues)</td>
<td>8.25 (Sun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Football</td>
<td>9.3 (Tues)</td>
<td>8.25 (Sun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Singles</td>
<td>9.3 (Tues)</td>
<td>9.2 (Mon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inertube Water Polo</td>
<td>9.6 (Fri)</td>
<td>9.4 (Wed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Doubles ($)</td>
<td>9.7 (Sat)</td>
<td>9.4 (Wed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kan Jam</td>
<td>9.12 (Thurs)</td>
<td>9.10 (Tue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disc Golf</td>
<td>9.16 (Mon)</td>
<td>9.15 (Sun)</td>
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<td>10.2 (Wed)</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Punt, Pass, Kick</td>
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<td>6pm-8pm, on-site</td>
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<td>10.21 (Mon)</td>
<td>10.16 (Wed)</td>
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<td>Volleyball</td>
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<td>Indoor Soccer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Bowling ($)</td>
<td>11.18 (Mon)</td>
<td>10.31 (Thurs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Climbing Comp</td>
<td></td>
<td>11.14 (Thurs)</td>
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White text indicates leagues. *PEAKS events are for freshman only.

Register @ imleagues.com/wcu

FALL 2013
Campus Recreation & Wellness Mission Statement
The mission of the Department of Campus Recreation & Wellness is to create a campus-wide culture of wellness by providing programs, services, and facilities for individuals to engage and sustain the active process of healthy living.

Overview of Intramural Sports
Intramurals Sports offers a wide array of sports activities that cater to virtually any member of the Western Carolina University Community. All intramural activities are FREE to students, faculty and staff of WCU. Participants are encouraged to form their own teams within the campus community either with friends, residence halls or clubs/organizations.

This handbook outlines the rules and procedures that will guide the success of the Intramural Sports program. It is the responsibility of each manager, team, spectator, coach, and participant to be knowledgeable of and comply to these policies and procedures. In the interest of safety and fair play, the Campus Recreation and Wellness Department and the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports reserves the right to effect rule changes or modifications regarding equipment, facilities and/or participant eligibility.

Spirit of Competition
Modern team sport activities find their origin in the basic human need for play. Winning and losing are mere outcomes of this play spirit. Actions such as: Abusive language, poor attitude, and manipulation of the rules to further winning are not "just part of the game." What is part of the game are the simple satisfaction of playing and the interdependence of teamwork, improving fitness, and enhancing friendships. Without your opponent, you have no game, no contest, and absolutely no fun. You are indebted to them as they are to you. In a fundamental way, then, competing against an opponent is based on cooperation. Upholding high standards of integrity and fair play acknowledges this idea of cooperative competition. An intentional violation of the rules, no matter how small, is considered cheating and a direct offense against these principles. One of the goals of the Intramural Sports Program is to promote lifetime skills through the venue of sports that offers meaning beyond that of a win or a loss, the memory of which fades quickly. All players are expected to play within the context of Western Carolina University Intramural Sports Program's Spirit of Competition.

Staff Directory
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Important Phone Numbers
Campus Recreation Main Line – 828-227-7069
Intramural Sport Rain Line – 828-227- 8808
University Police (227-8911) Emergency 8911, Non-Emergency 730
Article 1: Participation

Section 1. Eligibility
Eligibility rules for Intramural sports are designed to provide an opportunity for everyone to participate in a safe, balanced, and fair competition. The rules listed below cannot provide for all possibilities; therefore, the Intramural staff reserves the right to rule on the eligibility status of participants not covered specifically by the following rules.

All WCU current students, faculty, and staff are eligible and encouraged to participate in Intramural Sports with the following exceptions:

A. Undergraduate students must carry a minimum of six semester hours
B. Graduate students must carry a minimum of two semester hours
C. Those involved in their internship or student teaching will be eligible to participate.
D. Contract works for the university are ineligible
E. Southwestern Community College Students are ineligible.
F. Faculty/staff, who are non-members of the Campus Recreation Center, must sign a waiver form in order to participate.
G. Student Faculty/staff spouses, life and domestic partners must first get a Cat Card (means for identification), then pay $10 per semester to Campus Recreation and Wellness in order to participate.

Section 2. ID Policy
A. All participants must present their current WCU ID (CatCard) prior to participation in any intramural sports activity. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule!
B. NO I.D = No Play!

Section 3. Restricted Player Categories
A restricted player is defined as an otherwise eligible participant with certain playing restrictions as a result of having benefited from advanced training and coaching opportunities in the same or related intramural sport.

A. Varsity Athletes
   a. A varsity athlete is defined either as a currently listed member of a university varsity team or as a former member of a university/college/community varsity team who was on the roster
   b. Students who are “Trying Out” or who are “Working Out” with a team are ineligible for participation in that sport until they voluntarily withdraw or are cut from the team prior to the first scheduled varsity match.
   c. Any candidate for a varsity, freshman, or reserve squad who is practicing formally with the team is ineligible to participate in the corresponding sport. This includes red shirts and transfers.
   d. Varsity athletes are eligible for all other Intramural sports outside of their competing sport
   e. Varsity athletes are considered as such during the entire academic year
   f. Former varsity members may compete in non-corresponding intramural activities only at the highest level of competition available.
   g. See Section 4.A for limitations and restriction time periods
B. Professional and Semi Professional
   a. A professional is classified as someone who has forfeited their amateur status, received compensation or sponsorship for his or her performance, including appearance money, or who is recognized by that sport’s governing body as a playing professional. It is the responsibility of the individual athlete to inform the Intramural Sports Office of his or her standing.

C. Club Sports
   a. A person is deemed a Club Sport player if he/she participates in a club contest, or practice following a designated “try-out” period, pays club dues, or appears on the club roster or waiver form.
   b. Once deemed a club member, he/she will be considered a club player with regard to intramurals during the semester they are playing as club player and for one full semester after they were last appeared on the roster or the date on their most recent signed club sport waiver.
   c. Removal of the person from any club roster does NOT affect his/her intramural status as a club player.
   d. Club Sport members may compete in corresponding intramural activities only at the highest level of competition available. They may compete in any other non-corresponding sports without restriction

D. Varsity and Club Sport Coaches
   a. Coaches may participate in corresponding sports but are considered as a club sport player and thus must follow club player restrictions. There is no limit on coaches in other sports

Section 4. Limitations for Restricted Players
A. Restricted players are restricted in their sport and corresponding sports as follows:
   a. Football: 7 on 7 and 4 on 4 flag football
   b. Basketball: 5 on 5 and 3 on 3 basketball
   c. Baseball/Softball: slow pitch softball
   d. Volleyball: volleyball and sand volleyball
   e. Soccer: soccer and indoor soccer
   f. Softball: slow-pitch softball
   g. Ultimate Frisbee: Ultimate Frisbee
   h. Tennis: Tennis singles and doubles
   i. Disc Golf: Disc Golf singles and doubles
   j. Climbing: Indoor Climbing Competition
   k. Running Events: Cross country and track meets
   l. Golf: Golf league or tournaments

B. Restricted players are ineligible to compete in their sport or corresponding sport for the following time periods:
   a. Professional athlete: five years from the time he/she last played as a professional
   b. Varsity athlete (WCU or other institution): two full semesters from the conclusion of the semester they last competed.
C. Number of restricted players allowed in corresponding sports on an entire team roster. Games played with more than the allotted number of club or varsity members will be forfeited.
   a. Club players
      i. 1-4 players required = 1 club member allowed on corresponding intramural roster
      ii. 5-8 players required = 2 club members allowed on corresponding intramural roster
      iii. 9+ players required = 3 club members allowed on corresponding intramural roster
   b. Current varsity players non corresponding sports
      i. Sand Volleyball, 3 on 3 Basketball, 4 on 4 Flag Football – 1
      ii. Volleyball, Basketball, Indoor Soccer, Dodgeball, Innterube Waterpolo, Disc Lacrosse – 2
      iii. Flag Football, Ultimate Frisbee, Kickball – 3
      iv. Softball and Soccer - 4
   c. Former varsity athletes
      i. No limitation on #'s

Section 5. Rosters
A. Team/Individual/Dual Rosters
   a. Rosters can be made up of various individuals across campus.
   b. Roster size varies by sports, event or tournament. See the specific sport for roster size.
B. Playing for Multiple teams
   a. A player is allowed to participate on one Co-Rec team and one Men's or Women's team (a men's team includes Fraternity league). Women may not participate in any Men's league unless no women's division is offered. (Approval from the Assistant Director must be given first) Fraternity and Sorority teams are restricted to individuals that our affiliates of the Greek organization (i.e. non-Fraternity members will not be permitted to play in a Fraternity league)
C. Adding/Deleting Players
   a. Additions to rosters may only be made during the regular season. Managers may add players through IMLeagues. By adding to the roster, participants acknowledge that they are eligible to play for that team and assume all responsibility for any actions taken by the Intramural Sports staff if you are found to be ineligible.
   b. Once an individual has checked in for a team, he/she may not play for another team in that league for the remainder of the season
   c. Teams may not delete players from their teams, unless they haven’t played. Once a player has played and signed on to a team, they are locked to that team for the entire season.
D. Ineligible Player
   a. An ineligible participant is one who does not meet all eligibility requirements, uses an assumed name, has been suspended from intramural participation, or violates any of the following restrictions may be suspended from further play.
   b. A player shall not be allowed to play on two organized teams in the same division or league. Example: A player cannot play on two men's, two women's, or two co-recreational teams.
   c. Teams may not play an ineligible person even by mutual agreement.
d. Teams with an ineligible player will forfeit each game played with the ineligible player. It is the team manager's responsibility to make sure his/her team members are eligible to play.

e. If an ineligible player is found in the playoffs, the team will be eliminated from the tournament and either the last team playing against the disqualified team will advance or the playoff opponent will advance by forfeit.

E. Assumed Name
   a. Anyone found playing under an assumed name or using another student's I.D. or student number shall become ineligible for at least one game or can be suspended from all intramural sports for the remainder of the semester on the first offense. A second offense will result in suspension from participating in all sports for one year from the time of the infraction.
   b. Any manager found using a player under an assumed name or using another student's I.D. or student number shall become ineligible for at least one game or can be suspended from all intramural sports for the remainder of the semester on the first offense. A second offense will result in suspension from participating for one year from the time of the infraction.
   c. Any person found using an assumed name or using another student's I.D. or student number can be turned in for sanctioning with Student Community Ethics or, if not affiliated with the University, can be turned in to University Police for theft. The Assistant Director of Intramurals, Student Community Ethics, and/or Campus Police will handle all situations regarding CatCard fraud or identity theft.

F. Greek
   a. To participate in the Greek league, participants must be active members in good standing or new members who are going through the New Member Program of the recognized WCU chapter of the Greek-letter organization. All social Greek-letter organization participants must be on the Chapter’s updated roster in the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
   b. Greek advisors are ineligible to play with a Greek team

G. Playoff Rosters
   a. Rosters are locked for playoffs. In order for a player to be eligible for playoffs, they must be listed on the roster by the end of the regular season and have played in at least one regular season game.
   b. Players not previously listed on a team’s roster during playoffs will not be allowed to play under any circumstances.

Section 6. Free Agents
Any student wanting to play on a team sport, but unable to form a team on their own can register as a free agent. You can sign up for a sport as a Free Agent at imleagues.com

Free agents may join teams by varying methods:
   A. Team Managers can go through the free agent lists on imleagues.com and pick players to be on their team.
   B. Free agents may be placed on teams in need of players by the Assistant Director for Intramural Sports
   C. Using imleagues.com, free agents can add themselves as free agents and contact team Managers to attempt to find a team to play on.
   D. A group of free agents may all be placed on a team together.
Article 2: Competition Format

Section 1. Divisions of Competition
A. Men’s - Composed of individual men or men’s teams, which may, but are not required to, represent the various residence halls, Greek organizations or independent groups.
B. Women’s - Composed of individual women or women’s teams, which may, but are not required to, represent the various residence halls, Greek organizations or independent groups.
C. CoRec - Composed of teams consisting of a minimum number of players of each gender. Teams may, but are not required to represent the various residence halls, Greek organizations or independent groups.
   a. A participant is classified as a male or female for co-rec leagues/events based on the gender he or she is officially classified by the University.
D. Greek Division: This division shall consist of students belonging to Greek social organizations that are recognized by the Department of Greek Life at Western Carolina University. EXCEPTION: Fraternity participants in individual and dual sports and some team sports must compete in the independent division. All actives’ and pledges’ must compete for their respective affiliates and their names must appear on their organization’s official membership list.

Section 2. Competition Levels
Intramural Sports competition is divided into three (3) different leagues. Each team or individual is encouraged to select the league which best suits their abilities and interests. The following leagues are offered:
A. “Competitive” league is designed for teams/individuals with high skill levels, seeking intense competition.
B. “Recreation” league is available for those with beginner or intermediate skill levels, seeking a moderate level of competition.
C. “Open” league offers a combination of different competition levels and divisions
D. If no league is distinguished, then there will only be one competition and division level.

Section 3. League and Tournament Structures
A. Team Sports
   a. Leagues will be formed according to division (Men’s, Women’s, CoRec, Greek) and league (Comp, Rec, or Open). Team sport leagues shall be conducted with round robin league play followed by a single elimination play-off.
   b. All teams shall advance to play-offs in their respective divisions and leagues if all requirements are followed. (See Article 3, Section 2, B)
   c. Intramural Sports may find it necessary to combine divisions where there are too few entries in a particular division.
B. Tournaments
   a. Tournaments are offered in single or double elimination format (depending on number of teams).
   b. Tournaments will be played usually over one evening, but could possibly go longer and may be played on weekends.
   c. During tournaments, reschedules will not be allowed. Participants must be available to play the entire tournament.
C. Individual/Dual
   a. Individual and dual sports may be conducted with round robin play followed by a
      single elimination tournament or may be conducted as a tournament depending
      on the number of entries.
   b. Based on entry numbers, some sports will only be single-elimination or double-
      elimination tournaments.
   c. Individuals and teams shall be placed in brackets according to their division and
      league
   d. Intramural Sports may find it necessary to combine divisions and leagues or
      cancel the tournament in instances where there are too few entries in a particular
      division.

D. Scrimmage Games
   a. If time, staff and space permit, scrimmage games may be played before the
      regular season
   b. Scrimmage games are used for training purposes and will be treated as such
   c. Participating in a scrimmage game does not count towards a player's eligibility for
      a team
   d. If a player or team is ejected from a scrimmage game, a suspension is warranted
      and may result in being suspended the entire season of that sport
Article 3: Policies and Procedures

Section 1. Manager’s Role
While participating in Intramural Sports is meant to be fun and laid back, there are some duties for which a team manager is responsible. The following is a list of some of the responsibilities of Intramural team managers:

A. Be knowledgeable of all Intramural Sports rules and policies and be able to communicate them to team members.
B. Prior to the start of each season, a meeting will be held for the manager’s of team sports or the participants of an individual sport. Meeting dates and times will be listed on imleagues.com. At the meeting, league rules, policies and procedures will be reviewed; this will be the last opportunity for Managers to clarify any questions prior to competing. 
   **All manager meetings are mandatory.** If the team manager is unable to attend the meeting, then another representative from the team will be expected to attend.
C. Managers who do not attend the meeting will inherit the following consequences: their
D. Ensure team is present at least 10 minutes prior to game time with their Cat Card
E. Read all league emails from the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports and/or Graduate Assistant and pass any pertinent information on to team members
F. Ensure the eligibility of all players on his/her team. If there are any doubts, the Assistant Director can help verify eligibility.
G. Inform all team members of game dates, times and any schedule changes.
H. Be the team’s lone representative to communicate with officials and supervisors.
I. Keep team members, coaches and spectators under control before, during and after all intramural games.
J. Address any questions or concerns of team with Assistant Director of Intramural Sports.

Section 2. League and Event Registration
A. IMLeagues offers a live support button in the top right corner of all pages; please use this button if you encounter any difficulties.
B. Registration for both team and individual sports can be found online at reccenter.wcu.edu by clicking IMLeagues under Intramural Sports or by logging in directly to www.imleagues.com/wcu and creating an account or team
C. **All leagues, tournaments, and events will require pre-registration on www.imleagues.com/wcu**
D. Participants are required to attain an IM Leagues account in order to register/participate in a league or tournament. Participants will be allowed to play as long as they have an IM League account - it’s easier for us to add/move/transfer a current participant with an IM League account to a team or tournament.
E. IM Leagues presents all the sports offered within the semester. Registration deadlines and Managers Meetings are listed for each sport. Each sport has a limit on the maximum number of teams and participants per division, therefore registration will be approved according to a first come, first serve basis. Teams must have the minimum number of participants in order for a team to be approved. **Campus Recreation reserves the right to refuse or accept any late entry.**
Section 3. Scheduling Information

Schedules
A. Team Sports
   a. League play schedules shall be prepared and made available before the first contest in league play. Schedule can be viewed on imleagues.com. Play-offs will begin immediately after league play.

B. Tournaments and Events
   a. Brackets/schedules shall be prepared before or at the game site. Players have to be available for the entire tournament/event

C. Play by Dates
   a. If the sport is a play by date format, individuals should contact their opponent and play when both are available prior to the score report date.

Playoffs
A. Most events will have a playoff tournament or championship series following the regular season. The number of teams competing in the playoffs will vary according to number of teams entered in each activity. Playoffs will be single elimination for league sports and either single or double elimination for other tournaments and events.

B. Brackets will be set up prior to the tournament and schedules will be posted on imleagues.com. Game times will be chosen at random.

C. Intramural Sports reserves the right to put a team in a higher bracket if the team is deemed to be losing on purpose during the regular season or is dominating the league.

D. In order to make playoffs, teams must maintain a 3.0 conduct rating through the regular season. (See Article 5, Section 6)

E. Playoffs will typically begin immediately after the regular season ends

F. In order for a player to be eligible for playoffs, they must have competed in at least one regular season game and they must be listed on the team’s active roster on imleagues. If a player is not listed on the printed imleagues roster the night of the game, they will not be able to play.

Section 4. Team Names
A. The Intramural Sports Program reserves the right to change any team name that is deemed inappropriate or offensive to participants (including but not limited to: names involving profanity or of an offensive or sexually explicit in nature). Please use proper judgment when selecting names and uniform artwork. If you are unsure if a team name will be accepted, contact the Intramural Sports office and speak with an Intramural Sports representative. If uniform artwork is deemed inappropriate the team will be asked to not wear the uniforms.

Section 5. Forfeits and Defaults
A. Forfeits
   a. Not enough players/Tardiness/No show
      i. Teams or individuals not ready to play with enough players present to start the game based on the rules for the sport in question, within 10 minutes after the scheduled time for the contest, will lose by forfeit.
      ii. A team claiming an at game time forfeit must be present at the scheduled game time and ready-to-play with the minimum number of players needed for the specific sport.
      iii. Teams arriving late for a scheduled contest, but within the 10 minute forfeit time, will be assessed a penalty according to the sport rules.
      iv. If neither of the teams arrives by the scheduled game time, the game will be recorded as a double forfeit and each team will be a forfeit.
b. Eligibility
   i. One or more of the players participating is ineligible and therefore may 
      not participate. Ineligibility may be due to the player being a roster 
      violator, being previously ejected, and ruled ineligible for sportsmanship- 
      related issues, etc.

c. Sportsmanship
   i. Game is ended by sportsmanship related issues.

d. If a team forfeits in any way they will receive a 2 for their conduct rating

e. The team that wins the game by forfeit will receive a 4 conduct rating, however if 
   the forfeit is due to eligibility or sportsmanship, the original conduct rating given 
   to the winning team will stand as is.

B. Defaults
   a. If its impossible for a team, individual or doubles team to play a scheduled 
      contest, and if the team manager, individual or doubles team notifies the 
      Intramural Sports office in person or by phone, by 2:00 p.m. the day of the game, 
      the game will be scored as a loss by default.
   b. The intramural office will contact the opponent in case of a default. If you do not 
      receive confirmation from the intramural office, the game has not been defaulted.
   c. If a team defaults a game, they will get a 3 for their conduct rating.
   d. The team that wins the game by forfeit will receive a 4 conduct rating

C. If a team has two forfeits, two defaults or one default and one forfeit in a regular season, 
   they will be automatically dropped from further competition

D. Eligibility and sportsmanship forfeits do not count towards the two-default/forfeit limit.

Section 6. Reschedules and Inclement Weather

A. Reschedules
   a. If time and space are available the intramural staff may agree to reschedule an 
      intramural contest. For a contest to be officially rescheduled proper procedures 
      will need to be followed.
   b. Reschedules must be completed and agreed to by both teams prior to the 
      originally scheduled contest. For week day games, rescheduling has to be 
      completed by 5pm the day before the original game. For a contest on Sunday or 
      Monday, reschedules will be accepted no later than 4pm on the Friday before the 
      contest.
   c. It is the responsibility of the postponing team to contact the opponent regarding 
      an agreed upon new game time. During the regular season, no game may be 
      postponed beyond the date of the final season game. During playoffs, all 
      postponed games must be played prior to the following scheduled contest.

B. Postponements/Inclement Weather
   a. Contests may be postponed or canceled due to poor weather, poor field 
      conditions, or power outages.
   b. A decision of whether to play or cancel games will be made, in most cases, at 
      3:00 pm the day of the inclement weather. The Intramural Sports supervisor 
      may cancel games on site, if necessary. Information on the status of games is 
      available by calling the Intramural Sport Information line at 828-227-8808.
   c. If time, space, and personnel are available, the Intramural Sports Office will 
      reschedule games that are cancelled due to inclement weather. Teams should 
      check with the Intramural Sports Office and IMLeagues for rescheduled 
      games. The Intramural staff will attempt to contact managers about rescheduled 
      games due to inclement weather, but it is ultimately the managers responsibility 
      to check themselves.
d. Outdoor sports may be played in all types of weather and are only cancelled when there is a danger to participants or the possibility of damaging the playing fields.

Section 7. Sport rules and rule change

A. Sport rules are based on National Intramural Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA), National Associations, and National Federation of High School rules with modifications, when appropriate. The rules of each sport will be discussed at the managers meeting and are also available on imleagues.com and the Intramural Sports web page.

B. General rules and regulations for each sport will be made available to students before competition begins. The Intramural Sports Office reserves the right to put into immediate effect any new sport rule changes or modifications. Before doing so, the Intramural Sports Office will notify participants through team managers.

Section 8. Protests

The Intramural Sports Program realizes that on occasion an official or supervisor may incorrectly interpret and/or enforce a rule. The purpose of a protest is to insure an equal opportunity for victory.

A. Rule Interpretation
   a. Protests can only be made concerning rule interpretations and player eligibility, NOT judgment calls.
   c. Protests must be made on the field of play at the time of the incident before the next live ball situation. The team manager should first notify the head official, and then the supervisor. If the manager does not immediately notify the official of his/her intent to protest, he/she waives all rights to protest that particular call.
   d. Upon notification by the team manager of a rules interpretation protest, the official/supervisor shall stop the game and note the existing game situation on the protest form. Both team managers shall sign the protest proceedings and agree to continue according to the supervisors and officials ruling.
   e. Protests not following this procedure will not be considered.
   f. Once a team has been eliminated from play (too many forfeits, a protest renders them ineligible, losing a game that knocks them out of playoffs or for some other reason is no longer competing) they are not able to file a protest of any kind.
   g. If a protest is upheld, the contest will be replayed from the point at which the protest occurred, as determined by the score sheet. The Intramural Sports Program will set a date and time.
   h. The Intramural Sports Program does not assume the responsibility for checking on the eligibility of participants. However, any cases called to the program’s attention by written protest will be dealt with according to eligibility rules.
   i. The Assistant Director shall have the authority to establish special rulings whenever deemed necessary. Sometimes exceptional situations do occur.

B. Eligibility
   a. An organization or individual may protest the eligibility of an opponent. All participants must present their student I.D., faculty/staff I.D., at the game site if requested by the game official. If the player cannot present proper identification at this time, he/she will not be allowed to participate until he/she can present it.
   b. All protests concerning player eligibility must be filed in writing with a formal written protest. A protest form should be obtained at the game site or at the campus rec center. When protesting eligibility, a team must protest specific
individual(s). Entire teams cannot be “blanketed” by protest. If a player is found to be ineligible, his or her team will default all contests in which the ineligible player participated. If a player is determined to be ineligible after the protest deadline, that player will be unable to participate in future contests. The team, however, will not incur a forfeit.

c. REGULAR SEASON, PLAYER ELIGIBILITY PROTEST
   i. If a protest is filed before or during a regular season contest and it is known by the site supervisor that the player is ineligible, the player and Manager will be notified before the game begins and given the choice of whether or not the player will participate. If the ineligible player plays, the contest is a forfeit.
   ii. If a protest is filed before or during a regular season contest begins and it is NOT known by the site supervisor that the player is ineligible, the player and Manager will be notified that the contest is being played under player eligibility protest and the intramural sports staff will contact the Managers the following business day. If the player chooses not to participate, then the protest will not affect the team.
   iii. If an eligibility protest is filed after the game or at another time during the regular season, the player in question will be reviewed and a determination will be made as soon as possible.

d. PLAYOFFS, PLAYER ELIGIBILITY PROTEST:
   i. All eligibility protests must be filed prior to the clock starting any contest. The player and Manager will be notified that the contest is being played under player eligibility protest. If the protested player chooses not to participate, then the protest will not affect the team.
   ii. If the protesting team wins the contest, the protest filed will be negated.
   iii. If a protest is filed in writing with a site supervisor before the playoff contest begins, the Intramural Sports Staff will make a determination the next business day on the validity of the protest. If the eligibility protest is found to be valid, the guilty team will forfeit and the protesting team will advance, with all previous rounds remaining the same.
   iv. In the case a player arrives late and a protest is warranted for their eligibility, the official protest may be completed at the time of that player’s arrival.

Section 9. Proper Attire

A. Jewelry - Participants are not permitted to wear any visible. If jewelry is seen, it must come off. The Intramural Sports staff WILL NOT provide bandages or athletic tape to cover jewelry items.
B. NO casts/splints will be allowed under any circumstances. Players who wear a knee brace with exposed metal, hard plastic, or metal hinges are required to cover it with padding or foam at least
C. Headgear Policy: Headgear is not allowed to be worn by any participant during an intramural event, except for one-piece head/sweat bands that do not have to be tied or do not have any form of knot(s). Illegal headgear consists of any hats, bandanas, baseball caps, winter/wool hats, metal or hard plastic headbands and any other such similar headgear. Elastic headbands and hair control devices without metal, hard plastic, or bandanas without knots are permitted. For outdoor sports, winter/wool hats are allowed. Baseball-like hats are allowed only during Intramural Softball.
D. Religious Headwear – In the event a participant may not expose his/her uncovered head, the intramural supervisor may approve a covering or wrap which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way that it is
highly unlikely to come off during play.
E. Medical Alert Bracelets – Medical-alert bracelets must be taped and may be visible.
F. Footwear
   a. Indoors – all players must wear athletic shoes with non-marking court soles. Hard-soled shoes of any kind will not be permitted.
   b. Outdoors – all players must wear athletic shoes (except for sand volleyball). Metal cleats, spikes, or toe cleats will not be permitted. Molded soles are permissible.
G. Apparel
   a. Participants must wear athletic style shorts or pants. Denim and khaki style shorts or pants are not permitted. Pockets and belt loops are not allowed in flag football.
   b. Shirts must be worn in all activities.
H. Uniforms
   a. Team uniforms are not provided, however it is strongly encouraged that teams wear matching colors especially t-shirts.
   b. Intramural Sports will provide colored pennies for those teams without matching uniforms
I. Members of the Intramural sports staff, including student supervisors and game officials, may ban the use of any footwear, apparel or equipment deemed hazardous to participants. All decisions made by the Intramural Staff on duty shall be final.

Section 10. Equipment
The Intramural Sports Program will furnish standard equipment for all activities with exception of personal items (softball gloves, shin guards, etc.). Participants may check out equipment from the Campus Recreation Center equipment checkout upon presenting their CatCard. However, certain items may not be available for checkout.

Section 11. Pets
All pets must be leased and attended to at all times. If an intramural participant owns the dog, then that participant is responsible for finding someone to be with the dog while they are participating. It IS NOT acceptable to bring a dog and tie it to a fence or pole while participating. Dog owners are also responsible for cleaning up after their pets. Please dispose of any pet waste in the trashcans. No pets are allowed in the football stadium or at indoor venues.

Section 12. IM Employee Authority
Intramural supervisors and officials have the authority to rule on any situation not specifically covered in the rules as deemed necessary to ensure the safety and well being of the participants and of the Intramural Sports program. This includes, but is not limited to, issuing warnings, stopping the game and making weather decisions.
Article 4: Sportsmanship and Conduct

Section 1. Sportsmanship Philosophy

Team sports activities find their origin in the basic human need for play. Winning and losing are mere outcomes of this play. Abusive language toward officials, supervisors, other participants, and manipulation of the rules are not "part of the game." This negative sport behavior distracts from the satisfaction of competing, exercising, and enhancing friendships.

Intramural Sports supervisors, officials, and staff jurisdiction is in effect from the time a team and spectators arrive at the playing site until the time the they leave. Incidents outside of these limits may be examined as well. Thus, the Manager and other players should be ready to act and prevent misbehavior and/or unsportsmanlike conduct of teammates and spectators.

Every team is responsible for the conduct of its players and fans. Any conduct judged as detrimental to the participants, program, or any contest, may result in loss of the contest, suspension of the individual players, suspension of the entire team, referral to Student Community Ethics, or other appropriate action. **Failure to comply with requests from the Intramural Staff will result in a forfeited contest.**

Section 2. Participant, Coach, and Spectator Conduct

A. Participants, coaches, and spectators are subject to all sportsmanship policies from the time they arrive at the game site until the time they leave. Participants may be sanctioned for any harassment of staff or other participants that takes place on or off Campus Recreation & Wellness premises/time if reported by staff members or other participants who provide proof, including electronic form of harassment (ex. Facebook, text messages).

B. Any participant, coach, and spectator who commits, incites, or aids others in committing any of the following acts of misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary procedures by the Intramural Sports Program.
   a. Player or spectator hits, strikes, or pushes an Intramural Sports employee.
   b. Hitting or striking another player or spectator.
   c. Threatening behavior (verbal or physical) before, during, or after a contest toward an Intramural Sports employee, (student or professional) player or spectator.
   d. Verbally abusing an official or any other Intramural Sports staff.
   e. Action(s), which could potentially cause equipment or facility damage and/or personal injury.
   f. Failure to cooperate with Intramural Sports staff (i.e., not giving name, not completing forms, etc.) after an ejection.
   g. Any person using an assumed name, or using a Western Carolina University photo I.D. illegally.
   h. Illegally playing for more than one team. Each team may be subject to forfeit all games in which the illegal player participated.
   i. The Assistant Director for Intramural Sports will handle personal conduct situations that are not covered by the above rulings in an appropriate manner.

Section 3. Ejections

A. Any person ejected from a game or game site must leave the game site immediately and will be suspended from participating in any intramural competition.

B. Participation is not required to be ejected from Intramural Sports and to be made ineligible
C. Length of suspension will depend on the severity and repeats of the action that resulted in the ejection.
D. All ejections carry an indefinite suspension until the ejected person has met with the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports as well as their access denied at the CRC. It is the participant's responsibility to schedule an appointment with the Assistant Director to review his/her eligibility. All ejections will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
E. Player suspensions are effective after the meeting with the Assistant Director (i.e., no self-imposed penalties). There are no appeals of ejection/conduct suspensions. Team players and managers are expected to be cooperative and honest when asked for assistance in identifying teammates who may be involved in incidents. Failure to do so may result in a team and individual penalty including game or season forfeiture.
F. Managers and teams are responsible for their players. All ejections will affect the team’s conduct rating. One ejection results in a 2 rating and 2 ejections result in a 0.

Section 4. Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Use
*Western Carolina University must comply with all laws concerning alcohol, drug and tobacco use on state property.* Participants who decide to use alcohol or drugs prior to participating in intramural sports are placing themselves and other players at risk, as the combination of each and physical activity of any nature is extremely dangerous. It has been medically proven that alcohol and drugs will slow a person’s motor skills.

A. Tobacco (chewing or smoking) is not allowed on the Intramural fields or other activity areas as well as 50 feet from any structure on campus per university policy 45. If a person is using either, they will be asked to refrain from using it at that particular site.
B. The use of alcohol and/or drugs is strictly prohibited
C. The Intramural Sports Staff assigned to the playing contest have the authority and responsibility in making decisions regarding individuals who are not permitted to participate based on:
   a. A student's breathe smells of alcohol.
   b. A student's actions and language are unacceptable.
   c. Other players or staff have noticed a student under the influence
D. If a player is suspected of participating or attempting to participate while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, they will be ejected from the contest and will be asked to leave the playing area and facility.
E. Any participant who participates in any activity under the influence of alcohol/drugs will be suspended from ALL Intramural Sports activity indefinitely. Such violation may also be subject to prosecution under the terms of the Code of Student Conduct.
F. It is the responsibility of the manager to be sure that all players and spectators are not violating these rules. Failure to do so may cause team to possibly forfeit the game.

Section 5. Team Conduct Rating System
The team conduct rating system is intended to be an objective scale by which each team’s attitude and behavior can be assessed throughout the intramural league and playoff seasons. Behavior before, during, and after an intramural sport contest is included in the rating. The team manager is responsible for educating and informing all players and spectators affiliated with his/her team about the system. To encourage acceptable conduct before, during, and after intramural contests, officials and/or supervisors shall make decisions whether to warn, penalize, or eject persons and/or teams for poor sportsmanship.

A. After every game the officials and supervisors shall determine the team conduct ratings
B. Conduct ratings given at the game site ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE.
C. Teams must carry a minimum cumulative 3.0 Conduct Rating in order to be eligible for playoffs. Teams that do not have the minimum conduct rating WILL NOT be entered into the playoff bracket.

D. During playoffs teams must maintain at 3.0 Conduct Rating in order to continue play. Anything below 3.0, the team will be ineligible until the manager meets with the Assistant Director for Intramurals.

E. The Intramural Sports Program staff also reserves the right to review or change any rating given to a team.

Team Conduct Ratings:

4 (Excellent)
1. Team members cooperate with and demonstrate excellent sportsmanship toward members of teams, spectators, and all intramural officials and staff.
2. Team Manager exhibits control over his/her team and spectators, converses reasonably and rationally with officials about rule interpretations/calls, and cooperate by providing any information requested by any intramural sports official/staff.
3. Team members participate in the spirit and intent of the intramural sport game rules and/or program policies. Team members accept judgment decisions made by the officials during the contest.
4. Respect is shown for Intramural Sports facilities and equipment.
5. Team winning forfeit or default

3 (Above Average)
1. Little to no incidents of poor sportsmanship demonstrated towards members of teams, spectators, and all intramural officials and staff.
2. Team Manager exhibits decent control over his/her team and spectators, converses reasonably and rationally with officials about rule interpretations/calls, and shows decent cooperation by providing any information requested by any intramural sports official/staff.
3. Team members accept judgment decisions made by the officials during the contest displaying little to no argumentative stances.
4. Respect is shown for Intramural Sports facilities and equipment.
5. Default

2 (Average)
1. Minor incidents of poor sportsmanship displayed throughout the game towards members of teams, spectators, and all intramural officials and staff.
2. Team manager exhibited little control with players and spectators; conversed in a dissenting manner with officials about rule interpretations/calls.
3. Poor behavior was limited to individual/s, not the entire team
4. Ejected player
5. Forfeit

1 (Below Average)
1. Participants/spectators who continually complain about officials’ decisions and display dissension. Complaints include both verbal and non-verbal behavior. Excessive arguing between opposing teams/spectators may also lead to this unacceptable rating.
2. Multiple unsportsmanlike penalties or technical fouls given.
3. Team (spokesperson) exhibited little control with players and spectators; conversed in a dissenting manner with officials about rule interpretations/calls. Team Manager did not cooperate in providing information requested by any intramural sports official/staff.
4. Poor behavior was limited to individual/s, not the entire team.
5. Frequent use of profane and/or vulgar language
6. Little to no respect is shown for Intramural Sports facilities and equipment.

0 (Poor)
1. Participants/spectators who continually complain about officials’ decisions and display dissension. Complaints include both verbal and non-verbal behavior. Excessive arguing between opposing teams/spectators may also lead to an unacceptable rating.
2. Team managers (spokesperson) exhibited no control with players and spectators; conversed in an overly dissenting manner with officials about rule interpretations/calls.
3. Physical abuse by participants(s)/spectator(s) by fighting and/or wrestling with an opponent or teammate before, during, or after an intramural sports contest.
4. Team members played with participants who are currently suspended from participating in intramural sports (i.e., on the Outstanding Ejection List)
5. Public indecencies, vulgarity, or obscenity.
6. Individuals/teams played after the consumption of alcohol/drugs. If the contest has begun when discovered, the player(s) will be immediately removed from the facility, and the contest will be forfeited to the opponent.
7. Any threatening behavior (verbal and/or non-verbal) to any intramural sports employee, participant, or spectator, before, during, or after an intramural sports contest.
8. Damage to or destruction of any Intramural Sports facilities and/or equipment.
9. Two ejected players
10. Any violation of the Western Carolina University Student Code of Conduct.

Section 6. Consequences for a one or zero rating
A. The team is suspended from further play until the manager meets with the Assistant Director for Intramural Sports. It is the manager’s responsibility to call and schedule a meeting with the Assistant Director. A team is ineligible for any intramural sport competition in this activity until this meeting occurs.
B. Depending on severity, a team one or zero rating could result in a team being dropped from a league, playoffs, or tournament.
C. Regardless of the length of the season or tournament, two zero ratings will result in a team being automatically dropped from any further competition.
D. Teams receiving a zero (Poor) sportsmanship rating in a weekend tournament are eliminated from further competition regardless of the outcome of the game.

Season Ending Conduct Examples:
A. Team was uncooperative/out of control before, during or after intramural sports contest.
B. Team spokesperson exhibited poor control over self, the team, and/or the spectators.
C. Multiple ejections’ or blatant unsportsmanlike conduct that endangered participants’ fans, officials, or supervisors occurred.
D. Any physical contact with any Intramural Sports employee.
E. Team failed to cooperate with Intramural Sports administrative staff/University officials while performing their duties; falsely represented or withheld any information requested.

Section 7. Electronic/Social Media
Sportsmanship and conduct expectations of the Intramural Sports Program extend to social networking websites such as Facebook, Twitter, etc. Participants who are found to have posted unsportsmanlike comments/materials online are subject to disciplinary actions through the Department of Campus Recreation and Wellness and Student Community Ethics.
Article 5: Risk Management and Safety

Section 1. Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability

Statement: Campus Recreation and Wellness believes that participation is a positive; well-being experience that fosters health benefits and provides enjoyment to all our participants. Participation in the intramural and recreation program is completely voluntary. Individuals recognize and appreciate the dangers and hazards inherent in the activities described in this Agreement. Individuals participate at their own risk and assume responsibility for their own health and safety. Western Carolina University and the Campus Recreation and Wellness Department are not liable for injuries sustained during participation in any intramural and recreation sponsored activity. It is strongly recommended that all participants consult a physician and/or have a physical examination prior to participation. Western Carolina University does not provide personal accident/health insurance. Therefore, participants are urged to secure their own adequate health coverage. While we strive to provide safe and well-supervised activities and facilities, there is an inherent potential for serious physical injury, including death, in all sport activities. Individuals hereby release and hold harmless the State of North Carolina, The University of North Carolina, Western Carolina University and all their officers, employees, and agents from all liabilities and damages which the individual has now or which may arise out of or in connection with the individual’s participation in this activity.

Individuals will indemnify and hold harmless Western Carolina University and its officers, employees, agents and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, expenses, demands, liabilities, causes of action, including without limitation any and all costs and expenses (including reasonable attorney’s fees and expenses) imposed upon or asserted against the Western Carolina University in connection with investigating or defending such claim, demand, liability or cause of action, relating to or arising out of individual’s participation in sport activities contemplated by this Agreement.
Section 2. Injuries and Blood Borne Pathogens

Statement: Participation in sport activities may cause injury and exposure to blood borne pathogens. Blood borne pathogens are pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause diseases in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Hepatitis B virus and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). The Intramural Sports Program will make every effort to minimize exposure to its employees and participants. Intramural Supervisors are trained and certified to respond to emergency and blood exposure situations. We ask that they be contacted immediately to respond to any injury.

In the event a participant is injured, a member of the Intramural Staff who has been certified in Red Cross First Aid will assist the injured participant with basic measures including but not limited to cleaning and bandaging scrapes or cuts, providing ice packs or helping to splint or isolate injured body parts. If deemed necessary by Intramural Staff or requested by the injured party, Campus Police and an ambulance will be contacted to provide an initial recommendation of care. The injured party has the ability to accept or refuse any recommended care by Intramural Staff or Emergency Personnel. If the injured party chooses receive care at a hospital, clinic or other medical center either by emergency transportation or private vehicle, any services will be billed to the participant. It will be the participant’s responsibility to pay for those services.

A. All injuries should be reported to the Intramural/Facility supervisor on duty, and a complete report of the injury should be recorded on the proper form. This report, when appropriate, should be completed at the activity site. This form can be obtained from the student supervisor on site.

B. The University and its staff are not responsible for any injuries incurred while participating or as a spectator in the Intramural Sports Program.

C. Blood Rule: If a player sustains an injury that causes bloodshed, the player must leave the game until the bleeding can be stopped and wound bandaged (if necessary). The player may not return to the game if there is blood on any of his/her uniform pieces, all bloody clothing must be removed and replaced by another legal uniform piece to continue.

D. Participants will not be permitted to participate in Intramural Sports at the University if they do not agree to all of the rules and regulations.

E. Participants who reenter a game after establishing an injury do so at their own risk.
Article 6: Awards/Championships/Travel

Section 1. Awards
Appropriate awards will be presented to sport/activity winners as listed below:
A. Team Sports: T-shirts will be awarded to members of the highest competition championship team.
B. Tournaments: T-shirts will be awarded to each individual or team
C. Special Events: T-shirts will be awarded to all winners in each event

Section 2. Intramural Team Travel Policy
A. Team Travel Requirements - Intramural teams are granted permission to travel on behalf of the university only when the following criteria are met:
   a. The team wins the Intramural League associated with sport for which they are traveling on behalf of the university.
   b. Must attend a NIRSA or ACIS flag football or basketball regional/national tournament
   c. A minimum of 80% of original team members from the Intramural league can travel. In the instance that all members cannot travel and the team needs more members to participate, the team can elect to pick up other Intramural participants from the league in which they participated. Ex: A Co-rec team can only pick up individuals who played in the WCU Co-rec league.

B. Required documents
   a. Prior Approval Travel Request Worksheet – These forms are due two weeks in advance of travel. Forms submitted after that deadline will not be accepted.
   b. Tournament Registration Form – This form is due two weeks in advance of travel to have enough time for registrar verification.
   c. Emergency Action Plan and Travel Roster – This form is due 3-business days prior to travel and is the document the department will keep on file in case of emergency.
   d. Individual Assumption of Risk/Release – This form is due 3-business days prior to travel and states the individual takes full responsibility for traveling on behalf of the university.

C. Vehicle Use
   a. If the University provides funds and a professional staff member is able to travel with the team, the ideal mode of travel is via university vehicle.
   b. If the University provides funds and a professional staff member is able to travel with the team but not everyone fits in the university vehicle, personal vehicles will be utilized. Team members may be reimbursed a pre-determined amount based on available funds.
   c. If the University provides funds and a professional staff member is unable to travel with the team, personal vehicles will be utilized and CRW will reimburse the vehicle owners a pre-determined amount based on available funds.
   d. If the University does not provide funds for travel, team members will be required to use personal vehicles and will be responsible for all associated fees.