

# **The University of West Alabama Intramural Sports Participation Guidelines 2009-2010**

**Know the rules, Negligence is inexcusable!**



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**PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:**

The purpose of the Department of Intramural Sports is to provide an opportunity for every student to take part in recreational sports and activities within the framework of educational endeavor.

The objectives of the Intramural Sports Programs are as follows:

- To provide opportunities for individual development through a variety of activities.
- To provide opportunities for social interaction and the development of lasting friendships.
- To provide leadership and fellowship opportunities through group participation.
- To provide opportunities for every individual, regardless of his/her skill ability.
- To provide opportunities for the development of positive attitudes toward recreational activity and fitness throughout life.

**\*Any situation arising not specifically covered by a rule in this manual may be ruled on under the authority of the Director of Intramural Sports until a rule can be made and introduced to cover the situation.**

**CONSTITUTION****Article 1 - Name**

This organization shall be known as The Department of Intramural Sports.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST ALABAMA  
INTRAMURAL SPORTS BY-LAWS**

**Article I - Eligibility****Section I**

All participants must sign a release waiver to be eligible for play.

**Section II**

All Faculty/Staff and Undergraduate Students of the University of West Alabama shall be eligible to enter any activity promoted by the department as proved later in this article.

**Section III**

Graduate students must pay a \$30.00 Intramural Participation fee in order to be eligible.

**Section IV**

Alumni are eligible when the proper fees have been paid to the Office of Alumni Affairs and notice has been given to the Office of Student Life and the Intramural Sports Department. Alumni must present their Alumni card and a picture ID.

**Section V**

Coaches and teachers of a particular sport are not eligible to participate in that sport or like sport.

**Section VI**

Any candidate for a varsity, freshman, or reserve squad who is practicing formally with the team is not eligible to participate in like sport.

Any candidate who remains on the team past the first game is not eligible for that year. This includes red shirts and transfers. Any person that was an athlete during the previous school year is considered an athlete for one full calendar year after the completion of that sport; this includes graduate assistants and transfers.

### Section VII

The following are the minimum number on a team and the maximum numbers of athletes allowed on the field/court at a time:

(I.e. five on basketball team - 2 athletes)

(I.e. ten on softball team - 4 athletes)

(I.e. seven on football team - 3 athletes)

(I.e. six on volleyball team – 2 athletes)

### Section VIII

A student who has participated in a professional sport shall be ineligible to compete in that sport or associate sports for a period of one calendar year after that student has ended his/her professional status.

### Section IX

University athletes who are members of non-traditional sports (Rodeo) are eligible to compete as Intramural teams.

### Section X

A player may play for only one (League) team during a sport. (Men's, Women's, and Coed)

### Section XI

Any player using an assumed name shall be barred from all Intramural Sports during the school year in which the offense was committed along with any other team member involved will be held accountable.

### Section XII

The Intramural Department cannot be responsible for checking on the eligibility of men/women playing on the various teams. It is the responsibility of participants to report anyone suspected of being ineligible.

### Section XIII

Players must have competed/signed in for at least one game during regular season to be eligible for playoffs. A player must be present and ready to participate in the game in order for his/her name to be legally on the score sheet. However, the player does not actually have to enter the game. Players must be added to the roster before the Roster Cut-off Date.

### Section XIV

In order to be eligible for playoffs teams must receive at least a 3.0 regular season sportsmanlike rating. Each team is rated by the game officials following each competition.

### Section XV

Maximum Number of Participants allowed on a roster:

Kickball – 20

Flag Football – 20

Volleyball – 15

Basketball – 12

Softball – 20

Dodgeball – 10

## Article II – Forfeits

### Section I

A forfeit may occur for allowing an ineligible player to play on a team. The penalty for any team playing an ineligible student shall be the loss of all games in which the ineligible student played and further disciplinary action as deemed necessary by the Intramural Staff.

### Section II

A forfeit may occur for participants not appearing on the field or court ready to play at the scheduled start time. If one or both teams do not have the minimum number of players by the scheduled game time, a forfeit will result. No appeals to this ruling will be recognized. **Game time is forfeit time!**

### Section III

A forfeit may occur for unsportsmanlike conduct or unnecessary roughness, including profanity and harassment of officials.

### Section IV

A forfeit may occur for any team leaving the field of play before the contest is completed or called by the proper official.

### Section V

A second forfeiture during league play shall eliminate a team from further competition in that sport. No All-Sports Points will be awarded.

### Section VI

A forfeit during tournament play will automatically eliminate a team from the tournament.

### Section VII

Should a team fail to appear for its first game, they will be disqualified, unless the intramural office is assured of the team's intention of playing the remaining games of the schedule.

### Section VIII

A team will be assessed a twenty (20) dollar fee for forfeiture. Fee must be paid in the Intramural Office by 3:00pm before the teams' next game.

## Article III – Awards

### Section I

An intramural champion t-shirt shall be presented to each member of the winning team in all major sports and to the first place winner of all minor sports.

### Section II

An award shall be awarded to the men and women's team displaying the best sportsmanship attitude throughout the entire program.

### Section III

The team accumulating the greatest number of points during the school year will receive a "traveling" All-Sports Cup trophy for the following year. Any one organization that wins this trophy three years in a row will retire the trophy. To win this award, a team must compete in at least three (3) activities under the same name.

All teams that wish to compete for the ALL-SPORTS CUP trophy must have a master eligibility roster of all members who plan to participate in any activity during the semester on file in the intramural office.

#### Section IV

An outstanding athlete (male and female) will be selected for each major sport by the team captain, immediately after a sport is completed. Each captain may nominate one athlete from his/her team, and only one captain vote from each organization.

Voting will be on a point system with each captain voting for three athletes with three (3) points for the first choice, two (2) points for the second choice, and one (1) point for the third choice. A captain shall not vote for a member of his/her team. An outstanding athlete for the year will be selected from these individual winners. To be a candidate, an athlete must have competed regularly in at least two (2) major sports.

#### Section V

The team with the Best Team Name will receive an award at the end of the school year. Teams wishing to participate should submit their team name and a list of their members to the Intramural Office.

#### Section VI

The team with the Best Team Uniform will receive an award at the end of the school year. Teams wishing to participate should submit a team photo to the Intramural Office.

### **Article IV – Rules**

#### Section I

All contestants shall be governed by the official interscholastic amateur rules or with exceptions as provided under the respective sports.

#### Section II

The Intramural Sports Department upon request shall provide rules for each sport.

### **Article V - Postponements**

#### Section I

The Intramural office will not sanction unauthorized postponements. However, under extraordinary circumstances, postponement of games or matches will be considered, provided both team managers and the Intramural Director agree. The request is to be presented to the Intramural Office at least seventy-two (72) hours before the scheduled contest.

#### Section II

If two teams postpone a scheduled game without the sanction of the Intramural office, no contest will be declared and the game will not be recorded in the final league standings.

#### Section III

Any contest, which is stopped due to weather, etc., may be completed from the point at which it was stopped.

## Article VI - Protests

### Section I

All protests will be addressed on the field of play at the time of the incident before the next live ball situation. Protest must be made to the official and may be assisted by an Intramural staff member or the Director.

### Section II

Both contestants and officials, when possible, shall present their versions of the case before the staff.

### Section III

Protests will only be allowed for player eligibility or a rule interpretation. **An official's judgment CANNOT be protested.** Rule interpretation protest on the last play of the game must be made before the officials leave the field.

### Section IV

Player eligibility protest can be made before, during or after the game. However, it is recommended that all protest be brought to the Intramural Staffs attention immediately.

### Section V

A ten (10) dollar fee will be charged for submitting a protest. If your team wins the protest, the fee will be refunded. If the protest is lost, the protest fee must be paid by 3:00pm before the protesting teams' next game.

### Section VI

Protests must have a direct bearing on the outcome of the contest about score. The game officials and the Director of Intramurals will determine this.

### Section VII

The game in which protest is sustained shall be replayed from the point in which the protest was logged.

## Article VII - Player Suspension

### Section I

A player may be suspended from competition in a single game, season (sport), or year, if the judgment of the Director of the Intramural program of the University of West Alabama deems it necessary.

### Section II

A player may be suspended for the following:

- Fighting
- Abusive language
- Consumption of alcohol, tobacco and/or drugs
- Harassment or intimidation of officials
- Other conduct judged to be unsportsmanlike

### Section III

If a player is ejected twice, he/she may not participate in any intramural sport for the duration of the semester. He/she will be placed on strict probation for the remainder of the academic year. If the player is ejected while on probation, he/she may not participate in Intramurals for the rest of the year or subsequent years.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEAM CAPTAINS**

Sign teams up by the deadline/captains meeting. Have all the names of those individuals participating sign release waiver.

Know the eligibility rules and abide by them. Managers must register ALL the members of the organization or team on the Intramural Master Eligibility Roster before the deadline.

Know the date, time, and place for ALL contests and have the teams ready to play at the assigned time.

Captains and/or team representative must attend ALL called meetings. Each team represented will receive ten (10) points toward the ALL-SPORTS CUP for each meeting attended. Five (5) points will be deducted if a team is not present.

Captains should notify the Intramural Office, before the captains meeting, of any possible conflicting dates the group might anticipate during any particular sports season. Special requests in scheduling will receive due consideration from the Intramural Staff, thus precluding any reason for request for date changes.

Be concerned about sportsmanship. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated. Captains and teammates are responsible for the action of their teammates and spectators representing the team.

Know the rules of each activity and inform team members of these rules.

See that the team does not forfeit.

Cooperate with the Intramural Staff to maintain the highest degree of efficiency necessary in order to carry out a successful Intramural program.

While the Intramural Staff will cooperate in every way possible to notify team managers and teams of scheduled contests, it is the definite responsibility of the team captain to keep in touch with the department for information pertaining to his/her teams activities. This is the only positive way to prevent any misunderstanding or confusion about the schedule.

Intramural participation guidelines and rules are available online ([intramurals.uwa.edu](http://intramurals.uwa.edu)) and will be addressed and explained at the captains meeting before each sport.

Check the schedules after each contest, thereby, making sure that ALL results are marked correctly. In league play, ALL corrections must be cleared through the Intramural Office within the twenty-four (24) hour period following the final game of the schedule.

Check the ALL-SPORTS CUP points chart upon the completion of each sport. Errors in awarding points for a particular sport must be cleared through the Intramural Office within the forty-eight (48) hour period following the official completion of the sport.

Notify the Intramural Office of any team captain change.

Supply the necessary information to the sport official, or Intramural supervisor concerning any injuries received by members of your team.

## ALL-SPORTS CUP

The ALL-SPORTS CUP is the most prestigious award. This trophy will be awarded to the men's and women's team that possesses the talent and determination to be the over- all champion of University of West Alabama's Intramural Sports Program. Each organization must submit a Master Eligibility Roster to the Intramural Office to qualify for this trophy.

### ALL-SPORTS CUP POINT SYSTEM

The following is the point system:

#### **Major Sports**

Participation (Up to two entries per team)	+20
Coaches meeting	+10
Not showing for coaches meeting	-5
Each victory during season	+5
Forfeits	-5
Sportsmanship points (average for the season will be added to point totals)	

#### **Season Finish-Single Division**

First Place	+10
Second Place	+8
Third Place	+6
Fourth Place	+4

#### **Season Finish-Multiple Division**

First Place	+8
Second Place	+6
Third Place	+4
Fourth Place	+2

#### **Tournament Finish**

First Place	+10
Second Place	+8
Third Place	+6
Fourth Place	+4

#### **Minor Sports**

Participation	+10
Each victory during season	+3
Forfeits	-3

#### **Tournament Finish**

First Place	+8
Second Place	+6
Third Place	+4
Fourth Place	+2

\*For competitions with weight categories, a team may enter only one participant for points for each category offered.

\*For one day tournaments, teams may only enter one individual/team for points. They must choose who is playing for points before the tournament begins.

\*In order to receive any All-Sports Cup Points, the competitors must finish the minor or major sports in which they start.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Team Name

Any team competing for yearly awards must keep the same name throughout the intramural year. Team rosters should continue to carry that name throughout the year. If a name change does occur, the team will start collecting points under their new name.

Full names must appear on the roster sheet. All team members must be eligible for play according to the participation guidelines and Intramural Constitution.

If a team name is not acceptable for publications or is deemed by the director to be inappropriate, the Intramural Department reserves the right to change names.

### Health

The health and safety of all participants in intramural sports is of major concern to the Intramural Sports Department and the University. It is recommended that all students have a health examination before participating in Intramural Sports.

All participants are required to sign the release waiver to be eligible for competition.

All students who receive injuries are required to complete an injury report form. The Injury Report form must be signed by the student who is injured and the intramural supervisor. The University of West Alabama assumes no responsibility for injuries while participating in Intramural competition. Students are strongly urged to enroll in their own accident insurance coverage.

### Officials

The Director of Intramurals selects officials for each game. All officials are paid, and are performing a service to the Intramural program.

The officials are provided to aid in the administration of the games and to help the players compete in an orderly environment. The program can only succeed when their officials have the cooperation and support of the participants and captains.

Officials must attend clinics before each Intramural Sport. He/she is required to conduct himself/herself in a professional manner benefiting the purposed of the University of West Alabama Intramural Program.

Questions or comments concerning officials or their work should be made to the Intramural Office.

### Type of Participation

**Individual/Dual** - There will be numerous activities provided which are categorized as individual sports. Participating in these sports require the individual(s) participating to just show up to the event at least 15 minutes prior to the start time.

**Team** - Organizations, fraternities, sororities and independent groups may sponsor teams. The Greek organization (fraternities and sororities) teams represent the recognized Greeks on University of West Alabama's campus. Rosters are made up of the Greek organization's official members, including pledges. Greek members may elect to play on an independent team, but not both.

Residence halls, student organizations, or just a group of individuals who wish to compete can form Independent teams.

### Standard Operating Procedures for Injuries

- Administer first aid treatment.
- If ambulance transportation is needed, call UWA security (652-3602).
- If injury requires hospital treatment, call York Medical Hospital (392-5263) and give hospital personnel the following information:
  - Name of injured student.
  - Address of injured student.
  - Description of injury.
- For injuries requiring hospitalization contact:
  - Director of Intramural Sports, Office (652-3693)
- An intramural injury report must be complete at time of injury or shortly after.
- A student accident report must be submitted to the intramural office at the time of the accident. Three copies are necessary for the following:
  - Yellow copy to Athletic Training Office.
  - Pink copy to Student.
  - White copy to Intramural Sports Office.

*\*Accident report forms can be obtained from the Intramural Office.*

### **INCLIMENT WEATHER**

In the event of inclement weather, teams should call the Intramural Sports Office at 205-652-3693 for information regarding the status of their game. Games or matches postponed due to inclement weather during the regular season will generally be rescheduled at the next available time and date. If games are cancelled for any period of a night's regularly scheduled activities the games will be cancelled for the entire evening. For example if the 6:00pm flag football games are cancelled, all the games for that night will be cancelled. All weather related concerns will be address at 5pm or at the field. The intramural office will call team captains if there is reason for cancelation. **Game on unless captain is called!**

Playoff games affected by inclement weather will be rescheduled by the Intramural Sports staff by noon the next day.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Part of the philosophy of the Department of Intramural Sports is that good sportsmanship is vital to the conduct of every contest. The abuse of officials and staff will not be tolerated. In order to promote better sportsmanship, an award is made each year to the male and female competitive unit that most consistently displays good sportsmanship. A team is responsible for the actions of any individual member of the team or for spectators directly related to the team. The conduct of players and spectators before and after the game is as important as the conduct during the game, and organizations will be held responsible for conduct at these times as well as during the game. The following are considered by the Intramural Sports Department to be evidence of poor sportsmanship:

- Profanity.
- Unnecessary delay of the game.
- Participating under a false name.
- Striking or shoving an opponent or official (automatic ejection from the game).
- Arguing with officials concerning decisions (discussion is allowed as long as it is done in a mature manner by the team captain).
- Derogatory and abusive remarks toward an opponent or an official.
- Any action, the intent of which is to physically injure an opponent.
- Any action which shows disregard for the rules or policies of the Intramural Sports Program.
- No consumption of alcoholic beverages or tobacco during any Intramural Activity by participant or their spectators.

### Sportsmanship Grading System

The following is a summary of the grading system that will be used by officials and/or supervisors to evaluate the sportsmanship of teams:

- A "5" rating will be given to an organization which demonstrates quality of extremely good sportsmanship both in regard to the other team and to the officials. It will be given where there is an attitude of complete cooperation by all the members of the team and its spectators throughout the entire game. Respect for the officials and the opponents must be shown.
- A "4" rating will be given to an organization if there is no incident of poor sportsmanship.
- A "3" rating will be given to an organization as an average grade where unsportsmanlike conduct is not present in the game except for rare minor infractions, but where the conduct is such that the game progresses without undue problems.
- A "2" rating will be given to an organization when a team has to be warned about unnecessary roughness in a game. A "2" rating will be given when a player is ejected by an official for abusive remarks or when such remarks are made repeatedly by players or spectators toward an official or an opponent. This rating will be given if players other than the captain persist in questioning the officials, or if any player repeatedly argues with an official. (A warning should be given if the arguing continues or is repeated, and also a "2" rating should be given to the team and the player or players should be ejected). If the spectators clearly related to a team fail to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion, or if a team fails to cooperate with the officials to keep the same running in an orderly manner, an organization will be given a "2" rating.
- A "1" rating will be given to an organization which disregards warnings of unnecessary roughness, or where a team is so antagonistic to an official that the game cannot be played with proper order and control. (This is also ground for discontinuation of the game). This rating will be given if a player is ejected for striking or shoving an official or an opponent. A "1" rating will be given for disorderly conduct by spectators clearly related to a team whereby such conduct involves violation of University regulations or whereby control of the game by the officials is jeopardized. This rating will be given when a team displays general roughness where the safety of the participants is jeopardized. This shall include action by any player where the intent is to bring about physical harm to another player. A "1" rating will also be given to an organization which is guilty of abusive language, or in any case where the action of a team shows disregard for the ruled or policies of the Intramural Sports Program.
- A "0" rating will be given if a team forfeits a game.

## **DETERMINATION OF CASES OF POOR SPORTSMANSHIP**

The following description of penalties is to be used as a guide for the Intramural Sports Department. The decisions of the Protest Staff are final. A team implies acceptance of the above standards and implies acceptance of all Protest Staff decisions when it enters the competitive intramural program.

### Team Violations

- For the first "2" rating a reprimand will be forwarded to the captain of the team by the Intramural Director.
- For any "1" rating and for the second "2" rating, the team captain will be notified to appear (or to send a representative) before the Director for that sport in which the rating was received. The Director may enforce any of the measures listed below or any other measures that the Director feels are appropriate. (A recommended minimum penalty is intramural probation.)
- If a "2" or a "1" rating is received while a team is on intramural probation the team captain will be notified to appear before the Intramural Director for a disciplinary hearing. (Suspension from the current sport or sports is a recommended minimum penalty for such a case.)

### Possible Measures Defined

The following is a list of possible measures to be used by the Intramural Sports Department for unsportsmanlike conduct. This is not exclusive of other actions.

- No Action -- The Intramural Sports Department determines that further disciplinary action is unwarranted.
- Reprimand -- A reprimand is an official notice of the unsportsmanlike conduct and shall be constructed as a strict warning against any further unsportsmanlike action by members of that team.
- Intramural Probation -- Intramural probation places a team or individual on a probationary status which would cause a suspension from intramural participation for any further unsportsmanlike conduct. The term of probation may be set for a particular sport, for a semester, year, or for an indefinite period. An indefinite period would continue until a team petitioned the Intramural Staff for restoration to good standing.
- Suspension -- Suspension from intramurals prohibits the organization suspended from participating in any team or individual sports during the period of intramural suspension. A period of suspension is automatically followed by a period of intramural probation no to be less than one full semester.