

# **INTRAMURAL SPORTS HANDBOOK**



Campus Recreation

## **2017-2018**

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## **Program Overview**

The WIU Intramural Sports program offers a variety of individual and team sport activities to the Western Illinois University students, staff, and faculty. Annually, over 5,000 participants compete in 40 different league sports and special events. Intramural Sports is committed to excellence and student success through the development of student staff and participants.

## **Campus Recreation Mission**

The mission of WIU Campus Recreation provides life-enhancing, recreational opportunities through the promotion of active lifestyle, personal growth and experiential learning. We provide life balance with recreation.

## **Intramural Sports Program Mission**

The goal of the Intramural Program at Western Illinois University is to provide participants with a comprehensive array of activities, a friendly and knowledgeable staff, and a safe playing environment. All activities will be social, competitive, and sporting in nature while encouraging and promoting the value of fair play and a healthy lifestyle.

## **Intramural Sports Professionals and Graduate Assistants**

Dustin Van Sloten  
Intramural Sports Director  
309.298.1228 x225  
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### **Graduate Assistants**

Eric Vaughn  
Crystall Dooley  
Carmello Rizzo  
Dejon Tinsey

## **Office Hours and Contact Information**

Monday-Friday 8:00a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Intramural Sports Office  
Email: [c-recreation@wiu.edu](mailto:c-recreation@wiu.edu)  
Phone: 309.298.1228  
Fax: 309.298.3224  
Website: [wiu.edu/intramurals](http://wiu.edu/intramurals)  
Facebook: Western Illinois University Campus Recreation  
IMLeagues: [imleagues.com/wiu](http://imleagues.com/wiu)

## Physical Benefits of Participating in Intramural Sports

- Improves Strength and Agility
- Increases Energy and Stamina
- Skill Development
- Burns Calories
- Improves Sleep
- Long Term Health

## Mental Benefits of Participating in Intramural Sports

- Reduces Stress/Anxiety
- Feel a Sense of Belonging
- Gain Lifelong Friendships
- Develop Self Confidence
- Improve Social Skills
- Practice a Healthy Lifestyle

**Research indicates that participating in Intramural Sports contributes to higher GPA and increased retention.**

## Benefits of Campus Recreation

- **62%** of students report that campus recreation programs influenced their decision of which college/university to attend
- **67%** of students report that campus recreation programs influenced their decisions to continue attending their chosen college/university
- **83%** said that prior to enrolling that campus recreation/fitness activities were important to them
- **75%** of students report that participating in recreation activities and programs has expanded their interest in staying fit and healthy
- **90%** report that campus recreation, sports and/or fitness activities will be important for them to be healthy after graduating

### Top Health and Wellness Benefits

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Feeling of Well-Being (91%) | 6. Athletic Ability (85%) |
| 2. Overall Health (91%)        | 7. Weight Control (84%)   |
| 3. Fitness Level (90%)         | 8. Self-Confidence (83%)  |
| 4. Physical Strength (89%)     | 9. Balance/Coord. (80%)   |
| 5. Stress Management (86%)     | 10. Concentration (75%)   |

**Forrester, S. (2014). The Benefits of Campus Recreation, Corvallis, OR: NIRSA**

## **2017-2018 Guidelines and Expectations**

As a participant in the program, I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury and I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries (including death) damages or loss which I may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with such program.

I agree to waive and relinquish all claims I may have as a result of participating in the program against Western Illinois University, Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University, and its officers, agents, servants and employees.

I do hereby fully release and discharge Western Illinois University, Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University and its officers, agents, servants and employees from any and all claims from injuries (including death), damages or loss which I may have or which may accrue to me on account of participating in the program.

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless and defend Western Illinois University, Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University and its officers, agents, servants and employees from any and all claims resulting from injuries (including death), damages and losses sustained by me or arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program.

### **Section 1: Eligibility**

#### **University Status**

1. All valid students (Western Illinois University students only) with a student ID card are eligible to participate in the WIU Intramural Sports Program as long as they have paid the Spencer Student Recreation Center fee. WESL Students must purchase a Spencer Student Recreation Center membership to participate in Intramurals.
2. Employees/Alumni of the University who purchase a membership to the Spencer Student Recreation Center are eligible to compete in Intramural Sports activities unless specifically noted in the literature for that event.
3. Spoon River College students living in Western Illinois University residence halls or off campus are not eligible for Intramural Sports competition, even if the student has purchased a membership to the Spencer Student Recreation Center.

4. A person is ineligible if he/she does not meet all eligibility requirements, or has been suspended from Intramural Sports or the Spencer Student Recreation Center.
5. Individuals may play for one men's or women's team and one co-rec team in a given sport.
6. A player is considered a legal member of the team on which he/she first played. Therefore, if a participant plays for a second team they will be ruled ineligible and that second team shall default that game.
7. All games that a player competes in after becoming an illegal player shall be defaulted.

## **Ineligible Player**

The team captain will be responsible for ensuring the eligibility of all members on his/her team. The use of an ineligible player in any Intramural Sports contest will result in at minimum a default and up to disqualification of the game by the team using the ineligible player.

Once a player has been declared ineligible they remain ineligible for the duration for the sport unless otherwise declared eligible by the Assistant Director of Intramurals.

## **Identification**

### **ID Policy**

All participants must bring a valid WIU student or faculty/staff ID card to each and every activity. The primary purpose of this policy is to determine identity before every Intramural event. Intramural staff, graduate assistants, supervisors, officials, and equipment personnel may request an ID card at any time. An ID card is required to check out equipment needed for play. Students and Faculty/Staff with ID cards that do not have a distinguishable photo will not be allowed to participate in any intramural event.

### **Assumed Name**

An assumed name situation occurs when a player does not use his or her own name when participating in IM activities. Any player competing under an assumed name will be ineligible for IM participation for one calendar year beginning at the time the discrepancy is first noticed. Team managers using a player under an assumed name are responsible and the same sanction may apply.

## **Gender**

All students, faculty and staff can participate in the gender-specific league that affirms each participant's personal gender identity. The participant's gender identity will also be applied when there are gender-specific rules or player ratio requirements in co-recreational leagues. Any matters that may arise in regards to gender identity within Intramural Sports participation can be subject to review on a case-by-case basis by the Assistant Director, Intramural Sports in conjunction with WIU LGBTQ Center. All Intramural Sports participants are subject to the WIU non-discrimination policies. If complaints of discrimination or harassment arise to the Intramural Sports Professional Staff, they will be referred to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (for complaints against students).

## **League Eligibility**

Men's, Women's, and Co-Rec Divisions are offered in all team events sponsored by Intramural Sports. Students may participate in either a Men's or Women's League and a Co-Rec League (for a total of 2 teams). The Men's or Women's League and the Co-Rec division may be in the competitive, intermediate or recreational level of play. If an event has Open as a division, all participants/teams will be grouped into one level of play.

### **Examples:**

- A male participant, who is a member of a fraternity, may participate on one Fraternity team and one Co-Rec team in the same sport. He cannot participate on both a Fraternity team and a Men's team in the same sport.
- A female participant may participate on three different individual/dual Intramural Sports teams; Women's Singles, Women's Doubles, and Mixed Doubles.
- A male graduate student may participate on a Grad/Fac/Staff team and a Co-Rec team within the same intramural sport. He cannot participate on both a Grad/Fac/Staff team and a Men's team in the same sport.

### **Team Membership**

Players are allowed to play on intramural teams with the following stipulations.

1. A player participating in an activity with a team may not transfer to another team during the same sports season.
2. No player can play on more than one team in the same league and same sport.
3. Players may play on both a men's or women's team and a co-rec. team.

4. If a player is found to be on two teams within the same division in the same sport, at minimum a default and up to disqualification will be given to the team which does not have the individual's signature on their roster, or both teams will at minimum a default and up to disqualification if his/her signature is on both rosters.

### **Professional Athletes**

Professional athletes may participate in team Intramural Sports activities in the competitive level of play in a sport which does not correspond to their professional sport. They may not play in individual/dual activities which correspond to the sport in which they hold professional status.

### **Intercollegiate Athletic Affiliation**

All persons who are practicing or competing with or listed on any intercollegiate team after the team has either completed try outs or announced/published its roster are ineligible to participate in intramural sports which correspond to their intercollegiate sport for the entire academic year.

Additionally, all persons who practiced or completed or were listed on any intercollegiate team after the team completed try outs or announced/published its roster the previous academic year will be eligible to participate in intramural sports which correspond to their previous intercollegiate sport, however they must compete at the highest level offered.

<b>Intercollegiate Athlete Standing</b>	<b>Eligibility Restraints</b>
Practicing, competing or listing on intercollegiate team during current academic year	May not compete in intramural sports which correspond to their intercollegiate sport
Practiced, competed or listed on intercollegiate team the previous academic year	May compete in intramural sports which correspond to their intercollegiate sport but compete at highest level
Practiced, competed or listed on intercollegiate team in a year before the previous academic year	May compete in intramural sports which correspond to their intercollegiate sport, only at highest level



## Club Sport Affiliation

A Club Sports Athlete is any individual who has paid dues to a sports club, participated in club competition or are listed on the official club roster. Doubles teams are limited to one club member per team. Additional regulations for Club Sport Athletes are:

1. Recognized sport clubs shall not participate as a team in Intramural Sports activities corresponding to the sport played by the club.
2. The number of club players that may participate on an intramural team of a corresponding sport are restricted to as follows:
  - 1-4 players required= 1 club member allowed on corresponding intramural roster
  - 5-8 players required = 2 club members allowed on corresponding intramural roster
  - 9 + players required = 3 club members allowed on corresponding intramural roster
3. Sport Club members may compete in corresponding intramural activities only at the highest level of competition available.
4. Games played with more than the allotted number or will be defaulted and the team will receive sanctioning

## Corresponding Sports

The following is a list sports that correspond to Intramural Sports offered by Campus Recreation. This list is not comprehensive and all decisions regarding corresponding sports are left to the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports.

<b>Corresponding Club Sport</b>	<b>IM Sport</b>	<b># Club Players Allowed</b>
Basketball	5v5 Basketball	2
	3v3 Basketball	1
	Basketball (1-2 players)	1
Bowling	Bowling (1-4 players)	1
Football	Flag Football	2
	Arena Football	2
	4v4 Football	1
Golf	Golf (1-4 players)	1

Hockey	Floor Hockey	2
Soccer	Outdoor Soccer	3
	Indoor Soccer	2
Softball/Baseball	Softball	3
	HR Derby	1
Tennis	Tennis Singles/Doubles	1
Ultimate Frisbee	Ultimate Frisbee	2
	Disc Golf (1-4 players)	1
Volleyball	Volleyball	2
	4v4 Volleyball (Sand)	1
	3v3 Volleyball (Sand)	1

## Section 2: Team Captain's Responsibilities

When registering a team for Intramural Sports, a captain must be designated. This person will be the main contact between the Sports Programs office and the team.

### Responsibilities of the Team Captain:

- Check IMLeagues regularly and notify team members of game times, locations, sport rules, and announcements
- Verify the eligibility of each team member on the official IMLeagues roster
- Notify IM Sports staff of any incorrect information listed on IMLeagues before the team's next game
- Ensure all team members meet the Intramural Sports eligibility guidelines and bring a valid Wolfpack One Card to every game
- Notify team members regarding guidelines on jewelry and illegal equipment
- Notify team members when scheduled games are canceled due to weather or field conditions
- Attend pre-game captain's meeting and serve as the team's liaison with game officials
- Ensure all team members show good sportsmanship and refrain from displaying unsportsmanlike conduct
- Communicate in a timely manner when contacted by IM Sports staff
- Pay all team forfeit charges charged to captain's University Cashier account
- Follow postseason procedures to select a spot in the playoff bracket (if applicable)

## **Section 3: Team Names and Uniforms**

### **Team Names**

When registering for team leagues and tournaments the captain may select a team name for their team's designation. Please be creative, we encourage unique names with the following stipulations.

1. No vulgar, profane or derogatory language may be used in the team name
2. No references to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or violence may be used in the team name
3. No sexual references or innuendos may be used in the team name
4. No confusing terms such as BYE or canceled, etc may be used in the team name

If a team submits an inappropriate team name it will be changed in the Campus Recreation Office and the team captain will be notified of the change. Also, teams will not be allowed to compete while wearing team apparel with inappropriate names or pictures

Teams may check out jerseys and various sports equipment from the Equipment Room located in the Student Recreation Center. If teams choose to bring their own jerseys, they must include easily visible numbers on the back or front of each jersey.

## **Section 4: League Definitions and Offerings**

Intramural Sports provides a number of different league options for participation. The leagues commonly offered by Intramural Sports are (vary based on sport):

- Men's/Women's/Co-Rec A: Competitive
- Men's/Women's/Co-Rec B: Intermediate
- Men's/Women's/Co-Rec C: Recreational
- Greek
- Men's/Women's/Co-Rec Open
- Open (no gender restrictions)

### **Levels of Competition and Instruction**

#### **Competitive League of Play**

The Competitive level of play is designed for the participant with a moderate to high level of athletic ability or for those students who prefer to recreate in a competitive environment. These leagues emphasize teamwork, mastery of

sports skills, and sportsmanship. Teams and team members are evaluated on sporting behavior and sporting behavior is one criteria used for determining playoff eligibility. Current and former varsity athletes and current sport club members are required to play at the Competitive A level.

Some competitive leagues have an A, B, and C designation

A= High Competition Level (AKA Competitive)

B= Moderate Competition Level (AKA Intermediate)

C= Low Competition Level (AKA Recreational)

### **Social League**

The Social level of play is designed for players whose priority is to socialize with friends through friendly competition. At this level, scores are kept, but there are no win/loss records or playoffs. This league is all about participation for the fun of it. This league is great for beginners and non-competitive participants.

### **Learn to Play Series**

Intramural Sports offers a Learn to Play Series. The Intramural Sports Office will choose various sports in which they will offer a *Learn to Play* session. These sessions are normally two hours long. Half the time will be spent learning the rules and strategies of the game. The other half will focus on participating in the actual activity. As a result of participating in the series, it is the hope that all participants will then feel comfortable enough to sign up and participate in the activity.

### **Interest Meeting**

Intramural Sports will offer a Sport Interest Meeting for all the major sports. This meeting is meant for students who want to learn more about the league or for students looking for a team (free agent). It is our hope for the free agents to meet, form a team, and sign up for a spot in the league.

### **Divisions**

Men's, Women's, and Co-Rec Divisions are offered in all team events sponsored by Intramural Sports. Students may participate in **either** a Men's or Women's League **and** a Co-Rec League (for a total of 2 teams). The Men's or Women's League **and** the Co-Rec division may be in the competitive, intermediate or recreational level of play. If an event has Open as a division, all participants/teams will be grouped into one level of play.

### **Men's Leagues**

This league is designed for individuals who personally identify themselves as male only.

### **Women's Leagues**

This league is designed for individuals who personally identify themselves as female only.

### **Fraternity and Sorority**

This league is designed for participants that are active members of the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Association, Multicultural Greek Council or National Pan-Hellenic Council.

### **Co-Rec Leagues**

This league is designed for individuals whom personally identify themselves as either male or female. These leagues have a gender ratio requirement of males and females and that is determined on a sport-by-sport basis.

### **Open**

This league is designed for anyone to play. There are no gender restrictions.

## **Section 5: Registration Information**

All Intramural Sports activity registrations take place via the Campus Recreation website ([wiu.edu/campusrec](http://wiu.edu/campusrec)) through the [IMLeagues.com](http://IMLeagues.com) website during the stated registration period. Team captains and participants assert they are aware of and agree to abide by all rules, eligibility guidelines, and forfeit charge policies.

### **How to Create an IMLeagues Account**

- Create an account or login with Facebook
- Go to [IMLeagues.com](http://IMLeagues.com) and click Create Account
- Go to [IMLeagues.com](http://IMLeagues.com) and click "Create Account with Facebook" if you have a Facebook account with your school email attached, this will automatically create an account, fill in your information and join you to the school (you can skip the remaining steps)
- Enter your information as it is reflected in WIU records (Legal name, birth date, gender), and use your School email (@[wiu.edu](http://wiu.edu)) and submit
- You will be sent an activation email, click the link in the email to login and activate your IMLeagues account
- You should be automatically joined to your school –if not you can search schools by clicking the "schools" link

### **How to Register a Team**

- Log in to your [IMLeagues.com](http://IMLeagues.com) account
- Click on the WIU Intramural Sports link located in the purple bar near the top of the page to go to your school's homepage on [IMLeagues.com](http://IMLeagues.com)

- The current sports will be displayed; click on the league you wish to play in
- Click the green "Register/Sign-Up" button at the top right of the page and choose to "create team".
- The captain may have to complete the online captain's quiz prior to completing the team creation. The quiz will cover responsibilities of the captain, as well as rules for the sport.
- This information can be found online by referring to the Intramural Sports Handbook or the Intramural Sports website, both found at [wiu.edu/intramurals](http://wiu.edu/intramurals)
- Once you create your team, invite members to join by clicking the invite member's link on the team page. Any invited member must accept the initiation to be joined on your team.
- Teams are automatically created in the Waitlist for any sport and can only be moved into a division once they have met the minimum player requirement stated in the Sport Rules
- It is the responsibility of the team captain to move the team into the desired division once the minimum player requirement has been met
- Registration does not guarantee any team a spot in the Intramural Sports season

## Section 6: Team Rosters

Team captains will need each participant's WIU email address in order to add players to their IMLeagues roster. Participants may be added to a roster by creating an account and requesting to be added to a team through IM Leagues. Team Captains have two options for adding participants to their roster.

1. Captains may utilize IMLeagues to add players to their roster throughout the entire season.
2. Captains may also add participants at the game site. Captains will add participants to the scoresheet and sign their name as recognition that each player being added is eligible to participate. Each participant will need their WIU ID Card present in order to be added to a team's roster.
  - Scrimmage games are not official contests and scrimmage participants will not be included on the official IMLeagues roster
  - Team rosters listed on IMLeagues are the official team roster
  - There is no limit to the size of a team's roster

## Ineligible Players

Teams that participate with an ineligible player will forfeit all games in which an ineligible player signed in on the roster for their team, regardless of whether that player actively played in the game or not.

Examples of Ineligible Players:

- A participant signing in for a single-gender team that has already signed in with another single-gender team at any point earlier in the season in the same sport. (Exception: scrimmage rosters do not apply to regular or postseason rosters)
- A participant signing in for a Co-Rec team that has already signed in with another Co-Rec team at any point earlier in the season in the same sport. (Exception: scrimmage rosters do not apply to regular or postseason rosters)
- A participant signing in who has an (inel) or (susp) designation next to their name on the scoresheet or IMLeagues roster online
- A participant who does not sign-in with IM Sports staff prior to entering a game
- A participant who does not meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in Section 1 of this handbook

## Switching Rosters

Players may only switch team rosters if they have not signed in for a game for the team they wish to leave. If a player wishes to switch teams and has not signed in for a game, they may contact the Sport Director.

## Section 7: Game Times, Defaults and Forfeits

It is imperative that games begin as scheduled. There is **NO** grace period between scheduled start times and forfeit time. If a team does not have the minimum number of players signed-in and ready to play at the team's scheduled field at game time, a forfeit will be called. If neither team has met these requirements, a double forfeit will be called. A forfeit fee of **\$20** for tournaments and **\$30** for leagues will be accessed and must be paid **within 48 hours** to the Campus Recreation Office.

An objective of Intramural Sports is to play as many scheduled games as possible. Due to facility space and time limitations, IM Sports may not be able to reschedule regular season games. If for any reason your team cannot play in a game, your team must request a default prior to 3pm on the day of your game.

## Defaults

As a courtesy to opponents and to avoid being charged with a forfeit, teams may request a default for games they will be unable to attend. All defaults must be made known to the Sport Director by 3pm on the day of the game.

For games scheduled on Saturday or Sunday, notification must be made by 3pm on Friday. Participants should email the Sport Director or call 309.298.1228 in order to default.

### **Forfeits**

If a team fails to appear at the scheduled playing time, the supervisor will give the choice of accepting a win by forfeit or waiting 10 minutes for the opponents to arrive. The captain's choice is irrevocable. If the captain chooses to wait 10 minutes, the game clock will be started. As soon as the minimum number of participants arrives, the game will start. If the minimum number of participants is not present for either team, a double forfeit will be declared. To obtain a win by forfeit, the required number of participants must be present and signed in on the scoresheet ready to play at the scheduled game time. Teams that forfeit twice will be dropped from further competition in that sport.

### **Forfeit Charges**

Forfeit charges are assessed for all supervised Intramural Sports events in the case of teams failing to appear for a scheduled or rescheduled game with the minimum number of participants and/or the correct gender ratio (co-rec leagues only). A fee of \$35 will be charged to the captain of the team that forfeits for team sports and \$10 for individual/dual sports.

### **Equipment Damages and Replacement**

Any damage to equipment, fields/facilities or loss of equipment will result in a repair or replacement charge. Equipment replacement charges are assessed based on the current retail costs to replace the damaged or lost equipment or facility space. Any captain or participant that has unpaid charges for lost or damaged equipment will be unable to check out

equipment for any other activity. Any damages to equipment, fields/facilities that have not occurred within the framework of the activity offered will be charged to the offending participant. The participant will be financially responsible for any and all deliberate or negligent destruction to buildings, fields or facilities.

## **Section 8: Rules of Conduct and Suspensions**

### **Rules of Personal Conduct**

Any person who commits, attempts to commit, incites, or aids others in committing any of the following acts of misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary procedures of the Intramural Sports Student Governing Board. If a player is ejected from a game, he/she is suspended indefinitely from all



intramural competition and use of the Donald S. Spencer Student Recreation Center.

NOTE: Team captains, managers, coaches, and/or spectators are responsible for their own personal conduct and are therefore subject to the same disciplinary actions as team players.

1. If a player or spectator makes physical contact in a threatening manner toward an employee of Campus Recreation an indefinite suspension, a minimum of one year, will result. This suspension is effective immediately and he/she will be on probationary status upon reinstatement. In case of harassment, participants will receive an indefinite suspension, a minimum of three weeks from intramural play.
2. If a player strikes or attempts to strike another player it will result in an indefinite suspension and probationary status upon reinstatement. If a player initiates or retaliates with physical contact it will result in a minimum suspension of three months from intramural play. In the case of self-defense, a player will receive a minimum of two weeks from intramural play.
3. If any player and/or spectators leave benches/viewing areas to participate in any altercation it will result in an indefinite suspension, a minimum of two weeks effective immediately. Reinstatement will be upon probationary status. Team captain must meet with the Intramural Student Governing Board.
4. Any individual playing on more than one team (exception: participants may play on one male or female team and one co-rec team) will be suspended for a minimum of the remainder of that sport.
5. Fraudulent acts shall be defined as misrepresentation of a score, playing while ineligible or under suspension, or allowing any individual to use your ID for intramural competition. If any player commits any fraudulent act a minimum suspension from all sports for three months will result.
6. Verbal abuse or threatening by participants in the form of profanity, racially disparaging remarks, baiting, or any other inappropriate language to a participant, including a teammate, spectator or University employee before, during, or after a contest will result in a minimum two week suspension from intramural play.

7. Failure to cooperate by providing information requested by a Campus Recreation or University employee will result in immediate suspension from the present contest and the next scheduled event.
8. Willful damage/destruction of facilities/equipment will result in immediate suspension from all intramural contests for a minimum of two weeks.

## **Sportsmanship Guidelines**

Intramural Sports place great emphasis on sportsmanship and fair play. Competitive play is encouraged, but never at the expense of respect between players or adherence to the rules, and the basic joy of play.

This system is designed to help players become more aware of the attitudes and actions they foster in competition towards opponents, officials, and teammates. It is hoped this feedback from the officials and the Intramural staff will promote behavior that makes playing truly fun and healthy for everyone involved. Participating in an unsportsmanlike manner may result in suspension of participation privileges.

### **Sporting Behavior Rating System**

A sporting behavior rating system is used to evaluate each team's sporting behavior during each contest. After each contest, officials and one on-site staff person rate teams on their sportsmanship. These figures are averaged to determine a team's overall score for the night and are included in a special box on score sheets.

Each team is rated scale of 0.0 to 4.0. The closer a team's average is to 4.0; the closer the team is playing with a true understanding of what the spirit of competition is all about. If a team does not average a 2.5 in the regular season, it will not be eligible for playoffs. If at any time after the first two games of a season a team's average is below 2.0, they are subject to immediate disqualification from that sport. After two ratings of 0.0, a team automatically is dropped from that sport. Once in postseason play, teams which receive a sporting behavior rating of below 2.0 will be dropped from the tournament. That team's opponent will advance if the team meets the sporting behavior requirements. Poor sporting behavior can also lead to probation, suspension, and permanent loss of Intramural Sports playing privileges for the individual and/or team.

4 – **Excellent Conduct and Sportsmanship**- Players cooperate fully with the officials and other team members. The captain calmly converses with officials about rule interpretations and calls. The captain also has full control of his/her teammates, bench, and spectators. Teams that win by forfeit will

receive a "4". Teams that receive 1 verbal warning for use of profanity cannot receive higher than a "3" rating.

**3 – Good Conduct and Sportsmanship-** Team members verbally complain about some decisions made by the officials and/or show minor dissension, which may or may not merit a yellow card (soccer, volleyball, softball), unsportsmanlike flag (flag football), or technical foul (basketball). Teams that receive 1 yellow card (soccer, volleyball, softball), unsportsmanlike flag (flag football), or technical foul (basketball) cannot receive higher than a "3" rating.

**2 – Average Conduct and Sportsmanship-** Team shows verbal dissent towards officials and/or the opposing team, which may or may not merit a yellow card (soccer, volleyball, softball), unsportsmanlike flag (flag football), or technical foul (basketball). Captain exhibits minor control over his/her teammates, bench, and spectators, but is in control with himself/herself. Teams receiving multiple yellow cards (soccer, volleyball, softball), unsportsmanlike flags (flag football), or technical fouls (basketball) cannot receive higher than a "2" rating.

**1 – Below Average Conduct and Sportsmanship-** Team consistently comments to the officials and/or the opposing team from the field and/or sidelines. The team captain exhibits little or no control over teammates, bench, spectators, and/or himself/herself. A team which receives one red card (soccer, volleyball, softball) or an ejection (flag football, basketball) cannot receive higher than a "1" rating.

**0 – Poor Conduct and Sportsmanship-** Team is completely uncooperative. Captain has no control over teammates, bench, spectators, and/or himself/herself. Any team causing a game to be forfeited, other than by not showing, or receives multiple ejections will receive a "0" rating.

### **Policy on Alcohol, tobacco, and Drugs**

The purpose of Campus Recreation is to provide participants with healthy lifestyle activities. Therefore, all alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs are not allowed at any intramural event. Individuals possessing alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs or under their influence will be asked to leave immediately. Additionally, the Office of Public Safety will be notified of violations of law and university policy and officers will be enlisted to escort violators from the facility.

## Ejections and Suspensions

### Player Ejections

When students behave in an unacceptable manner, they will be ejected from the program site. When ejected, a student must leave the facility within three (3) minutes. The three minutes are given to collect belongings and to receive information about the Intramural Governing Board which will meet to issue sanctions to the individual pending a review.

### Suspension Due to Repeated Forfeiture

An organization or individual may be suspended from intramural competition for repeated incidents of forfeiture. Organizations that register participants for competition are responsible for any forfeit by those individuals and repeated offenses of forfeiture may result in the loss of Student Recreation Center privileges, including intramural eligibility for a minimum of one sports season for the individual, team and/or organization and loss of facility use privileges at the Spencer Student Recreation Center.

## Section 9: Protests and Appeals

An organization or individual may protest the eligibility of a specific opponent or opponents or rule application. Additionally, Governing Board sanctions appeals may be submitted for review. Specific names and/or numbers must be submitted in writing to the Campus Recreation Office, SRC 206. Eligibility protest may be made at any time.

1. Any individual that violates eligibility rules could be suspended from intramural competition for one (1) calendar year.
2. Any team that uses an ineligible player shall default that contest and any other games in which he/she may have played and may be removed from further competition in that event.
3. Appeals concerning misinterpretation of playing rules will be resolved **at the time they occur**. The Intramural Sports staff member in charge will be called over to rule on the disagreement.
4. If a team is still feels the ruling is incorrect, they must make it known to the Supervisor that they want to protest the game. At that time, the details of the game at the time of protest will be recorded so that an appropriate judgment can be made.

5. All decisions by the Intramural Sports staff concerning protests may be appealed to the Assistant Director of Campus Recreation. This appeal must be made in writing and turned in **within 48 hours.**

### **POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS**

6. Postponements and cancellations of scheduled Intramural Sports contests occasionally result from inclement weather, loss of facility space due to changes in University schedules and other unforeseen circumstances. Whenever possible, Intramural Sports will reschedule contests that have been postponed. Certain factors, however, such as relatively short playing seasons, limited facility space, and time restrictions often prevent contests from being rescheduled. These contests are therefore canceled and will not be rescheduled.

### **Notification of Rescheduled Contests**

Games may or may not be rescheduled depending on game circumstances, facility availability and other factors. If a game is to be rescheduled, notification of rescheduling will be made by email to the team captain as soon as possible

### **Notification of Postponement or Cancellation**

It is the policy of Intramural Sports to make decisions regarding postponements and cancellations by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled contest. Games may be postponed on site if inclement weather or other conditions occur. When the decision has been made to postpone or cancel a contest before the contest occurs, Campus Recreation will contact via email the captains of those teams that are scheduled to play.

### **Field Conditions**

Intramural staff will determine if field conditions are playable by 2:00 p.m. This decision is based not only on the current weather conditions, but also existing field conditions. Consequently, an event may be postponed or canceled due to wet conditions, even in nice weather if the fields are still unplayable.

## **Section 11: Postseason Eligibility and Scheduling**

### **Team Eligibility**

There are no playoffs for Social Leagues. All teams in Competitive leagues (ABC) that finish with a minimum 2.5 sportsmanship rating will automatically qualify for the playoffs.

### **Playoff Scheduling**

Playoff selection will take place online through IMLeagues. Team captains will receive an email with instructions to select their playoff time in the bracket. Teams must select their playoff spot by the designated date in order to continue in playoff scheduling. Due to a high volume of games that must be played in a short amount of time, captains should check their online schedule after every completed contest to see if/when the next contest has been scheduled. It is the captain's responsibility to check their playoff schedule.

### **Playoff Sportsmanship**

Teams must achieve a 2.5 sportsmanship average rating during the regular season to be eligible for the playoffs and must maintain a 2.5 sportsmanship average throughout the playoffs to remain eligible. The ratings for the regular season and playoff games will be added together and divided by the total number of official contests scheduled to equal the team's sportsmanship average. If a team wins a playoff contest, but does not maintain a 2.5 sportsmanship average rating for the season, they automatically forfeit the game and their opponent advances. If neither team maintains a 2.5 sportsmanship average rating, neither team will advance.

### **Playoff Rosters**

Players may be added to team rosters throughout the playoffs provided they meet Intramural Sports eligibility.

### **Event Winners**

Teams/Individuals who win an event in their respective division will be awarded an Intramural Championship T-shirt.

Each event has a roster maximum for t-shirts. No Intramural Champion Shirts will be given to participants in excess of the roster maximum. In order to receive an Intramural Champion Shirt a participant must be on the roster in the championship game/match.

### **Extramural Tournaments**

Flag Football and Basketball teams may have the opportunity to represent WIU at extramural regional and national tournaments. These tournaments take place across the nation and are comprised of intramural and club teams from different colleges and universities. Teams interested in competing at extramural tournaments must have a 2.5 minimum sportsmanship average rating. Teams that are interested should contact an IM Sports professional staff member for more information.

## **Lodging for Travel**

Transgender students generally should be assigned to share hotel rooms or other lodging based on their gender identity, with recognition that any student who needs extra privacy be accommodated whenever possible.

## **University Recreation Student Employment**

Campus Recreation employs more than 100 student employees in a variety of positions each semester. Becoming a Campus Recreation team member allows students to gain valuable experience working within their area of interest and the possibility of advancement within the department.

Campus Recreation team member positions offer flexible scheduling along with the opportunity to work in a dynamic and fun work environment. IM Sports provides employment opportunities to over 35 students each year. Positions include: Supervisor and Official. Applications can be found online at [wiu.edu/campus-rec](http://wiu.edu/campus-rec). No experience necessary. We will train you in all sports.

## **Student Health Insurance**

In order to participate in Intramural contest participants must be currently insured either by Western Illinois University through student insurance or by their own comparable private insurance. If student is found without insurance they will be ineligible to participate in intramural contest until they are insured. Captains are responsible to make sure each participant is eligible to participate in each intramural contest.

## **Head, Neck, Back Injuries**

Any participant who is suspected of sustaining a head, neck, or back injury, or exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion, such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems, must immediately discontinue further participation in any Intramural Sports contest. Once any Intramural Sports staff member has made such a determination, the injured participant may not return to participate in any activity for the remainder of the day or night and is required to seek professional medical attention and a medical release before being allowed to participate in further Intramural Sports activities.

