

Intramural Sports Handbook

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West Chester University of Pennsylvania



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Mission Statement

With a diverse line-up of competitive, fitness, leisure and recreational programs and services, Campus Recreation aspires to be the best part of your Ram day and your first choice for FUN! Mix in our nationally award-winning sport club teams, our creative and cutting-edge intramural program, and our outstanding outdoor adventure program and you have a recipe for a healthier, happier you!

Campus Recreation believes strongly in the development of the co-curricular transcript for each and every student attending West Chester University. Through a variety of employment and leadership opportunities available to you by Campus Recreation, we have faith you can and will identify ways to help shape your educational experience while engaging in a productive and healthy-lifestyle.

1. General Information

League offerings, along with their registration periods and starting dates can be found on www.imleagues.com/wcupa. Teams typically play one game per week during the regular season for four weeks. At the conclusion of the regular season, all teams with at least a 3.0 sportsmanship rating average will advance to a single elimination playoff bracket. Standings are determined by winning percentage, head to head, sportsmanship and points scored.

Leagues

Open – Teams consist of mainly male students but any one is welcome to participate in the open league, regardless of how they identify.

*Some open leagues feature high competition and low competition divisions. High competition divisions are geared toward experienced participants who are looking for more challenging game play. Low competition divisions are aimed toward participants who are playing with a ‘just for fun’ mentality. All club athletes participating in their associated sport must compete in the high competition division. Restrictions of the number of club athletes participating in associated sports still applies. *

FSL (Fraternity & Sorority Life) – Teams consist of students who are current members of a West Chester University fraternity or sorority. Students who are not listed on a fraternity or sorority’s roster registered with West Chester University are not eligible to participate in this league.

Women’s – Teams consist of female students.

Co-Rec – Teams are required to have both male and female participants. The required number of male and female participants depends on the individual sport and can be found on the Eligibility Chart below or within the individual team sport rules.

Eligibility Chart

Sport	TOTAL # OF PLAYERS	MINIMUM # OF PLAYERS	MAXIMUM # OF PLAYERS	CO-REC # RESRICTIONS	VARSITY SPORT EQUIVALENT	SPORT CLUB PLAYER RESTRICTION
Flag Football	7	5	15	3 Males and 3 Females	Football	N/A
Indoor Soccer	5	4	12	2 Males and 2 Females	Outdoor Soccer	Soccer
3x3 Basketball	3	3	6	At least 1 Male and 1 Female	Basketball	N/A
6v6 Volleyball	6	4	12	2 Males and 2 Females	Volleyball	N/A
5x5 Basketball	5	4	15	2 Males and 2 Females	Basketball	N/A
4v4 Volleyball	4	4	10	2 Males and 2 Females	Volleyball	N/A
5 on 5 Floor Hockey	5	4	12	2 Males and 2 Females	N/A	Ice Hockey
6 on 6 Dodgeball	6	4	18	2 Males and 2 Females	N/A	N/A
Outdoor Soccer	7	5	18	3 Males and 3 Females	Soccer	Soccer
Outdoor Softball	10	8	18	4 males and 4 Females	Baseball / Softball	N/A

Tournaments

Several tournaments are offered each semester. Tournaments take place as single elimination brackets over one or more days. Specific structure for each tournament varies depending on the number of participants/teams registered, facility limitations, and time of year.

2. Eligibility

- General** - All undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled at West Chester University are eligible to participate in the Intramural Sports Program. Those not eligible to participate are faculty, staff and alumni.
- Gender** – All participants are permitted to play under the gender they identify as. This will apply to any gender specific rules or player ratios for co-rec leagues.
- Varsity Athletes** – All varsity athletes are not eligible to participate in their respective or alike intramural sport, activity or event until a period of one year has passed from completion of all varsity activities.

- d. **Sport Club Athletes** – A sport club member is defined as an individual who is listed on the official active club sport roster. Individuals who participate on a sport club are eligible to participate in the corresponding intramural sport; however, they must adhere to the player number restrictions associated with each sport in the chart above.
- e. **Sport Rosters** – To appear on a team roster, an individual must have joined a team roster on IMLeagues.com and signed an electronic waiver. All individuals must be listed on the team roster prior to 12pm on the date of the competition. A team may add eligible players during the regular season only.
- f. **Player Restrictions** – Once an individual has participated with a team they may not be moved to another roster. Participants are also restricted from playing on two teams in the same league (Open, FSL, Women’s Co-Rec) each season. A player may participate on a single gender or open league and co-rec league in the same sport. The FSL league is classified as a “single gender” league.

3. Registration

- a. **Team Registration** – to register a team, the captain must follow the instructions at www.imleagues.com/wcupa
Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis; once all divisions/leagues are filled, the remaining teams will be placed on a “waitlist”
- b. **Free Agent Registration** - Attend our captains’ meetings that take place before each major league sport’s sign-up deadline. If the number of free agents present at the captains’ meeting meets the team number of players required, a free agent team will be created.
- c. **Deadlines** – Deadlines for team registrations will be posted on the Intramural Sports website and IMLeagues.com. Registration periods are typically open for two weeks and always close at 5:00pm on the date of the registration deadline. Teams that have not registered on IMLeagues.com before 5:00pm on the date of the registration deadline will not be registered.

d. Fees

Fall League Offerings

Flag Football - \$25
Dodgeball - \$15
Indoor Soccer - \$25
Indoor Volleyball - \$25
5x5 Basketball - \$40

Spring League Offerings

4v4 Volleyball - \$15
5v5 Floor Hockey - \$15
5x5 Basketball (Registration paid in Fall semester)
Outdoor Soccer - \$25
Outdoor Softball - \$25

4. Captains' Responsibilities

- a. **General** - The team captain is the liaison between the Intramural Sports staff and the participants. Team captains are responsible for making sure that all members of their teams are aware of all Intramural Sports policies and rules. Rules and policies can be downloaded from the Intramural Sports website (www.imleagues.com/wcupa). Captains are responsible for their teams' sportsmanship, and in some cases, may be held accountable for the actions of individuals on their teams.
- b. **Identification** - Each participant is required to bring their valid West Chester University identification card to every activity area. If the participant does not have a Ram Card then he/she may use their state ID or driver's license. No other form of identification will be accepted. Failure to do so will result in the participant being ineligible for that game.
- c. **Eligible Players** - It is the responsibility of the captain to make sure that the players on his/her team are eligible. All games in which an illegal player participates will be recorded as a loss and a 2.0 sportsmanship.

5. Forfeits

- a. **Please refer to each individual sport rule sheet for forfeit rules.** Any team failing to report to the activity site by the scheduled starting time shall forfeit the contest to their opponent. If both teams fail to report, each team will be given a forfeit. A team's second forfeit will result in their disqualification from the league.
- b. **Official Score** – The official score of a forfeited game is different for each sport. Please refer to specific sport rules for more information. The team that wins by forfeit will receive a four (4) sportsmanship rating. The team that forfeits will receive a zero (0) sportsmanship rating.
- c. **Minimum Players** – Each sport rules contain a minimum number of players required to start a game. If the opponent forfeits, the opposing team is still required to have at least the minimum number of players to avoid a double forfeit. The minimum number of players for each sport can be found in the Eligibility Chart in Section 1b.
- d. **Maximum Players** - Each sport rules contain a maximum number of players allowed to be on a roster. This is typically twice the number of players on the field/court at a time. The maximum number of players for each sport can be found in the Eligibility Chart in Section 1b.
- e. **Defaults** – Any team knowing that they will not be able to participate in a regular season or playoff contest may notify the Intramural Sports staff to default. Written e-mail notification to DCOMAS@wcupa.edu must be made to the Intramural Sports staff by 12:00pm on the day of the game to be considered a legally defaulted contest. **If the game occurs on a Sunday, said notification must be made to the office by Friday at 12:00pm.** A team that legally defaults a game will receive a loss in league standings, but not a forfeit. They will also receive a 3.0 as a sportsmanship rating for that contest.

6. Protests

- a. **Eligibility** – Protests based on the eligibility of an opponent must be completed within 24 hours of the completion of the game in which the opponent's eligibility is in question. Forms can be acquired from the Intramural Sports Supervisor on-site or from the Intramural Sports Office.
- b. **Officials' Judgement** – No protest will be accepted which involves the judgement of a game official.
- c. **Final Authority** – The Assistant Director of Intramural Sports will make the final decisions on written protests.

7. Equipment

- a. **Sport Specific Equipment** - Intramural Sports will provide all equipment necessary for activity. (Ex. Bases, bats, gloves, softballs for softball)
- b. **Jerseys** – Teams are encouraged to wear their own like-colored jerseys. Intramural Sports will provide numbered, colored jerseys for certain sports if required.
- c. **Dress Code**
 - Shirts: Campus Recreation requires that all participants to wear a t-shirt.
 - Shorts/Pants: Players may not wear pants or shorts that have belt loops, metal, cargo pockets or exposed drawstrings. Players may not wear towels that hang from the waist.
 - Headgear: Baseball caps or other rigid headwear is not permitted. (Softball/Kickball is an exception to this rule). Players may wear rubber or cloth elastic headbands that are used to control hair.
 - Pads or Braces: No pads or braces may be worn above the waist. Leg and knee braces made of hard, unyielding material must be covered on both sides and all edges with slow-recovery padding.
 - Shoes: Athletic/Tennis shoes are permitted. Any other type of shoe that the official deem unsafe is prohibited. For outdoor sports, cleats may be worn, but they must be rubber, plastic, or plastic-tipped cleats (metal cleats are not permitted).
 - Jewelry: All jewelry is illegal for all sports. Any player wearing jewelry will be asked to leave the game and not be permitted to return until the jewelry is removed. If the jewelry is unable to be removed the individual may not participate. If a player wishes to participate with a religious medallion, they must set up a meeting with the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports prior to any participation. Medical alert bracelets are the only exception.

8. Cancellations/Inclement Weather

- a. **Regular Season** – Regular season games that are cancelled due to rain or snow do not have to be rescheduled. Games postponed due to other reasons may or may not be rescheduled at the discretion of the Intramural Staff.
- b. **Playoffs** - All cancelled playoff games will be rescheduled. Participants can view updated playoff brackets on the IMLeagues web site.
- c. **Cancellations During an Activity** - If a regular season activity has begun and is postponed before it reaches the official game minimum, it will not be resumed based on timing. During the playoffs, the game will be resumed from the time that it was postponed.
- d. **Official Game Minimum** - The minimum that an activity must be played to be considered an official game during the regular season is one half of the allotted game time. For games that are timed, any game postponed past halftime will be recorded as an official game. For softball, one half of the game time is four complete innings.
- e. **Communication/Notification** - In case of inclement weather, the Intramural Sports staff will not make a decision regarding the playing of games until 5:00pm. For information on cancellations, email DCOMAS@wcupa.edu.
 - If inclement weather occurs after the closing of the Intramural office, decisions regarding game status will be made on the field/court by the Intramural site supervisor.
 - When games are cancelled due to weather, the fields/courts will not be open for practice.

9. Sportsmanship

- a. **Team Names** - The Assistant Director of Campus Recreation for Intramural Sports reserves the right to change names of teams deemed offensive, profane, and/or inappropriate.
- b. **Ejected Participant** - Any participant who is ejected must exit the playing field/court immediately. Intramural supervisors will address the situation with the ejected individual(s) and also communicate what the required process is for reinstatement. Even after an ejection, players will still be held accountable for their actions and behavior which may be noted by the Intramural supervisor. Once a participant is ejected from an intramural activity, he/she is ineligible until the reinstatement process has been complete and all suspensions (if sanctioned) are served.
- c. **Ejected Participant Reinstatement** – Any ejected participant seeking reinstatement must petition via the reinstatement form on the campus recreation website. Upon receiving the petition, a hearing will be arranged between the ejected participant, the GA and/or Assistant Director of Intramural Sports where a decision will be made regarding reinstatement.

- d. **Team Sportsmanship Ratings** – Intramural staff and game officials will evaluate teams and assign a sportsmanship grade following each game. Ratings are given based on the following criteria:
- **4: Excellent Sportsmanship** - Outstanding sportsmanship and conduct: All players cooperate fully with staff and officials and the captain controls his/her team
 - **3: Acceptable Sportsmanship** - Team members and spectators are respectful of opponents and officials except for one or two minor incidents which may or may not merit a warning from the game officials or supervisor.
 - **2: Sportsmanship Needs Improvement** - Verbal disagreement with the officials and/or conflict with the opposing team. Any team receiving one sportsmanship-related yellow card, technical foul, or unsportsmanlike conduct penalty will receive a 2.
 - **1: Unacceptable Sportsmanship** – Team members continually show disrespect for the opposing team and officials. The team captain shows little or no control over the team. Any team receiving two sportsmanship-related yellow cards or one red card, two technical fouls, or two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties will receive a 1.
 - **0: Season Ending Rating**
The team is completely uncooperative, resulting in multiple ejections or blatant unsportsmanlike conduct. Any team receiving three sportsmanship-related cards, technical fouls, or unsportsmanlike conduct penalties and/or causing the game to be ended early will receive a 0.
Teams which receive a “0” rating are subject to immediate dismissal from league or tournament play
- e. **Forfeits** – Any team receiving a win by forfeit or default will receive a 4-sportsmanship rating for that game. Any team receiving a loss by forfeit will receive a 0-sportsmanship grade. Any team receiving a loss by default will receive a 3-sportsmanship grade.

10. Playoffs

- a. **Sportsmanship Average** - To be eligible for the playoffs, a team must have a 3.0 sportsmanship average. (Any team forfeiting two or more games will be ineligible for the playoffs)
- b. **Brackets** - Playoff brackets will be posted on the IMLeagues web site, prior to the end of the regular season. Brackets will be updated on a daily basis.
- c. **Intramural Champions** - Champion t-shirts are awarded to the champions of each sport. **Participants must be present on championship night to receive a shirt.** In sports where both an OPEN and FSL OPEN division are offered, there will be a campus wide championship game between each league champions. If the winning team is unavailable to play, the second-place team will be asked to play in their place.