Intramural Sports Guidelines
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Campus Recreation / Intramural Sports Office Information

**University of Houston Campus Recreation:**
(Campus Recreation and Wellness Center)

Campus Recreation  
4500 University Drive  
Houston, TX 77204-6056  
Phone: 713.743.9500  
Fax: 713.743.9517  
E-Mail: recreation@uh.edu

General Building Hours  
Mon – Thu 6:00 AM – 11:30 PM  
Fri 6:00 AM – 8:00 PM  
Sat 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM  
Sun 12:00 PM – 11:30 PM

**University of Houston Intramural Sports Office:**
(Campus Recreation and Wellness Center, Suite 1007)

Campus Recreation  
Attn: Brian Mills – Intramural Sports  
4500 University Drive  
Houston, TX 77204-6056  
Phone: 713.743.8041  
Fax: 713.743.9517  
E-Mail: imsports@uh.edu

Office Hours:  
Mon - Thu 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Fri 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Sat - Sun Closed

Campus Recreation / Intramural Sports Staff Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Office Phone</th>
<th>E-Mail Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jay Parks</td>
<td>713.743.9511</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ghparks@uh.edu">ghparks@uh.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Director, Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian N Mills</td>
<td>713.743.9506</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bnmills@uh.edu">bnmills@uh.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Director, Intramural Sports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Macer</td>
<td>713.743.5576</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mlmacer@uh.edu">mlmacer@uh.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Assistant, Intramural Sports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Important Numbers

Welcome Desk  
713.743.PLAY (7529)

Kristen Drapp LaFleur  
713.743.9947  
kdrapp@uh.edu

Coordinator, Sport Clubs
Sport Formats

Major Team Sports:

- For sports with a regular season, teams will be divided into 4, 5 or 6-team pools with 3-5 scheduled regular-season games. In competitive leagues, all teams will advance to the playoffs. In recreational leagues, the top 3 teams from each pool will advance to the playoffs. A playoff captains’ meeting will be held after the end of the regular season in order to set the playoff bracket (see: Schedules, pg. 1-13 for an explanation of playoff captains’ meetings).
- For sports that are tournament-format only, the bracket will be generated by Intramural Sports. Tournaments will be single-elimination unless otherwise stated.

Minor Team Sports:

- For sports with a regular season, teams will be divided into 3 or 4-team pools with 2-3 scheduled regular-season games. There will be no distinction between competitive and recreational leagues. The top 2 teams from each pool will advance to the playoffs. The playoff bracket will be generated by Intramural Sports and distributed after the end of the regular season – there will not be a playoff captains’ meeting.
- For sports that are tournament-format, the bracket will be generated by Intramural Sports and distributed at the captains’ meeting. Tournaments will be single-elimination unless otherwise stated.

Standings:

- Standings will be tracked using the following points system:
  - Win: 3 Points
  - Loss: 0 Points
  - Forfeit: -1 Points
  - Tie: 1 Point
  - Default: 0 Points
- In the event that two or more teams are tied in the standings, the following criteria will be applied to break the tie:
  1. Head-to-Head Record
  2. Higher Average Sportsmanship
  3. Fewer Points Allowed
  4. Fewer Forfeits
  5. Fewer Defaults
  6. Coin flip administered by IMS Admin

Competition Levels

There will be two levels of play for Major Team Sports: Competitive and Recreational.

- Competitive leagues, as the name suggests, generally involve more skilled players and are played at a higher level of competition.
  - All competitive teams will advance to the playoff tournament.
- Recreational leagues involve a lower level of competition and skill than competitive leagues.
  - The top three teams from each recreational division will advance to the playoff tournament.
League Divisions

Depending on participation levels, sports will be classified into one or more of the following league groups:

- **Open**
  - In an open league, there are no restrictions on the number of men/women participating at one time.
  - A team roster can be all-male, all-female, or any combination of the two.
  - Open leagues are often separated into competitive and Recreational competition levels.
  - A player may only play on ONE team in the open league, and is also eligible to play on ONE co-rec team (if available). A player on an open team may **not** participate on a men's, women's, or Greek team. Co-rec rules do not apply to open leagues.

- **Men**
  - In a men's league, all participants must be male.
  - Men's leagues are often separated into competitive and recreational competition levels.
  - A player may only play on ONE team in the men's league, and is also eligible to play on ONE co-rec team (if available). A player on a men's team may **not** participate on an open, Greek, or women's team.

- **Women**
  - In a women's league, all participants must be female.
  - Due to participation numbers, women's leagues are rarely separated into competitive and recreational competition levels.
  - A player may only play on ONE team in the women's league, and is also eligible to play on ONE co-rec team (if available). A player on a women's team may **not** participate on an open, Greek, or men's team.

- **Co-Rec**
  - In a co-rec league, sport-specific rules define the minimum and maximum number of male and female players that pay participate at one time.
  - A team roster must include a mixture of male and female participants.
  - A separate set of rule modifications apply to co-rec leagues in all sports.
  - Due to participation numbers, co-rec leagues are rarely separated into competitive and recreational competition levels.
  - A player may only play on ONE team in the co-rec league, and is also eligible to play on ONE team from an open, men's, women's, or Greek division (if available).

- **Greek**
  - In a Greek league, all teams must be comprised of **current, active members** of a *University of Houston IFC recognized* fraternity.
  - When a sport is divided into competitive and recreational leagues, Greek divisions will be considered 'competitive'.
  - A player may only play on ONE team in the Greek league, and is also eligible to play on ONE co-rec team (if available). A player on a Greek team may **not** participate on another open, men's, or women's team.
Registration Procedures

Registration for all Intramural Sports activities will take place online via http://www.imleagues.com/uh. All students wishing to participate in Intramural Sports must create an account with IM Leagues using their University-issued @uh.edu e-mail address.

To create an IM Leagues account: **Note** IM Leagues offers a live support button in the top right corner of all pages, please use this button if you encounter any difficulties.

2. Enter your information, use your university email (@uh.edu, @central.uh.edu, @mail.uh.edu) and submit.
3. You will be sent an activation email, click the link in the email to login and activate your account.
4. You should be automatically joined to UH – if not you can search schools by clicking the “Schools” link.

How to sign up for an Intramural Sport:

1. Log in to your IMLeagues.com account.
2. Click the Create/Join Team button at the top right of your User Homepage, or click on the “University of Houston” link to go to your school’s homepage on IM Leagues.
3. The current sports will be displayed, click on the sport you wish to join.
4. Choose the league you wish to play in (mens, womens, co-rec, etc…)
5. Choose the division you want to play in (ex: R2-Mon5/6/7 PM) [Games will be played once a week on Monday nights; Game start times will be at 5:00, 6:00, or 7:00 and will vary each week within this time window. You might play one week at 5:00, the next week at 7:00, and the week after that at 6:00.]
6. You can join the sport one of three ways:
   a. Create a team (For captains)
      i. Captains can invite members to their team by clicking the “Invite Members” link on the team page. Any invited members must accept the invitation to be joined to your team.
         1. If they’ve already registered on IM Leagues: search for their name and invite them
         2. If they haven’t yet registered on IM Leagues: scroll down to the “Invite by Email Address” box and input their University issued email address.
   b. Join a team
      i. Use the Create/Join Team button at the top right of any page
      ii. Accepting a request from the captain to join his team
      iii. Finding the team and captain name on the division/league page and requesting to join
      iv. Going to the captain’s player card page, viewing his team, and requesting to join
   c. Join as a Free Agent
      i. You can list yourself as a free agent in as many divisions within a league as you’d like.
      ii. You will be visible to all members of the site and can request to join teams, or post information about yourself so teams can request to add you to their team.
Registration Procedures

Intramural Sports registration deadlines are posted on the Intramural Sports page of the University of Houston website as well as on the University of Houston page at IM Leagues. (www.imleagues.com/uh)

Each team will have the opportunity to choose their team name. If more than one team requests the same name, the team which submits their roster first will be allowed to use the requested name. When selecting a team name, teams are cautioned to:

- Ensure that the selected name is in good taste
- Ensure the name is not offensive (in any language) to any individuals or groups
- Greek organizations that are affiliated with the University of Houston IFC must play under their organization name in order to receive points for their organization

Campus Recreation reserves the right to refuse any team name that is deemed to be inappropriate. If a team enters competition with an inappropriate name, the name of the team captain will serve as the team name for the remainder of competition.

For sports that have an entry fee, payments must be made in person by the team captain at the University of Houston Campus Recreation and Wellness Center Welcome Desk during normal building hours. Your registration will not be complete until you take your receipt to the Intramural Sports office. Receipts must be dropped off during Intramural Sports office hours (see pg. 1-3). Payments must be received by the sport registration deadline. Registrations without payment will be deleted or moved to the waitlist after the registration deadline has passed – late payments are not accepted. If an additional spot opens up due to a team dropping from competition a team on the waitlist may be contacted to fill the opening.

Finally, the team captain must attend the captains’ meeting for the sport. The meeting schedule will be posted on the Intramural Sports page of the Campus Recreation website. If the team captain is unable to attend the meeting, a registered team member must attend the meeting in the captain’s place.

Pre-Registration

All players will be required to register for a team on IM Leagues prior to competing. In order to be eligible to play and appear on the team roster, players must complete the process of registering for a team by the following deadlines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of the Game</th>
<th>Must be registered on the team by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Monday – 2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Tuesday – 2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Wednesday – 2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Thursday – 2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Friday – 9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Friday – 2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Friday – 2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eligibility

- Participation with an ineligible player is cause for forfeiture of a game. In order to be eligible to participate in Intramural Sports, you must fall into one of the following three categories:
  - **Students**: Any student who is currently enrolled (at least one (1) credit hour) at the University of Houston - Main Campus for the current semester and has paid fees
  - **Faculty/Staff**: Any University of Houston faculty/staff member who has purchased a one-semester or longer Campus Recreation and Wellness Center membership
  - **Alumni**: Any University of Houston alumni who has purchased an Annual Campus Recreation and Wellness Center membership. No more than two (2) alumni members may participate on the same team. Alumni members are prohibited from participating with Greek teams.

- All participants must possess a valid University of Houston Cougar Card or a Campus Recreation Membership Card. These cards will be required for verification of enrollment/membership by Intramural Sports staff prior to each Intramural contest.

- Current/former Olympic and/or professional athletes may **NOT** participate in their related intramural sport. An athlete is deemed a ‘professional’ if at any point they were given financial compensation for participating on a team in a professional or semi-professional league. **This restriction remains in effect for five years from the last time the athlete received any financial compensation related to competition.**

- Students who are members of an NCAA team may **NOT** participate in the related Intramural sport. This applies to student athletes who are listed on the official NCAA team/practice roster (including red-shirts, partial-qualifiers, candidates, practice squad members, and others who practice with the team). **This restriction remains in effect for 365 days after the individual is removed from the NCAA roster. Only two (2) NCAA varsity athletes may participate on the same team, regardless of the sport.**

- Students who are members of a Sport Club team may only participate in the competitive league (if available) of the related Intramural sport, with **no more than two (2) Sport Club team members on the same team**. There are no restrictions on Sport Club players playing on teams outside of their related sport.

- The number of Intramural Sports employees on a roster may not exceed the maximum number of players a team may have on the court/field at one time. The number of Intramural Sports employees who are Supervisors and above (incl. Graduate Assistant, Assistant Director) may not exceed three (3) for any sport.

- Any individual who has been ejected from a game and has not yet met with IMS Administration, or any individual who is serving a suspension for an Intramural Sports ejection may not participate.

- Teams may not play an ineligible player even with the mutual consent of both captains.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional / Olympic / NCAA / Club Sport</th>
<th>Related Intramural Sport(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball/Softball</td>
<td>Softball/Wiffleball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Basketball; Fall Classic; Slam Dunk; 3-pt Shooting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>7-on-7 &amp; 4-on-4 Flag Football; Regional Qualifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>Bowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Golf Singles; Golf Doubles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racquetball</td>
<td>Racquetball Singles; Racquetball Doubles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Indoor Soccer; Outdoor Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming/Diving</td>
<td>Swim Meet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Tennis Singles; Tennis Doubles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Indoor Volleyball; Sand Volleyball</td>
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Roster Regulations

The following are the roster regulations for Team Sports:

- For team sports, to complete team registration, the minimum number of players required to start a game must be registered for the team. This number varies by sport and is posted on the individual sport pages at IMLeagues.com. (ex: Basketball – 3; men’s/women’s Flag Football – 5; co-rec Flag Football – 6; Volleyball – 4). **EXCEPTION:** For regional qualifying tournaments, the number of players registered must be at least the maximum number of players allowed on the field/court at one time (ex: Basketball – 5; mens/womens Flag Football – 7; co-rec Flag Football – 8). For more information, read the sport description pages at www.IMLeagues.com/schools/UH
- Teams in every sport will be limited to a maximum number of players. This is due to teams becoming too large for a single sport, space issues, equipment issues and assisting in team management. The max number of players allowed on a single roster in each sport is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men/Women Team</th>
<th>Co-Rec/Open Teams</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Soccer</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Football</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiffleball</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Cricket</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodgeball</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Soccer</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor Hockey</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Individual/Dual sport entries must have **one (1) or two (2) eligible players** (see: Eligibility Requirements), depending on the sport.

  - **Once a player is registered on a roster, he/she may not be removed from that roster.**
    - **NOTE:** Captain’s can meet with IMS Administration to discuss removal of players from rosters. Participant and captain must be present for this meeting. This only applies to the first two weeks of the regular season.

- If the sport has a regular season, players may be added to the roster at any regular season game until the roster reaches the maximum limit. If the sport is a tournament, no roster additions may be made after noon the business day before competition begins.

- Team rosters are permanently frozen at the conclusion of the playoff captains’ meeting. After this time, no additions to the roster are permitted under any circumstance. If there is no playoff captains’ meeting rosters will be frozen at noon the business day before the first playoff game.

- Teams advancing to the playoffs may not add players. This includes players from other teams that either did not qualify for playoff competition or have been eliminated from playoff competition.
Individual Player Restrictions

For team sports, the number of teams each individual may play on is restricted. The following chart separates the Intramural Sports Leagues into two groups. Individuals may only participate on one team from Group A and one team from Group B. Players are not permitted to change their team affiliations once registered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mens</td>
<td>CoRec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mens Competitive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mens Recreational</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mens Greek</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Womens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Womens Greek</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Competitive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Recreational</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Free Agents

If you are interested in participating in an Intramural Sport but don't have a team to play on, you are encouraged to sign up as a free agent. Visit http://www.IMLeagues.com/schools/uh/registration to create a profile (if you have not already done so). On the IM Leagues page for each team sport offered there is a place to sign up as a free agent. If a sufficient number of free-agents sign up to participate in a sport, the Intramural Sports office will attempt to organize a team of free agents to play together. If a free agent team cannot be created, the free agent pool will be available to all teams.

Intramural Sports cannot guarantee that everyone who signs up as a free agent will be placed on a team – it is up to individual teams to decide whether or not they want to accept free agent players to their roster.

Petitions

For sports that have Recreational and Competitive leagues, a Recreational team will have the opportunity to petition for a move to the Competitive league for the playoff tournament. Teams are NOT permitted to petition down from the Competitive to the Recreational league. The following are the petition procedures:

- Visit the Intramural Sports office to obtain a Petition to Move form.
- Submit the form to the Intramural Sports office by 5:00 PM the business day following your team's final regular season game.
- You will be notified of the ruling within 48 hours of the last regular season game played.

Not all petitions will be granted. Petitions will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Intramural Sports reserves the right to involuntarily move any team from the Recreational league to the Competitive league for the playoff tournament if doing so is deemed to be in the best interest of competition and fair play.
Sport Rules

Rule packets for each sport will be available at the captains' meeting and on the University of Houston page at IM Leagues (www.IMLeagues.com/schools/UH). Each sport has its own set of rules that must be reviewed by all participants. Intramural Sport rules will reflect the specific sport rules of the National Intramural - Recreation Sports Association (NIRSA) when possible. If you have any questions regarding rules and their interpretations please contact the Intramural Sports office for clarification. Rules for sports may be changed due to unforeseen circumstances by the Intramural Sports staff for the betterment of the league.

Captain's Duties & Responsibilities

Behind every successful intramural team is a team captain who is committed to learning all he/she can about the Intramural Sports program and to represent his/her team whenever necessary. Listed below are some of the duties and responsibilities of a team captain:

- Register a team on IMLeagues.com and pass the corresponding Guidelines & Rules Quiz
- Represent the team at all captains' meetings.
- Stay in close and frequent contact with the Intramural Sports office.
- Ensure that all participants who play on your team meet eligibility requirements.
- Inform all potential teammates of the need to register to participate on www.imleagues.com by the appropriate deadlines (see: Pre-Registration, pg 1-7)
- Notify team members of date, time, and location of games. Have players at the game site ready to play at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game time.
- Take the time to completely read and familiarize yourself with the Intramural Sports Guidelines, as well as the specific rules for the sport you are playing. Educate your teammates regarding these guidelines so they can successfully pass the Guidelines & Rules Quiz.
- Be responsible for your own conduct, the conduct of your teammates, and the conduct of your fans/spectators. Ensure that all parties (team members and spectators) understand the implications of their actions (See: Sportsmanship Rating, pg. 1-14).
- Inform ejected teammates that they must promptly leave the facility in which the competition is being held. Failure to leave the facility may result in a team forfeit.
- Lodge protests when warranted according to proper protest procedures (See: Protests, pg. 1-20).
- Reschedule games if necessary according to proper rescheduling guidelines (See: Rescheduling, pg. 1-13).
- Default a game if you are unable to play (See: Defaults, pg. 1-18).
Uniforms/Apparel/Jewelry

Teams are encouraged to create and wear their own uniforms. Team uniforms must meet the following requirements:

- All shirts are identical in color/appearance
- Each shirt has a unique number between 0-99
- Uniforms must be completely free of any words, images, or designs that might be considered vulgar, obscene, or in bad taste. The Intramural Sports staff will be the final authority on this issue.

If a team does not wish to wear their own uniforms or if a team shows up wearing different colored uniforms, Intramural Sports will provide jerseys that will be worn. **Intramural Sports must absolutely insist that anyone using an Intramural Sports jersey wear a shirt with sleeves underneath it.** This policy is in place for health/sanitary reasons and is completely non-negotiable.

All participants must wear appropriate athletic attire in order to play. Jeans, khaki shorts/pants, and any other attire not considered "athletic" by the Intramural Sports supervisor on duty will not be allowed. Athletic shoes must be worn for all events (except for Sand Volleyball). Flat, rubber-soled shoes (without cleats) must be worn in the gymnasium. Shoes must fit tightly to the participant's feet - shoes that may slip or fly off the foot will not be permitted. Cleats are only permissible for outdoor competition and only if they have no exposed metal. Sport sunglasses (no metal) may be worn during outdoor competition. Bandanas can only be worn if the cloth is completely untied and simply "tucked in" (no knots).

Intramural Sports rules prohibit players from wearing any visible jewelry while participating. The ONLY exception to this policy is medical bracelets and necklaces, and these must be taped down so as to be flush with the skin. Players wearing jewelry are putting the safety of themselves and others at risk. Watches, bracelets (including LiveStrong style bracelets), rings, necklaces, chains, earrings, any other piercings, etc. must be removed.

**Religion or religious beliefs do not constitute acceptable reasons for wearing jewelry during an Intramural Sports contest. Participation in Campus Recreation activities is completely voluntary, and all Intramural Sports guidelines must be followed by anyone who elects to participate.**

Equipment

It is the responsibility of the participants to return all equipment provided to them at the conclusion of the game. Theft or intentional destruction of Intramural Sports equipment may result in suspension of privileges from all Campus Recreation facilities and/or referral to the Dean of Students office for further discipline.

Lost & Found

Items left at an Intramural Sports game site will be returned to Campus Recreation Lost & Found located at the Equipment Desk inside the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center. Lost items may be claimed during regular building hours. Lost University of Houston ID Cards are sent to Lost & Found – they are then sent to the University of Houston Cougar Card office the next business day if unclaimed.
Schedules

Intramural Sports Handbook

Section I – Intramural Sports Guidelines

Instant Scheduling will be used for all major team sports. With this scheduling, all leagues will be set prior to the registration period. All accommodations will be made to provide an equal opportunity for all teams on all days/nights (I.E.: men’s, women’s, and co-rec leagues will be scheduled so that teams have options of nights and times). Regular season schedules will be distributed at the captains’ meeting for each sport, and they will also be available on www.imleagues.com. Intramural Sports will make every attempt to offer teams options in every sport, however exact times are not guaranteed.

Regular season games may be rescheduled (see: Rescheduling, pg. 1-13), but dates and times are extremely limited. Due to circumstances beyond our control, schedules may change at any time. Any changes to the schedule will be posted to the website. Please check the website for the most accurate schedules. The Intramural Sports staff will attempt to contact the team captain if changes are to be made. Please make sure the contact information in imleagues is up-to-date.

Tournament brackets for sports that have a regular season will be created at the playoff captains’ meeting. An empty bracket with all game dates/times for playoff competition will be posted and teams will be invited to place themselves on the bracket one-by-one based on final league and divisional standings. The selection order will be determined prior to the meeting. If a team representative is not present when his/her team name is called, their spot will be passed and the next team will have the selection. If a team representative shows up after his/her team name is called, they will have the opportunity to select a spot on the bracket at the next available opportunity. Teams that do not send a representative to the playoff captains’ meeting will be REMOVED from playoffs at the conclusion of the selection process. Finalized playoff brackets will be posted on www.imleagues.com. Anyone can represent any team for the playoff captains meeting.

PLAYOFF/TOURNAMENT GAMES WILL ONLY BE RESCHEDULED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER.

Rescheduling

Rescheduling of individual/dual sports competition is not allowed due to limited times available to play the games. Rescheduling of team sports is allowed for sports that have a regular season; however, a specific procedure must be followed. The process of rescheduling a game starts with the team captain:

- Must be notified by 24 hours prior to the scheduled game time.
- Contact the IMS Office in person, email, phone or through www.imleagues.com and notify us of the need for a reschedule.
- The IMS office will take care of contacting the opponent and working with them on potential dates.
- Playoff games will not be rescheduled for any reason other than inclement weather.
Sportsmanship Rating

At the University of Houston we strive to promote a fun, safe and fair environment, not only for our students but for our guests as well. This pertains to Intramural Sports as much as any other part of campus. To promote a friendly and safe atmosphere, Intramural Sports implements a sportsmanship rating system that pertains to players and fans. The sportsmanship rating will be determined by intramural officials and supervisors, and will include behavior before, during, and after each contest. **Teams can be awarded .5 points on their sportsmanship grade. Teams will start with a 4.**

- **4.0**
  - A team that does not have any problems will receive a 4.0
  - The team captain has full control of his/her teammates
  - There was no abusive language used toward anybody
  - A rating of ‘4’ will be given to a team that wins by forfeit or default.

- **3.5**
  - Very few complaints. Players cooperate with officials and other team members
  - The team captain calmly converses with officials about interpretations and calls
  - No penalties for unsportsmanlike penalties

- **3.0**
  - Teams complain more frequently, but overall players respect officials and the game
  - Captain shows some control of his/her players and fans
  - There was no abusive language towards the officials

- **2.5**
  - Teams complain frequently but do not get penalized for unsportsmanlike behavior
  - Captain tries to help the situation
  - No more than 2 unsportsmanlike penalties

- **2.0**
  - Team uses abusive language towards officials and/or opposing team that may or may not merit a warning
  - Captain shows little control of his/her players and fans
  - A single non-procedural* unsportsmanlike conduct violation (technical foul [basketball], yellow card [soccer], unsportsmanlike conduct penalty [football], etc) is issued
  - A player tries to sign in using false identification
  - A rating of 2.0 will be given to a team when they Default a game

- **1.5**
  - Teams constantly arguing with officials and/or opposing team
  - Captain shows little or no control of his/her players and fans

- **1.0**
  - Multiple non-procedural *unsportsmanlike conduct violations (technical foul [basketball], yellow card [soccer], unsportsmanlike conduct penalty [football], etc) are issued
  - A player is ejected from the contest
  - Captain shows no control over his/her players and fans
• 0.0
  o Team is completely uncooperative
  o Multiple players from one team are ejected
  o Player(s) verbally or physically threaten an employee or opponent
  o A game is ended prematurely due to a complete lack of sportsmanship from one or both teams
  o A rating of 0.0 will be given to a team when they forfeit a game

This list is not all-inclusive. Not all listed criteria must be present to issue a particular rating. If a 1 or 0 rating is issued, the team captain must meet with the Intramural Sports Admin before the start of the next scheduled game. If this meeting does not take place prior to the next scheduled game, the offending team will forfeit that game.

*Note: Procedural unsportsmanlike conduct violations (example: Basketball/Soccer – Technical foul/yellow card for too many players on the court/field) will not count against a team’s sportsmanship rating for the game.

**Sportsmanship Rating**

The Sportsmanship Rating Policy will be a tool utilized by Intramural Sports to ensure that the teams in our leagues maintain an appropriate level of sportsmanship throughout the competition.

In order to be eligible for the playoffs, teams must average a sportsmanship rating of ‘2.5’ for the entire regular season (if applicable). Teams with a sportsmanship rating of less than ‘2.5’ at the end of the regular season will not advance to the playoffs regardless of their regular season record. If a winning team earns a sportsmanship rating of 2 or lower for any playoff/tournament game, the team captain will be required to meet with IMS Administration regarding the misconduct displayed during the game. The Intramural Sports representative will determine whether or not the team will be eligible to remain in the playoff tournament. If a team receives a 0 for a game, they are removed from playoff contention and a disciplinary meeting will take place between team reps and IMS Administration. If the team captain does not meet with an Intramural Sports representative prior to the next game, the team will be automatically removed from tournament competition. (If the subsequent game is on the same day, the captain of the team must meet with the highest ranking member of the Intramural Sports staff on-site to determine the status of his/her team).

If a team is removed from tournament competition because of a sportsmanship violation, their opponent will advance (regardless of the outcome of the game). If this happens in the championship game, the opposing team will be declared the champion. If both teams are removed from playoff competition due to sportsmanship violations in a playoff/tournament game, neither team will advance and the subsequent opponent will have a ‘bye’ (regardless of the outcome of the game). If this occurs in the championship game, no league champion will be recognized.

**Ejections**

Any player earning an ejection from an Intramural Sports contest is prohibited from participating in all Intramural Sports competitions until he/she meets with the IMS Admin. By rule, ejected participants must serve a mandatory minimum one-game suspension after being ejected from a contest. This suspension will not begin until after the meeting between the ejected participant and IMS Admin. Penalties resulting from
ejections may include suspension and/or probation from Intramural Sports competition for a minimum of one game and could be permanent if warranted. A player may appeal his/her suspension if it is longer than 1 game (see: Appeals, pg. 1-19), but may not participate in ANY activity while the appeal is in review. In the case of extreme misconduct, Campus Recreation and Wellness Center privileges may be revoked and teams/individuals may be referred to the Dean of Students office for further discipline.

Any player who has been ejected from an Intramural Sports game is required to contact the IMS Admin immediately in order to set up an appointment (contact info on page 1-2).
Personal Conduct Violations

Terms and Definitions:

- **Altercation** - A heated angry dispute or controversy. No physical contact is necessary.
- **Destruction/Theft of Property** - Destroying, damaging, displacing, or stealing property that belongs to Campus Recreation, Intramural Sports, or an opponent.
- **Excessive/Flagrant Force** - Physical contact that is above and beyond that which is normally observed in a typical game.
- **Escalating** - Entering an altercation or fight with the intention of increasing the magnitude of verbal or physical confrontation.
- **Fighting** - Engaging in physical combat. Punches do not need to be thrown for a "fight" to occur.
- **Fraudulent Use of ID** - Attempting to enter a facility, sign-in for a contest, check-out equipment, or perform any other act using an Identification card that belongs to another person.
- **Instigating** - Baiting or attempting to bait another participant into a fight or altercation through verbal or physical means.
- **Leaving the Bench Area** - A player will be considered to have "left the bench area" if he/she leaves the team bench and approaches the opposing bench or any opposing players during a fight or altercation.
- **Physical Abuse** - An act intending to cause harm, damage, or injury to another person.
- **Taunting** - Actions intended to anger, embarrass, or ridicule others. Includes (but is not limited to) "trash talk", "in-the-face" confrontation, standing over tackled/fallen players, etc.
- **Verbal Abuse** - Use of harsh language that demeans, belittles, condemns, or vilifies, the target. Repetitive use of profanity/obscenities/insults towards a person or group of people.

Forfeits

A team will lose one point in divisional standings and receive a “0” sportsmanship rating for forfeiting a game. Forfeited games count as a loss and will not be rescheduled. A team’s second forfeit will result in that team being completely removed from the sport. Forfeits will be administered according to the following guidelines:

- If no team members are present at the game site at the scheduled start time, the Intramural Sports supervisor will declare an immediate forfeit.
- If at least one team member is present at the scheduled start time, teams may be granted a 10-minute grace period in order to get enough participants to the game site in order to start a game. At the scheduled start time, the game clock will begin to run and points will be awarded to the team that is ready to play (the structure for awarding points is outlined in the rules for each specific sport). The game clock will run until both teams have the minimum required number of participants to play a game checked in and ready to play (wearing appropriate uniform/apparel). When the game starts, the clock will continue running from the point where it was stopped - the game clock does not reset. If the game has not begun after 10 minutes, it will be forfeited in favor of the team that had enough players ready to play. If neither team has enough players to begin a game, a double forfeit will be issued.
- If a team commits unsportsmanlike conduct violations during one game that is more than the number allowed by the rules for that sport, the game will be stopped and the offending team will forfeit.
• If two players from the same team are ejected from the game, the game will be stopped and the offending team will forfeit.
• If a team bench clears during a fight or altercation, the game will be stopped and the offending team will forfeit. If both team benches clear during a fight or altercation, both teams will forfeit.
• If a team uses a player that is not authorized to play in that game (due to eligibility, suspension, or any other reason), the game will be forfeited.

Only an Intramural Sports supervisor has the authority to inform a team that they have won a game by forfeit. Not showing up to a scheduled game because a representative from another team informed you that they will not show up to the game could result in a loss or double forfeit.

Defaults

If you know in advance that you will not be able to make it to a scheduled game, you can inform the Intramural Sports office and be charged with a default instead of a forfeit. Defaulted games count as a loss and will not be rescheduled. There are three significant advantages to defaulting a game rather than forfeiting a game:

1. Teams do not lose one point in divisional standings for default as they would for a forfeit.
2. A team earns a “2” sportsmanship points for a default instead of “0” sportsmanship points for a forfeit (reminder: teams must have a 2.5 sportsmanship average to qualify for the playoff tournament).
3. A team is removed from competition upon their second forfeit. Defaults do not count toward that number.

In order to default a game, a team captain must contact the Intramural Sports office by 12:00 noon the day of a game for weekday games or 12:00 pm Friday for any weekend (Saturday/Sunday) games. Attempts to default games after these deadlines will not be recognized. Defaults will not be granted at the game site.

Appeals

An appeals process exists to ensure that rulings or disciplinary actions taken against Intramural Sports teams or individuals are equitable. The person/council/committee to which a decision is appealed will review the previous decision and rule on its appropriateness given the infraction(s) or circumstance(s) surrounding the specific case. As with any appeal, the person/council/committee may decide to lessen the penalty, uphold the previous decision, or increase the penalty levied by the Intramural Sports staff.

The following are the steps of the Intramural Sports suspension appeal process:

1. The suspended participant must submit a formal appeal form to the Intramural Sports office within 48 hours of the initial ruling. Appeal forms are available online or in the Intramural Sports office. The form must be received by an Intramural Sports employee during normal business hours.
2. The person/council/committee will review the appeal form, the initial ruling, and the ejection report from the contest. In order to recommend that Campus Recreation reconsider the original decision, the following criteria must be established:
   a. New evidence must be presented that is sufficient enough to alter the decision
   b. Procedural defects existed that substantially prevented the student from obtaining fair officiating
c. The discipline administered is found to be grossly disproportionate to the violation

3. All disciplinary decisions are made on a case-by-case basis. Each person’s actions and the situation and the circumstances surrounding them are considered to be unique, and therefore the following items will NOT be considered by the person/council/committee that reviews appeals:
   a. Discipline administered to other persons involved in the altercation
   b. Discipline administered to other persons in other altercations
   c. Unfounded/unsubstantiated claims of bias or prejudice

4. The person/council/committee that reviews appeals will return a decision within five business days of the submission of the appeal.

5. Due to the length of the appeals process and the mandatory suspension associated with all ejections, a single game suspension may not be appealed.

Professional Discretion

The Associate Director of Programs and the Assistant Director – Intramural Sports will use professional discretion, when necessary, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the entire program.

Protests

Protests must be made by the intramural team captain. Protests will be reviewed for the following reasons:

- A misinterpretation or misapplication of a playing rule
- Failure to impose the correct penalty for a given violation/foul
- Matters of player eligibility

Protests will not be considered if they are based solely on the judgment of a game official. To lodge a rule protest, the following procedures must be strictly observed:

1. The team captain must notify the game officials immediately that he/she would like to file a protest. (Captains may not protest a ruling once the next restart of play has occurred).
2. The game will be stopped, and the supervisor on duty will record the details of the protest, along with other pertinent game information (including the score, time left on the clock, etc).
3. The supervisor on duty will render a decision on the protest, and the game will continue.
4. If the protesting captain disagrees with the decision rendered by the Intramural Sports supervisor on duty, he/she may write a brief statement concerning the protest on the official protest document. This form will be delivered to the IMS Admin the following business day.

If a team wishes to protest the eligibility of an opponent, this protest must be filed with the Intramural Sports supervisor on duty no later than 90 minutes after the start of the contest. Eligibility protests may only be made in person by the team captain.

The Intramural Sports office does not assume responsibility for investigating the eligibility of all persons participating in intramural activities. We will do our best to investigate any properly presented cases.
Team Bench Areas / Coaches

Any team wishing to utilize a “coach” is allowed one for the entirety of the game. Multiple coaches or switching coaches throughout is not allowed. Persons who are located in/around the team bench areas are, by definition, subject to the same procedural rules of the game as participants who are on the court/field. As such, Intramural Sports treats all persons who are in/around team bench areas as full participants in the game.

All persons wishing to be in the team bench area during a game MUST follow the full sign-in procedures as anyone else who is participating in the game, including:

- Provide proper identification (University of Houston Cougar Card)
- Be eligible for the team in that particular game
  - Players under suspension are prohibited from being in the team bench area
  - Players who are on other teams in the same sport (and are therefore ineligible to play for this team) are prohibited from being in the team bench area
- Sign in on the team roster (become a full member of the team), wear a numbered jersey for the duration of the game, and sign the Release and Indemnification agreement.

**Intramural Sports does not recognize coaches.** You may have a person on your roster who acts as a “coach” and does not participate in the game, but that person must follow all of the above procedures and guidelines including signing in and being eligible to play for the team. This person will take up one of the team’s available roster spots and will be treated as a participant on the team by Intramural Sports staff.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather, decisions regarding playing conditions will not be made before 2:00 p.m. on the day of competition. Team captains will be responsible for contacting the Intramural Sports office [713.743.8041] to learn the status of the games. During the regular season, postponed Intramural Sports contests will not be rescheduled if field space and season length do not permit. Games cancelled due to weather that are not rescheduled will no affect standings. If inclement weather forces the stoppage of a game during competition, results will be determined as follows:

- If a game is stopped in the first half of play (or prior to 3 complete innings [Softball/Kickball]), the result will be a 'Tie' for both teams in the regular season or a rescheduled game replayed from the point of stoppage during the playoffs.
- If a game is stopped after the second half of play has started (or after the start of the 4th inning [Softball/Kickball]), the score at that point will be the final result. If the score is tied in a playoff game that cannot be completed in the same day due to weather, the game will be rescheduled and replayed from the point of stoppage.
ID Policy

All University of Houston students and faculty/staff members wishing to participate in a University of Houston Intramural Sports activity are required to present their University of Houston Cougar Card at sign-in.

*The picture and information on the card must be CLEARLY VISIBLE. If the picture on the card is not clearly visible, a second form of photo identification will be required.*

University of Houston alumni who have purchased an annual membership at the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center must present their CRWC membership card along with some form of picture identification. No other forms of identification will be accepted for participation in Intramural Sports events.

According to University rules and regulations, the Cougar Card must be carried at all times while on campus and must be presented to any UH official upon request.

Improper Use of ID Cards

If any player attempts to use false identification in order to participate in an intramural contest, the ID card will be immediately confiscated and that individual will not be permitted to play. The individual in question will be ‘ejected’ from the game asked to show proper identification to the Intramural Supervisor on duty. If the individual refuses to properly identify himself or cooperate fully with the Intramural Supervisor, the team captain will be asked to assist with the identification of the individual. If the team captain refuses to assist the Intramural Supervisor with identifying the individual, he/she may also be ‘ejected’ from the game. The sportsmanship rating for a team attempting to sign in a player or players with false identification will be no higher than a 2. The team captain, the individual in question, and the owner of the ID are all subject to suspension from the CRWC and Intramural Sports activities and possible discipline by the University of Houston Dean of Students Office. Please be aware that any instance of identity theft may be reported to the University of Houston Police Department for further action.

Identification cards that are confiscated by Intramural Sports staff will be turned over to the University of Houston Cougar Card office the next business day. Students may visit the Cougar Card office to claim their confiscated cards after this time. Intramural Sports staff is not authorized to return confiscated cards. Please be aware that the University may elect to pursue supplemental discipline for any violations of the University of Houston Student Code of Conduct.

Weapons/Firearms

University policy prohibits the possession, carrying, or use of prohibited weapons including firearms, illegal knives, and clubs on university owned or controlled properties.

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Illegal Drugs

Persons are not permitted to consume or be under the influence of alcohol while at any facility operated by Campus Recreation. Anyone suspected to be in under the influence of alcohol will be asked to leave the facility
immediately. If any persons (regardless of age) are engaging in the consumption of alcohol while at a facility operated by Campus Recreation, the University of Houston Police Department will be notified immediately.

The use of tobacco products is prohibited at all facilities operated by Campus Recreation. If participants or spectators are using or suspected of using tobacco products at one of the facilities, Campus Recreation Staff will inform those individuals of this policy and insist that the usage stop immediately. If the individuals refuse to cooperate with this policy, they will be asked to leave the facility.

If a member of the Campus Recreation Staff suspects a participant or patron of being under the influence of an illegal drug or substance, that person will be instructed to leave the facility immediately. If compliance with this procedure is not immediate, the University of Houston Police Department will be notified. If a participant or player is seen in possession of an illegal drug or substance, the University of Houston Police Department will be notified immediately.

**Release and Indemnification Agreement**

Participation in the University of Houston Campus Recreation programs is **completely voluntary**. Participants should be aware that there is a risk of injury in recreation and Intramural Sports programs due to the inherent nature of the activities. Each individual participating in those programs assumes the risk for any harm or injuries caused by negligence or any intentional acts. All participants in Intramural Sports activities must sign the **RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT** prior to participation. It is strongly suggested that each individual arrange sufficient health insurance coverage, whether it is through the University or on a personal or family basis. Campus Recreation has gone to great lengths to make all activities and facilities as safe as possible, however, neither the University of Houston nor Campus Recreation can assume responsibility for injuries incurred during practice for or participation in any formal or informal recreation program. The text of the agreement reads as follows:

**RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT**

By signing my name below, I certify that I voluntarily applied to participate in the intramural sport listed on the reverse side of this form (hereinafter referred to as the “Activity”), acknowledge that the nature of the Activity may expose me to hazards or risks that may result in my illness, personal injury, or even death, and I understand and appreciate the nature of such hazards and risks. Such risks may include, but are not limited to, illness, personal injury, or death caused by and/or from engaging in rigorous physical activity typically associated with the Activity, and being exposed to dangerous conditions including, but not limited to, uneven, slippery, and/or otherwise dangerous filed, court, and/or other intramural facility conditions, inclement weather and exposure to possibly extreme cold, damp, wet, windy, sunny, and/or hot conditions as well as poor visibility, being exposed to physical contact and/or collisions with other participants and/or objects, as well as being exposed to other dangerous conditions that may be associated with participating in the Activity including, but not limited to, being exposed to musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, skin, and/or other physical risks associated with physical activity and physical exertion while participating in the Activity. I represent that I am physically able, with or without accommodation, to participate in the Activity, am able to use the equipment and/or supplies associated with the Activity, and have obtained all required immunizations.

In consideration of my participation in the Activity, I hereby accept all risk to my health which may include, but is not limited to, illness, injury or death that may result from such participation and I hereby release the above-named Institution, and the Institution’s governing board, officers, employees, faculty members, representatives and agents from any and all liability to me, my personal representatives, estate, heirs, next of kin, and assigns for any and all claims and causes of action for loss of or damage to my property and for any and all illness or injury to my person, including my death, that may result from or occur during my participation in the Activity, whether caused by negligence of the above-
named Institution, and/or the Institution’s governing board, officers, employees, faculty members, representatives and agents, or otherwise. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the above-named Institution and the Institution’s governing board, officers, employees, faculty members, representatives and agents from liability for the illness, injury or death of any person(s) and damage to property that may result from my negligent or intentional acts or omissions while participating in the Activity.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTAND IT TO BE A RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION FOR MY INJURY OR DEATH OR DAMAGE TO MY PROPERTY THAT OCCURS WHILE PARTICIPATING OR AS A RESULT OF MY PARTICIPATION, IN THE ACTIVITY AND IT OBLIGATES ME TO INDEMNIFY THE PARTIES NAMED FOR ANY LIABILITY FOR INJURY OR DEATH OF ANY PERSON AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY CAUSED BY MY NEGLIGENT OR INTENTIONAL ACTS OR OMISSIONS.

Should I require emergency medical treatment as a result of accident or illness arising during the Activity, I consent to such treatment. I acknowledge that the Institution does not provide health and accident insurance for participants in the Activity and I agree to be financially responsible for any medical bills incurred as a result of emergency medical treatment. I acknowledge that I have been given the option to purchase insurance for the Activity or Trip through the University. I will notify University representatives in writing if I have medical conditions about which emergency medical personnel should be informed.

Facilities

Intramural Sports games are played at 5 main sites on campus. The following is a list of all Intramural Sports venues and where they are located:

- **University of Houston Campus Recreation and Wellness Center** (Located at the intersection of University Dr. and Calhoun Rd.)
  - Center Court
  - Climbing Wall
  - Intramural Sports Office
  - MAC (Multipurpose Activity Court)
  - Main Gym 1-3
  - Multipurpose Rooms 1-5
  - Natatorium
  - Racquetball Courts 1-6
  - Rotunda (Main Entrance)
  - Sand Volleyball Court (Leisure Pool Area)
  - Weight Room
  - Wellness Classroom

- **Campus Recreation and Wellness Center Fields** (Located behind the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center at the intersection of University Dr. and Calhoun Rd.)
  - CRWC Field 1-2

- **Cullen Fields** (Located at the intersection of Cullen Blvd. and Elgin St.)
  - Intramural Field 1-4

- **University Center Game Room** (Arbor level of the University of Houston – University Center)

- **Tennis Courts** (Located on Elgin between Cullen and Scott)

- **Hermann Park Golf Course** (Intersection of N. MacGregor Way and Almeda Rd.)
Employment

Intramural Sports hires new students each semester to be sports officials. If you are interested in a fun and fast-paced on-campus job, stop by the Intramural Sports office (Room 1007 of the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center) or visit our website at www.uh.edu/recreation for more information. No officiating experience is required, and all informational and training sessions will be provided by Campus Recreation.