



Recreation Programs Club Sport General Policies

Welcome to Rider University's Club Sports! You may be interested in starting a club sport, or may be you already belong to one, in either case the following information will help to explain the general policies and requirements for club sports at Rider. If you have questions or concerns, please see the Office of Campus Life for more information.

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Club Sport Management

1. The Rider University Student Government Association must recognize all club sports programs.
2. All club sports programs are subject to the policies and guidelines governing Rider University clubs and organizations.
3. Hazing is strictly prohibited. (See the following hazing policy.)
4. All club sports must complete a "Club Sports Checklist" prior to the start of its operations each academic year.
5. All club sport participants must complete and have on file with the Office of Campus Life/Recreation Programs a Club Sport Member Form, an "Assumption of Risk & Release Agreement for Rider University Club Sports" and a Health Statement. These forms must be updated every academic year before they can take part in any club sport.
6. Use/Consumption of alcohol and/or drugs by any team member during practices, contests and travel to and from the aforementioned is prohibited.
7. All club sports must submit accident report forms and incident report forms as necessary to the Office of Campus Life/Recreation Programs.
8. All off campus travel must be reported to the Office of Campus Life/ Recreation Programs two days prior to departure. The Off Campus Trip Information Sheet with Emergency Action Plan must be completed and returned to Recreation Programs.

Club Sport Team Membership

1. Only full time, undergraduate Rider University students may take part in club sports.
2. Each club member must carry his or her own medical/health insurance.
3. Rider University strongly urges all club members to have a physical examination to determine if they are physically fit to take part in the club sport activity.

4. All members are not eligible to participate until the following forms are completed and returned to the Office of Campus Life/ Recreation Programs: a Club Sport Member Form, an “Assumption of Risk & Release Agreement for Rider University Club Sports” and a Health Statement.

Club Sport Rosters

1. All club sport rosters will be compiled using the Club Sport Member Forms submitted to the Office of Campus Life/ Recreation Programs.
2. No students will be permitted to practice or compete prior to their submission of the Club Sport Member Form, Assumption of Risk & Release Agreement for Rider University Club Sports and a Health Statement.

Medical Issues

1. Each club sports team must have a first aid kit present at every practice and contest.
2. Two members of a club sports team must be certified in adult CPR and general first aid. One of these two members must be present at every practice and contest. Copies of the members’ certification must be kept on file with the Office of Campus Life/Recreation Programs.
3. Club sport teams must have an “Emergency Action Plan”(EAP) on file with the Office of Safety and Security, the Office of Campus Life, and at all club sport events for each location.
4. In the event of an accident, club members should follow the EAP and notify Office of Campus Life/Recreation Programs. In addition, the club must complete an accident report form to be submitted to the Office of Campus Life/Recreation Programs within 24 hours.
5. If an incident occurs during practice, a contest, or during travel the club must complete an incident report form to be submitted to the Office of Campus Life/Recreation Programs within 24 hours (of returning to campus).

Advisors & Coaches

1. A club sport team must have at least one faculty/staff advisor as defined on the “Club Sport Advisor Agreement”.
2. The club sport advisor must approve the selection or termination of any club sport coach.
3. Club sport coaches shall be designated as “University Volunteers”.
4. Compensation for a club sport coach cannot be paid from the Rider University Student Activities Fee.
5. The advisor and/or coach should inspect all playing areas before the start of any practice or contest to determine the field or facility is safe to use.
6. The advisor and/or coach are responsible to assure all participants meet University and sanctioning body requirements.

Off Campus Travel

1. An advisor or coach must travel with the team when it travels off campus.
2. An “Off Campus Trip Information Sheet” must be completed and filed by the club sport with the Office of Campus Life/Recreation Programs when traveling off campus for practice or a contest. An additional EAP must be completed for each new destination and must travel with the club and be on file in the Office of Campus Life/ Recreation Programs.

On Campus Practice/Contests

1. Use of any on campus facility must be approved and reserved with the Assistant Director of Campus Activities and Recreation Programs.
2. Club sports using on campus facilities for practice and/or contests must submit their practice and/or contest schedule to the Assistant Director of Recreation Programs at least one month prior to the start of the following semester.
3. Any request for playing field/area treatment (lining, grass cutting, etc.) must be requested from the Office of Facilities Management no less than three weeks in advance. Teams are not permitted to alter fields/playing areas without consulting the Office of Facilities Management.
3. Teams are responsible for cleaning up trash or garbage after any on campus practice or contest. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of facility usage.

Weather Conditions/Environmental Hazards

1. Lightning/thunder –
 - a. When using outdoor facilities, if thunder/lightning can be heard and/or seen, stop the game and seek protective shelter immediately.
 - b. If thunder/lightning is not seen or heard but you feel your hair stand on end and skin tingle, immediately drop to your knees, place your hands/arms on your legs, and lower your head. Do not lie flat.
 - c. If either situations occur, wait at least thirty minutes before resuming or cancel the event altogether.
 - d. The National Weather Service recommends the following for lightning conditions if caught outside: “Go to a low-lying, open place away from trees, poles, or metal objects. Make yourself as small as possible by squatting low to the ground. Place your hands on your knees with your head between them. Don't lie flat on the ground, and make sure the place you pick is not subject to flash flooding. If you are with a group, it is wise to separate from each other as much as possible. Do not bundle together. Lightning can travel from person to person if they are too close to each other. Separating decreases the risk of many people being struck at once, and increases the chance of leaving at least one survivor to attend to those that are struck. If you are in the woods, take shelter under the shorter trees. Don't seek out a lone tree. If you are boating or swimming, get to the land and find shelter immediately. On the golf course, head for the club house or some nearby structure.
 - e. If someone is struck by lightning...People who have been struck by lightning carry no electrical charge and can be handled safely. If they have stopped breathing, perform CPR.
 - f. If the University is closed due to weather conditions, then all practices and contests on campus must be cancelled as well.
2. Field conditions
 - a. Fields may be closed for practice and contest at the discretion of the Assistant Director of Campus Activities and Recreation Programs and/or the Office of Facilities Management based on poor field conditions.
 - b. It is the responsibility of the club sport to contact the Office of Campus Life/ Recreation Programs if there are questionable field conditions.

Individuals with disabilities

1. The University will take reasonable measures to accommodate individuals with disabilities so they may participate in club sports. Club sports are responsible for contacting the Office of Campus Life/ Recreation Programs if assistance is needed.

Sexual Harassment

1. As stated in the The Source, “It is the policy of the institution that no member of the community may sexually harass another. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or physical, verbal, or written conduct of a sexual nature...”(p. 97).

Hazing

1. Within the context of a person(s) attempting to join, or retain “membership” in a group or organization: any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally risks the mental, psychological or physical wellbeing of a student with or without his consent; which requires or encourages violation of public law or University policy; or, which may tend to ridicule, mistreat, degrade, humiliate or harass any individual is strictly prohibited. (University consequences may range from levels 2 to 4.)
2. **New Jersey Hazing Law**
2C:40-3. Hazing; aggravated hazing
 - a. A person is guilty of hazing, a disorderly persons offense, if, in connection with initiation of applicants to or members of a student or fraternal organization, he knowingly or recklessly organizes, promotes, facilitates or engages in any conduct, other than competitive athletic events, which places or may place another person in danger of bodily injury.
 - b. A person is guilty of aggravated hazing, a crime of the fourth degree, if he commits an act prohibited in subsection a. which results in serious bodily injury to another person.