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# CAMPUS RECREATION

Division of Student Affairs  
Florida Atlantic University

## Intramural Sports Participant Handbook

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2016-2017

## INTRAMURAL SPORTS PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

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## INTRAMURAL SPORTS PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

### Article I. Voluntary Participation/Assumption of Risk/Injuries/Waivers

#### Section 1.01 Participating in Intramural Sports

- (a) Your participation in Intramural Sports activities could result in physical injury, which could be serious or fatal. Participation in Intramural Sports is completely voluntary and all participants acknowledge their assumption of risk by their voluntary participation. Florida Atlantic University and the FAU Campus Recreation staff are not responsible for injuries sustained while participating in scheduled Intramural Sports contests, in the Recreation & Wellness Center, Henderson Fields, or the general recreation area. Participants are required to sign a release form prior to participation in each new activity. The waiver will be signed online via [www.imleagues.com/fau](http://www.imleagues.com/fau). Participants are strongly encouraged to have approval of their personal physician prior to participating and are encouraged to have personal health insurance. If injuries occur during competition, the FAU Campus Recreation staff may administer basic first aid and CPR, and/or call EMS. Participants are financially responsible for any medical expenses incurred.
- (b) Competitive Sports staff members have the right to prohibit an individual from participating if they show signs of intoxication from use of drugs or alcohol or if an injured participant shows common signs of a concussion.
- (c) All participants are solely responsible for their own well-being and they are strongly encouraged to follow any doctor's orders and/or medical restrictions and to notify their team captain of any physical/medical restrictions. All participation decision made by Competitive Sports staff members are final.
- (d) Campus Recreation does not supply medical supplies except in emergency situations.

### Article II. Sportsmanship

#### Section 2.01 Team Sportsmanship Rating

- (a) FAU Campus Recreation's sportsmanship rating system has been developed to protect the safety and equity of all participants and those affiliated with supervising our events.
- (b) The rating is an objective means for assessing the behavior of teams throughout a sport season.
- (c) Participating in Intramural Sports is **NOT** a right, it is a privilege. Therefore, the Intramural Sports program and its staff members reserve the right to take away that privilege from any team or individual that does not abide by the rules and regulations, as well as does not exhibit good sportsmanship and fair play.

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- (d) The Intramural Sports staff will grade teams on their display of sportsmanship before, during, and after each game on a 0-4 scale.

### Section 2.02 Sportsmanship Rating Criteria

- (a) 4.0 "A" – Great Conduct and Sportsmanship
  - (i) Team members and spectators (on or off the playing area) cooperate fully with the supervisors and officials and the team captain has full control of his/her teammates and fans. If the captain converses with the officials about rules interpretations or calls, he/she does so respectfully and calmly. Team members and spectators were respectful of opponents and officials and encouraged each other's efforts. At no time was this team disrespectful towards participants or officials.
  - (ii) A team winning a game due to a forfeit will receive an "A" in sportsmanship.
- (b) 3.0 "B" – Average Conduct and Sportsmanship
  - (i) Team members and spectators (on or off the playing area) 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. These complaints may have been voiced verbally or non-verbally toward officials, opposing players, or opposing fans. The team captain exhibits control over teammates and him/herself.
  - (ii) Teams that default an Intramural Sports contest will receive a B in Sportsmanship.
- (c) 2.0 "C" – Below Average Conduct and Sportsmanship
  - (i) Team members and spectators (on or off the playing area) show continuous or sustained verbal dissent toward officials, supervisors, and/or opposing team. The team captain exhibits little control over teammates and him/herself.
  - (ii) Teams receiving multiple warnings or having players penalized for an unsportsmanlike act (i.e. conduct yellow card, conduct technical foul, unsportsmanlike conduct penalty) should receive no higher than a "C" rating.
  - (iii) Teams that forfeit an Intramural Sports contest will receive a C in Sportsmanship.
- (d) 1.0 "D" – Unacceptable Conduct and Sportsmanship
  - (i) Team members and spectators (on or off the playing area) complain excessively to officials and/or opposing team. The team captain exhibits little control over teammates and him/herself. Majority of individuals on this team are disrespectful of opponents or officials on a regular basis.

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- (ii) The team captain of any team receiving a “D” in sportsmanship must meet with the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports prior to the team’s next contest.
- (e) “F” – Season Ending Conduct and Sportsmanship
  - (i) Team members and spectators (on or off the playing area) are completely uncooperative and out of control before, during, and/or after Intramural Sports contest(s).
  - (ii) The team captain (spokesperson) exhibits poor control over self, the team, and/or the spectators.
  - (iii) Multiple ejections or blatant unsportsmanlike conduct that endangered participants, fans, officials, or supervisors.

### Section 2.03 Playoff Sportsmanship

- (a) A team must have a minimum, cumulative average of a “B” (3.0) sportsmanship rating during the regular season to be eligible for the playoffs.
- (b) Once the playoffs begin, all teams MUST earn a “B” or better in each contest to advance further in the playoffs.
- (c) Any team receiving a “C”, “D”, or “F” during the playoffs will be disqualified.

## Article III. Captain’s Role and Responsibilities

### Section 3.01 General Responsibilities

- (a) Captains are responsible for passing the captains’ quiz (via IMLeagues.com/fau), ensuring that their team’s players are eligible, monitoring the physical well-being of the team’s players, informing players of game times, informing Campus Recreation of scheduling conflicts, and controlling the behavior of the team’s players and spectators during the game/match.

### Section 3.02 Captains’ Quiz

- (a) Captains must pass the Captains’ Quiz in order to create a team for any Intramural Sports activity.
  - (i) The quiz will be taken online, via IMLeagues.com/fau during the individual’s team registration process.
  - (ii) A certain percentage score is required for a Captain to have his/her team created.
  - (iii) Captains will have an unlimited amount of attempts to pass the quiz.

### Section 3.03 Playoff Meetings

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- (a) In an effort to accommodate teams during the playoffs, a playoff meeting will occur for each team sport. Captains attending the playoff meeting will be allowed to pick their place in their team's respective playoff bracket.
  - (i) The order of selection will be based off the rankings generated by IMLeagues.com
  - (ii) Teams will be able to choose from a specific allotment of openings based on their ranking
  - (iii) Teams that do NOT attend the playoff meeting will be placed into the remaining openings based on their ranking.

### Section 3.04 Rosters

- (a) Captains are responsible for ensuring that all players on the team roster are eligible to participate
- (b) It is the responsibility of the Captain to inform their team members about the eligibility requirements (See Article IV)

### Section 3.05 Spectators

- (a) Captains are responsible for the behavior and actions of their fans/spectators. The behavior and actions of fans/spectators can and will affect the team's overall sportsmanship grade.
- (b) The following are guidelines for all fans/spectators:
  - (i) Spectators must be respectful to the teams and Intramural Sports Staff
  - (ii) Spectators must stay in designated areas and cannot interfere with the game in any way.
  - (iii) The use of noise makers, offensive signs/shirts/posters/language is prohibited.

## Article IV. Player Eligibility

### Section 4.01 Eligibility Rules

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

### Section 4.02 Identification Policy

- (a) All current FAU students shall be eligible to compete in Intramural Sports, except as otherwise provided in the Rules and Regulations. Any individual with a current FAU Campus Recreation membership are eligible to participate. All participants must be able to present a valid photo ID. The photo on the card must be clear and distinct enough to identify the holder of the ID or a second picture ID will be required.

### Section 4.03 Lost Identification Policy

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- (a) Individuals participating in Intramural Sport games/matches must provide proof of student status (Owl Card) or proof of membership status (Key Tag/Membership ID).
- (b) If an intramural participant is unable to show the aforementioned ID, he/she will NOT be allowed to participate.
- (c) EXCEPTION: If a participant is listed on the team roster on IMLeagues.com/fau and is able to provide any type of photo ID, he/she will be allowed to participate.

### Section 4.04 Roster Policy

- (a) Any individual is eligible to participate in Intramural Sports programs if he/she is not under disciplinary penalty prohibiting participation, and if the requirements of Intramural rules are met.
  - (i) Rosters are open to any eligible player who has NOT played for another team in that same sport. Each participant can only play on ONE (1) single gender team and ONE (1) Co-Rec team per sport.
  - (ii) Rosters will be frozen for each team at 5:00pm one week following the playoff brackets being posted. By playing in one regular season game, each participant is automatically added to that team's roster.
    - 1) **During the playoffs there will be NO on-site roster additions. Teams wanting to add players during the postseason must do so online PRIOR to coming to the game site.**

### Section 4.05 Team Limits for Individuals

- (a) Contestants may not represent more than one team in any sport with the exception that an individual may play on one Co-Rec team and one other men's or women's team in which he/she is eligible to participate. A contestant becomes an ineligible player when he/she violates this rule. When a person's name appears on a roster, he/she is considered to have played in that contest.
- (b) Players may not switch teams during the regular season.
- (c) If a team legally drops from competition before the playoffs begin, that team's members may play for another team in that sport. To legally drop a team, the captain must notify the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports, in writing, of their intent.
- (d) Minimum disciplinary action for a contestant playing on more than one team is a one week suspension during regular season play. If an individual violates the rule twice or at any point during the playoffs, he/she will not be eligible for the remainder of that sport, and possibly face additional sanctions.
- (e) Any team that knowingly allows an ineligible player to play will forfeit the game.

### Section 4.06 Restricted Player Categories

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- (a) A restricted player is one who meets the definition of any restricted player categories listed below
- (b) The definition of each restricted player category is:
  - (i) Professional athletes: Any individual who has received pay for playing, including appearance money, or who is recognized by that sport's governing body as a current or former playing professional
  - (ii) Varsity Collegiate Athletes: Any individual whose name appears on the FAU or other recognized senior or junior college athletic team roster.
  - (iii) Competitive Club Sport members: Any individual on the official competitive roster for that academic year of a registered/recognized FAU Sport Club who competes and/or travels with the FAU Club team. Individuals who submit Club paperwork and/or have practiced with the Club team are considered members for Intramural Sports purposes.
- (c) Restricted players are restricted in their sport and associated sport as follows:
  - (i) Football: 7v7 Flag Football, 4v4 Flag Football
  - (ii) Basketball: 5v5 Basketball, 3v3 Basketball
  - (iii) Baseball: slow pitch softball
  - (iv) Volleyball: volleyball, sand volleyball
  - (v) Soccer: outdoor soccer, indoor soccer
  - (vi) Softball: slow pitch softball
  - (vii) Ultimate: ultimate
- (d) The length of restriction for each category is listed under Section 4.07

### Section 4.07 Limitations for Restricted Players

- (a) Restricted players are ineligible to compete in their sport or associated sport for the following time periods:
  - (i) Professional Athlete: five years from the time he/she last played as a professional
  - (ii) Varsity Collegiate Athletes: one calendar year from the last academic semester they were listed on a roster
  - (iii) Competitive Club Sport member: no period of ineligibility, however, club members are restricted to playing in Competitive leagues (See Section 4.06 A-i)
- (b) No team shall have more than two "restricted" players on its roster and that team MUST play in the Competitive League. Competitive Club Sport members MUST play in the highest skill level offered. ABSOLUTELY NO RESTRICTED PLAYERS MAY BE ADDED DURING THE PLAYOFFS.

## Article V. Competition Format



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### Section 5.01 Leagues of Competition

- (a) All leagues shall consist of individuals or teams organized from university students, faculty/staff and community members.
- (b) Independent Leagues: Men will compete in either the Men's Competitive or Men's Recreational leagues and women will compete in the Women's league. EXCEPTION: If no women's league is offered, or the Women's league does not fill, women may play in the men's leagues.
- (c) Co-Rec League: Teams in this league shall consist of a combination of men and women as designated by the rules of each sport.

### Section 5.02 Competition Structures

- (a) Team Sports
  - (i) Divisions will be formed according to league (Men's, Co-Rec, and Women's.) and class (Competitive and Recreational). Team sport leagues shall be conducted with round robin league play followed by a single elimination playoff.
- (b) Sport Tournaments
  - (i) Tournaments are offered in single or double elimination format depending on the number of registered teams and facility space
  - (ii) Team tournaments will be played usually over a one or two week period depending on space accommodations.
  - (iii) Individual and Dual sports that are played as tournaments usually take place over a weekend or held in a one day format.
- (c) Individual/Drop-in Contests
  - (i) Individual contests are events held online or one day activities. Participants will register on-site and compete the same day.

### Section 5.03 Post-Season Tournament Structures

- (a) Bracket Structure
  - (i) Co-Rec, and Women's leagues will compete in playoffs within their respective bracket. EXCEPTION: The Intramural Sports staff reserves the right to combine leagues where there are too few entries in a particular league.
  - (ii) For Men's leagues, the playoff brackets will be divided into A and B playoffs for the Competitive Class and C and D playoffs for the Recreational Class. Any team competing in the Competitive class and finishes the regular season with a record better than or equal to .500 will compete in the Competitive A playoffs and teams with less than a .500 record will compete

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in the Competitive B playoffs. The same set up will be used for Recreational playoffs with teams competing in Recreational C and D brackets. Ties and forfeits will be counted as a win.

- 1) The Intramural Sports staff reserves the right to put a team in a higher bracket if the team is deemed to be losing on purpose, or to maintain competitive balance in a league
- 2) For Competitive and Recreational, all leagues must have at least 12 teams to be split into A/B or C/D. If there are not at least 12 teams, all teams will compete together in the playoffs.
- 3) Any team wishing to petition up a class in the playoffs for more equal competition must notify the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports by NOON the day following the final day of regular season play. Teams will be petitioned up based on the Intramural Sports staff making a decision that will be fair to all teams entered in the particular class.

### (b) Seeding

- (i) All teams shall advance to the playoffs in their respective leagues and classes seeing that they meet all other necessary requirements to qualify.
- (ii) The seeding of the brackets will be based off the rankings generated by IMLeagues.com
  - 1) Seeds will be calculated using the items below in the following order:
    - i. Sportsmanship
    - ii. Winning Percentage
    - iii. Head to Head Results
    - iv. Total Points Against

### Section 5.04 Registration

- (a) Registration is done online via [IMleagues.com/fau](http://IMleagues.com/fau)
- (b) Please see the Campus Recreation program guide or website ([fau.edu/campusrec](http://fau.edu/campusrec)) to find specific dates for each sport. Summer entries may differ.
- (c) Late entries may be accepted only if space is available.
- (d) FAU Campus Recreation may limit the number of entries in certain activities. Entries will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis.

### Section 5.05 Defaults

- (a) If it becomes impossible for a team to play a scheduled contest, and if the team captain notifies the Intramural staff in person, or by phone, and by 4:00pm the day of the game, the game will be scored as a loss by default.

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- (b) If a game has begun and cannot continue due to injury, which leads to having less than the required minimum number of players, or a team chooses to not continue the contest, a default will be recorded.
- (c) The Intramural Sports staff will contact the opponent in case of a default. If you do not receive confirmation from an Intramural Sports staff member, the game has not been defaulted.
- (d) A default does not include a forfeit fine or exclusion from the playoffs
- (e) Teams that default will receive a B in Sportsmanship

### Section 5.06 Ready to Play and Game Time

- (a) Game time is forfeit time. All teams shall be ready to play at the designated game time
- (b) A team is considered ready to play when the required minimum number of players for the sport are properly signed-in with IM staff, present at the specific field or court for their scheduled contest, and properly equipped at the designated game time

### Section 5.07 Optional Grace Period and Forfeits

- (a) At the discretion of the IM staff, based on time and space availability, and with the approval of the opposing team captain, a team may be offered a 10-minute grace period from the original start time to obtain the minimum number of players required to participate or otherwise become ready to play.
- (b) In such cases, the team that is present and deemed ready to play retains the option to decline the grace period and take a win by forfeit at that moment. Captains must select one option or the other when asked by an Intramural Sports staff member. All decisions are final.
- (c) If the captain of the team that is ready to play decides to wait and play the game, both teams must accept the result of the game.
- (d) If the team shows up during the 10-minute grace period, game time will be reduced by the number of minutes the team was late for the game. For games with timed periods, the length of each period will be reduced equally.
- (e) The captain of the team ready to play will also have the option of penalizing the late team a certain amount of points, goals, runs, etc. based on the rules of the specific sport. The penalty is added immediately if the opposing team captain elects to use it, and is NOT impacted by the amount of time it takes for the other team to be ready to play. EXAMPLE: A flag football captain has the option of allowing the ten minute grace period for his/her late opponent, and also has the option to start the game up 14-0. Penalty points for each sport will be outlined in the sport's rules.

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- (f) If the team is still not ready to participate after the additional time period has expired, the game will be defaulted or forfeited as described. No additional time is permitted.
- (g) A team that shows up to play their scheduled contest but has **ONE LESS** individual than the required number to play shall be awarded a **DEFAULT**. In all other situations, a forfeit will be recorded.
- (h) For a forfeited contest, the team captain (the individual who registered the team via IMLeagues.com/fau) will be fined a **\$30 forfeit fee**.
- (i) Teams paying their \$30 forfeit fee will be allowed back into the league.
- (j) If a team forfeits two league play games, it will NOT be entered into the playoffs.

### Section 5.08 Protests

#### (a) Rule Interpretation

- (i) There shall be no protests allowed on judgment calls.
- (ii) If, in the team captain's opinion, an error was made, he/she must inform the official in a sportsmanlike manner, BEFORE the game continues, that he/she is protesting a rules interpretation. If the team captain does not immediately notify the official of his/her intent to protest, he/she waives all rights to protest on that particular call.
- (iii) Upon notification by the team captain of a rules interpretation protest, the official shall stop the game and alert the supervisor, who will then assist the team captain in filling out the protest form. Both team captains shall sign the protest proceedings, agreeing to continue the game according to the official's ruling.
- (iv) In resolving a rules interpretation protest, the Intramural Sports staff will first make a decision concerning whether an error was made, and second, whether the error had an effect on the outcome of the contest. At that point, a final decision will be made on whether to replay the remainder of the game and both team captains will be notified.

#### (b) Eligibility

- (i) Protests regarding the eligibility of an opponent may be made. All participants must present acceptable identification if requested by the game official. If the player cannot present proper identification at this time, he/she will not be allowed to participate until he/she can present it.
- (ii) To complete a formal protest of eligibility, the protest must be filled by 5pm the day following the contest. To protest eligibility, the team must contact the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports, who will then rule on the protest.

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- (iii) Minimum disciplinary action for a contestant playing on more than one team is a one week suspension during regular season play. If an individual violates the rule twice or at any point during the playoffs, he/she will not be eligible for the remainder of that sport.
- (iv) Any team that uses an ineligible player shall forfeit the contest that is being protested.

### Section 5.09 Inclement Weather Policy

- (a) FAU Campus Recreation staff reserves the right to postpone, cancel, or otherwise prohibit the completion of Intramural Sports activities due to inclement or severe weather or other unforeseen circumstances. When making decisions in regards to the postponement or cancellation of activities, the Campus Recreation staff will consider a variety of elements including: forecasted weather, facility requirements, and the well-being of student staff and participants.
- (b) Regular season games that were not played due to cancellations/rainouts/etc. MAY be rescheduled. In the event that any cancelled games are not able to be replayed, teams will receive a win and an A in sportsmanship
  - (i) If an Intramural Sports contest has begun and is then called due to weather or other extenuating circumstances, AND at least one half of the game has been completed, the results of the game will stand. Teams will be rated on their sportsmanship as if they game was played in its entirety.

### Section 5.10 Bids to Regional and National Tournaments

- (a) Teams/Individuals are eligible, but not guaranteed, to receive assistance to travel to a Regional and/or National Tournament. Assistance may include tournament fee coverage and hotel accommodations. Transportation costs to and from the tournament will NOT be covered. For National Tournaments, additional assistance *may* be provided.
- (b) Bids are available in the following sports:
  - (i) Flag Football: Men's, Women's, and Co-Rec
  - (ii) Basketball: Men's and Women's
- (c) Requirements for Travel
  - (i) Teams must exhibit acceptable sportsmanship throughout regular season and playoffs
  - (ii) Teams must agree to roster limits and minimal roster changes
  - (iii) Teams must complete required travel paperwork
  - (iv) Participants must attend a pre-trip meeting with the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports

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- (v) Participants must agree to reimburse FAU for all travel expenses paid by the University if a team forfeits due to scheduling conflicts or sportsmanship. Participants will also be liable for all incidental charges incurred by the university due to negligent actions.

### Article VI. Suspension/Rules of Conduct

#### Section 6.01 Prohibited Items

- (a) Jewelry: Participants are not permitted to wear any visible jewelry (including cloth bracelets and necklaces). If jewelry is seen, it must be removed. Campus Recreation will NOT provide bandages or athletic tape to cover jewelry items. EXCEPTION: Medical alert bracelets
- (b) NO casts/splints will be allowed under any circumstances.
- (c) Religious Headwear: In the event a participant may not expose his/her uncovered head, the Intramural Sports supervisor may approve a covering or wrap which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player.
- (d) Footwear
  - (i) Indoors: all players must wear close-toed, athletic shoes with non-marking soles.
  - (ii) Outdoors: all players must wear close-toed, athletic shoes. Metal cleats/spikes will not be permitted.
- (e) Pants: participants must wear athletic style shorts or pants. Denim and khaki style shorts or pants are not permitted.
- (f) All equipment decisions made by the Intramural Sports staff on duty shall be final.

#### Section 6.02 Rules of Personal Conduct

- (a) Any person who commits, or attempts to commit, incites, or aids others in committing any of the following acts of misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary procedures by Campus Recreation. Team captains, managers, coaches, etc. are responsible for the conduct of their players, and therefore are subject to the same disciplinary actions as their players.
- (b) If a player is ejected from a game, he/she is suspended indefinitely from all Intramural Sports competition, effective immediately, pending an interview with a Competitive Sports professional staff member or graduate assistant who shall determine the length of the suspension period. The suspension period will not begin until after the meeting between the ejected player and staff member takes place.

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- (c) The jurisdiction of supervisors and game officials continues throughout an individual's presence in Campus Recreation facilities. All players and spectators alike should be aware that they must abide by FAU student code of conduct at all times.
- (d) Disciplinary actions can also include restrictions on usage of Campus Recreation facilities and other Campus Recreation programs. In some cases, discipline may be forwarded to the Dean of Students Office.
- (e) In the event an individual's behavior case is forwarded to the Dean of Students Office, he/she will subsequently be suspended from ALL Campus Recreation activities. This includes access to the Campus Recreation Center.
- (f) The individual will remain suspended from all Campus Recreation activities until he/she completes all requirements set forth by the Dean of Students Office and following a review by the Campus Recreation team.

### Section 6.03 Use of an Assumed Name or other Fraudulent Acts

- (a) The use of an assumed name in any manner in the Intramural Sports program shall constitute a violation of the rules.
- (b) Fraudulent acts shall be defined as playing while ineligible, or under suspension.
- (c) Should a participant, team, or team manager be guilty of, or responsible for, the use of an assumed name or a fraudulent act, he/she will be disqualified from all Intramural Sports activities pending an interview with the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports, who shall determine the length of the suspension period. The team for which he/she played may be dropped from further competition in that sport.

## Article VII. Awards

### Section 7.01 Team Sports Awards

- (a) Intramural Champion T-Shirts
  - (i) Will be awarded to the winners of the Men's A, Men's B, Women's, Co-Rec brackets.
  - (ii) To be eligible to receive a t-shirt, an individual must participate in a minimum of two games.
  - (iii) The maximum number of t-shirts awarded to a team will be two (2) times the number of required players for a game. EXCEPTION: For Softball and Co-Rec Flag Football the maximum number of shirts that will be awarded will be fifteen (15).

### Section 7.02 Individual/Dual Sports

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- (a) Each man and woman who wins an individual tournament will receive an Intramural Champion t-shirt.
- (b) In dual activities, each member of the team in Men's doubles, Women's doubles, and Co-Rec doubles, who wins a dual tournament, will receive an Intramural Champion t-shirt.

### Section 7.03 Special Event Awards

- (a) All special event winners will receive an Intramural Champion t-shirt.