

## 2007-2008 Intramural Sports Handbook

In providing intramural sports and special events, Campus Recreation, a division of Student Affairs, provides the University community with various sports opportunities to satisfy as many skill levels as possible. Games, leagues and tournaments are offered in various formats (competitive, recreational, and co-recreational leagues) for both men and women to encourage participation for players at all skill levels. This Handbook has been designed to provide information for individuals and teams participating in intramural sports. The policies and procedures discussed in detail throughout this Handbook are essential to understanding what it means to successfully participate in intramural sports at Nova Southeastern University. Campus Recreation strives to ensure an environment that is free of discriminatory activities based on race, religion, sex, age, marital status, and physical or mental disability.

### ***Team Information***

#### **Registration**

##### Registering a Team:

- Captains will be able to register their team(s) online during specific time periods prior to each season ([www.rec.nova.edu](http://www.rec.nova.edu)).
- The \$40 registration fee must be paid within three business days of completing the online registration.
- Only the first 40 teams to register will be included in the league. All additional teams will be placed on a waiting list and must attend the mandatory captain's meeting for the opportunity to be included in the league.
- Any team that fails to register during the designated registration time will be placed on a waiting list and must attend the mandatory captain's meeting for the opportunity to be included in the league.

Mandatory Captain's Meetings: After the registration period has closed and prior to the beginning of the season, one mandatory captain's meeting will be held. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss specific sport rules, review intramural sports policies, and discuss questions and concerns. Each team must be represented at this meeting. If a team fails to have a representative at this meeting:

1. The team may be placed on a waiting list.
2. The team that missed the meeting will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list.
3. The captain will not receive a refund for the \$40 registration fee, regardless of whether or not the team is included in the league.

Scheduling: There will be a new entry form put into effect beginning in the Fall, 2008. On this entry form, there is a section for availability. Please fill this section out completely and properly. Please at least two (2) days open for scheduling purposes. When reading this form, we will do our best to place your team in those time slots, but it is not guaranteed.

## **Defaults, Forfeits and Cancellations**

- A team and/or individual that anticipates a problem meeting their contest time, may default a scheduled contest by contacting the Intramural Sports office at 954-262-7305, at least two [2] hours PRIOR to contest time. Teams will be allowed one (1) default and any default after the first one will constitute a team not eligible for the playoffs.
- Forfeits are detrimental to the entire program and are an injustice to participants who want to play. In an attempt to discourage teams from not showing to scheduled contests, any team that does not show up for a game will not be eligible for the playoffs. A team that forfeits can repay the registration fee (\$40) before their next scheduled game to become eligible for the playoffs. Any team that forfeits a second time will be dropped from the league.
- Cancellations occur when the weather or other uncontrollable factors make postponing contests necessary. In the event of a postponement or cancellation, the intramural staff will notify the captains of all teams scheduled to play.

## **Team Jerseys**

Teams are required to wear color-matching jerseys with visible numbers on the back or front (no taped-on numbers will be permitted). Pinnies will be provided to distinguish between opposing teams who are wearing similar colors.

## **Tie Breaking Procedure**

In determining playoff standings, the following system will be used when teams finish the regular season with identical win/loss records:

1. Head to Head
2. Sportsmanship Rating
3. Total Points Scored for the season
4. Coin Flip

## **Sportsmanship Rating**

One of the major goals of our program is to provide a safe, fair and enjoyable environment. Unsportsmanlike behavior generally causes games to become not enjoyable, unfair, and in some cases, unsafe. In order to maintain the proper playing environment, a sportsmanship rating system has been implemented for all games. The officials will rate respective teams on a 4.0 grading system during each contest. The on-site supervisor will approve this rating.

- Two “F” ratings result in the team being eliminated from further competition in that sport.
- Any team that has less than a 3.0 average at the end of the regular season will be ineligible for the playoffs. If at any point during the regular season a team becomes mathematically ineligible to make the playoffs as a result of poor sportsmanship, they will be removed from the league.
- A team will be dropped from playoff action if they receive a rating of “F” in a single playoff game. If a team is dropped from the playoffs due to an unacceptable

sportsmanship rating, their opponent (provided they receive an acceptable rating) will automatically advance regardless of the game result.

- Sport-specific criteria for ratings will be available for each sport.
- No team or individual shall be permitted to make a travesty of a contest. Those teams/players that demonstrate actions considered to make a mockery of the game will be either suspended or eliminated from further participation.
- A team may be eliminated immediately if there is an incident of physical or verbal abuse. The intramural sports staff will handle these situations on a case-by-case basis.

## **Protest Procedure**

- It is a strong belief of Campus Recreation that contests should be won or lost on the field of play, not through the technicalities of rules. Matters involving an official's judgment are not a basis for protest.
- If a team feels that any rule has been misapplied, the captain of the team is required to make the protest to the officials in charge of the contest at the time the question is raised. In order to be considered an official protest, the captain must state to the official, "I am protesting." Once play has resumed, a protest will not be valid.
- Once a protest has been noted, play will continue. After a thorough analysis of the situation, the Assistant Director will rule on the protest. If a protest is denied, the result of the game will remain. If a protest is upheld, the game will be replayed from the point at which the protest was made.
- All protest forms must be filled out immediately following the conclusion of the game with the on-site supervisor.

## ***Participant Information***

### **Eligibility**

All intramural sports participants must have a current University Center membership. All students registered at Nova Southeastern University, faculty/staff members, spouses and alumni are eligible to participate in any intramural sport or special event (provided they are members of the University Center). The participation of all individuals, however, will be in accordance with the following guidelines.

- Current NSU Varsity Athletes: Nova Southeastern University varsity athletes are ineligible to compete in their sport or any related sports (i.e. current baseball players may not play softball). Any member of a varsity team who suits up for a contest or whose name appears on a team roster is ineligible for the remainder of the school year (2006-2007) in the sport or related sport. Non-scholarship practice players and players who participated in try-outs are not considered current varsity players.
- Ex-Varsity Athletes: Prior to competing in any intramural sport or related sport, varsity athletes from any college or university must sit out for a minimum of 365 days following their final game.

- Professional and Elite Athletes: Anyone who has competed in a sport at a professional or international level shall be ineligible for intramural competition in that sport or its related sport.

## Participation

- Roster Restriction: You may not play on both a Competitive and a Recreational team. A player is allowed to participate on one CoRec team while participating in a Men's or Women's League. Women may only participate in a Men's League if there is no Women's League.
- Registration: Teams will be allowed to add players to their roster throughout the season at the game site. All players must sign a "Liability Form" before participating in their first game.

## Valid ID's

To participate in an intramural sport you must present a valid NSU ID to the intramural staff prior to every contest. No ID = No play. **There are no exceptions to this policy.**

## Participant Conduct

In order to preserve the spirit of fair play, it is essential that participants adhere to the rules as well as to the spirit of the game. Good sportsmanship is a requirement of all participants.

- Campus Recreation reserves the right to eject and suspend any individual, team or fan that interrupts the flow of a game in any manner. Ejections may occur before, during, or after any contest. Any ejected player(s) must leave the playing area immediately. If the player refuses to leave within 3 minutes, the game will be forfeited. The team captains are expected to assist the intramural staff when needed. Any player or fan who has to be removed or ejected from a game or playing area is automatically ineligible from further competition and will be suspended (see below). Notification of disciplinary action will be sent to the individual, team captain and in severe instances to the Dean of Students.
- Anyone serving a suspension may not attend any intramural contests as a team member or as a spectator until their full suspension has been served.
- Anyone ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct toward other participants, spectators or teammates will be suspended from participation for a minimum of the next game. Anyone ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct toward an official will receive a minimum 2 game suspension.
- Anyone in violation of the NSU Student Code of Conduct will result in notification to the Associate Dean of Students and will be suspended a minimum of 2 games. Reinstatement into the intramural program will be contingent upon meeting with the Associate Dean of Students.
- Any individual found guilty of striking, intimidating or in any way attempting to influence an official, will be referred to the Associate Dean of Students, suspended for 365 days, and may have official charges filed against them with the Police Department.

- Anyone involved in a fight or found guilty of cheating (check in under an assumed name, participation while under suspension, violation of eligibility rules) will be suspended from intramural sports for up to 365 days. The team will forfeit all games that a guilty player participated in.
- All instances of suspensions will be handled on a case-by-case basis. In cases occurring late in the sport season or the academic year, a suspension may carry over to the next sport or next intramural year. After reinstatement, anyone involved in a second major offense will be banned from participation for 365 days.
- The decision of an official or intramural staff member to eject a player for any unsportsmanlike conduct (be it verbal or physical) will be firmly upheld by Campus Recreation. Protests of this type will not be accepted. There are absolutely no exceptions.
- The following statements are from the NSU Student Code of Conduct:
  1. Failure to Comply: All students and guests of NSU are expected to comply with the directives or reasonable requests of university officials acting in the performance of their duties.
  2. Harassment Statement: Harassment is defined as any words or acts, whether intentional or a product of the disregard for the safety, rights, or welfare of others, which causes physical, verbal, or emotional harm; or conduct which intimidates, degrades, demeans, threatens, hazes, or otherwise interferes with another person's rights to comfort and right to be free of a hostile environment. This includes, but is not limited to, loud or aggressive behavior; behavior that disrupts the orderly functioning of the university; disturbs the peace and/or comfort of person(s) on the campus of the university; creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. It also includes any conduct (words or acts) in which the university can determine that a threat exists to the educational process or to the health or safety of a member of the NSU community.
  3. Trespass Policy: Nova Southeastern University reserves the right to prohibit trespass onto its property. University employees whose duties include building or property supervision or the general safety and protection of persons or property may issue a trespass warning. A trespass warning may be issued to students or non-students and may apply to an individual's vehicle, as well. The revocation of a person's privilege to be on the lands, within the buildings, or on the premises of the university may be restricted to time and place by the agent of the university issuing the trespass warning.

## Safety

- Proper attire must be worn for every intramural activity. NCAA and National Standards will be enforced when applicable. This is for your protection, as well as that of other participants. Each individual must obtain prior approval from the intramural staff for the use of orthopedic devices essential to protect an injury as well as wearing any casts or wrapped appendages. The following items are considered illegal apparel:
  - Street or dress clothes
  - Street or dress shoes

- Metal or screw-in cleats
- Bare feet (except sand volleyball)
- Sandals, work-boots
- Exposed jewelry
- Taping of jewelry is not permitted
- Campus Recreation assumes no responsibility for injuries received during intramural sports. Participants are reminded that their participation is voluntary. The nature of sports activity and the large number of participants in our program makes the occurrence of some injuries inevitable.
- It is strongly recommended that all participants have a physical examination and carry some form of health and injury insurance. Any injuries or accidents occurring during activities should be reported immediately to the intramural staff.
- Anyone bleeding or having blood on their clothing will be prohibited from participation until appropriate measures have been administered. The on-site supervisor must be satisfied that the situation has been properly treated before the player may continue.

## **Alcohol and Drug Policy**

- No individual will be allowed to participate in any activity if it is suspected that he/she is under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Spectators and players are prohibited from bringing and/or consuming alcohol or drugs at the game sites. Individuals violating this rule shall be removed immediately. Any participant removed from an intramural contest due to a violation of the alcohol and drug policy will be suspended for a minimum of the remainder of that sport season. Additionally, this violation of the NSU Student Code of Conduct will be reported to the Associate Dean of Students.
- Any team that has a participant removed for a violation of the alcohol and drug policy, does not cooperate fully with the intramural staff in resolving alcohol and drug violations by participants and/or spectators, or is found guilty of possessing or consuming alcohol or drugs at a game site shall automatically forfeit that contest, receive an “F” sportsmanship rating and will be placed on probation for the remainder of the season. The intramural staff shall determine the severity of the penalty on a case-by-case basis.
- There is no smoking in or around the intramural playing fields. Individuals violating this policy will be given the option to discontinue smoking or to leave the site.