



Recreational Sports
Student Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Intramural Sports Participant Guide



recsports.uga.edu
compsports@uga.edu
706-542-5060

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PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the Intramural Sports program at The University of Georgia is to make participation in sports a meaningful part of a total education and to help produce a mentally integrated and socially adjusted individual through all-around participation in competitive and recreational activities.

The goal of the Department of Recreational Sports is to make participation in the Intramural Sports program safe, attractive, and desirable for many students, faculty, staff, and spouses/domestic partners. Through our various programs, we aim to create an inclusive environment where all participants feel welcome.

HEALTH, INJURIES, AND LIABILITY

The health of individuals participating in recreational sports is their own responsibility. The University does not require physicals or physician approval to participate. However, the Recreational Sports staff strongly recommend that each participant be aware of their own limitations and be properly insured. It is recommended that all participants have a medical examination prior to participation. Intramural captains are responsible for informing teammates of each participant's responsibilities in this matter. Due to the inherent risks involved in playing Intramural sports, all participants will be required to sign an individual/team waiver of liability before playing.

WAIVER LANGUAGE

I, hereby acknowledge my awareness that my participation in a University of Georgia Department of Recreational Sports class, event, instruction or program, may involve activities which include, but are not limited to, the following: stretching, running, jumping, kicking, throwing, swinging, catching, swimming, martial arts, horseback riding, sliding, rowing, sailing, whitewater rafting, water skiing, and bodily contact with other players and with athletic equipment. It may also involve competitive sports which use various types of athletic equipment which include, but are not limited to, the following: balls, bats, racquets, helmets, cleats, pads, nets, Frisbees, goal posts, sticks, pucks, fishing equipment, boats or other water vessels, horses and horseback riding equipment, martial arts equipment and/or other athletic equipment.

I also understand that my participation in the aforementioned activities may expose me to risks of property damage and bodily or personal injury, including injury that may be fatal, and any one or more of the following: injury from slipping, tripping and falls; drowning; sickness; exposure to warm or cold water; foreseen and unforeseen inclement weather; cuts; abrasions and puncture wounds, broken bones; injury from uneven terrain on the fields; injury from contact with other players and from contact with athletic equipment; muscle strains and sprains; concussions; loss of consciousness; and heart attack. If my team must travel to/from events and/or travel to participate in team activities, I understand that there is a potential for accidents or illness. In addition, I understand that I may be exposed to other risks which may not be foreseeable. I have been informed and understand that there are inherent risks and dangers involved in this activity. I knowingly and freely assume any and all such risks and voluntarily participate in this activity. I understand that it is my responsibility, as the participant, to engage only in those activities for which I have the prerequisite skills, qualifications, preparation, and training.

I acknowledge that I must follow the instructions of the department of Recreational Sports staff member(s) at all times. In addition, I understand that none of the following entities provides insurance coverage for my participation in the University of Georgia Department of Recreational Sports program and that it is strongly recommended that I obtain my own accident and health insurance prior to participating: The University of Georgia, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, Department of Recreational Sports, and any participating agency.

In exchange for the use of equipment, materials, supplies and for being allowed to participate in this program, I hereby release and forever discharge the University of Georgia, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and all sponsoring agencies and their members individually and their officers, agents and employees from any and all claims, demands, rights, expenses, actions, and causes of action, of whatever kind, arising from or by reason of any personal injury, bodily injury, property damage, or the consequences thereof, whether foreseeable or not, resulting from or in any way connected with my participation in this activity.

I hereby irrevocably consent to and authorize the use by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of the University of Georgia, its officers and employees of the undersigned's image and/ or likeness as follows: The

University shall have the right to photograph, publish, re-publish, adapt, exhibit, reproduce, edit, distribute, display or otherwise use or reuse the undersigned's image and/or likeness in connection with any product or service in all markets, media or technology now known or hereafter developed in University's products or services. The undersigned acknowledges receipt of good and valuable consideration in exchange for this Release, which may be the opportunity to represent the University in its promotional and advertising materials.

I hereby waive the right to inspect or approve my image or any finished materials that incorporate my image. I understand and agree that my image will become part of the University's photograph file and that it may be distributed to other organizations or individuals for use in publication. I also understand that I will receive no compensation in connection with the use of my image.

I further covenant and agree that for the consideration stated above, I will hold forever harmless and will not take legal action against the University of Georgia, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, its members individually, and their officers, agents, and employees for any claim for damages arising or growing out of my participation in this activity whether caused by negligence or otherwise.

I certify that I am at least 18 years of age OR that my parent/legal guardian has also signed below because I am under 18 years of age.

ENTRY PROCEDURES

The Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass is available for purchase online anytime or at the Ramsey Student Center, with the Membership Services Staff, Monday–Friday, 8:30 AM–4:30 PM.

How to purchase the Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass online:

1. Go to shop.recsports.uga.edu.
2. Click on the "Memberships and Passes" icon.
3. Select "UGA LOGIN" as your Login Method.
4. Log in using your UGAMYID and Password (the same information that gets you into Athena).
5. Click on the "Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass".
6. Select the current semester "Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass".
7. Click on "add to cart".
8. Accept the Competitive Sports Waiver.
9. Click "Check Out" or "Continue Shopping".

All Intramural Sport sign-ups take place through the [UGA Rec Sports App](#) powered by IMLeagues. Sign-ups are on a first-come, first-served basis.

How to create your team on the [UGA Rec Sports App](#):

1. Go to shop.recsports.uga.edu.
2. Click on the "Intramurals" whistle icon.
3. Select "UGA LOGIN" as your Login Method.
4. Log in using your UGAID and Password (the same information that gets you into Athena).
5. Click the "IMLeagues" logo/banner to enter the website.
6. Click the "Sports" button with the home icon at the top of your user homepage page.
7. The current leagues and tournaments will be displayed; click on the activity you wish to join.
8. Choose the league you wish to play in (Men's, Women's, Co-Rec, Open, etc.).
9. Determine the division you would like to play in (Monday 5 PM, Tuesday 5 PM, etc.).
10. Click the "Create Team" button.
11. Pass the mandatory captain's quiz using the Intramural Sports Participant Guide and sport-specific rules.
12. Enter team name and optional team logo.
13. Click "Create Team."
14. Captains can invite members to their team by clicking "Team Options" and then "Invite Members" link on the team page. Any invited member(s) must accept the invitation to join your team.

- a. If they have already registered on IMLeagues, search for their name and invite them.
- b. If they have not yet registered on IMLeagues, scroll down to the "Invite by Email Address" box and input their UGA email address.

****Important: Following the above process places your team on the waitlist for that league. The waitlist is not an active division. The team captain must move the team into an active division once the minimum roster requirement is met. Minimum roster requirements are listed on each league's homepage. Your spot in a specific league and division is not guaranteed until the captain moves the team off the waitlist, so encourage teammates to accept invitations on IMLeagues as quickly as possible. ****

How to join a team on IMLeagues:

1. Follow the instructions under "How to create your team on IMLeagues" through #6
2. You can follow either one of the following options to join a team.
 - a. Find existing teams on the league page and click the "join team" button to send a request to join a team.
 - b. Accepting a request from the captain to join their team.
 - c. Finding the team and captain's name on the division/league page and requesting to join.
 - d. Going to the captain's player card page, viewing their team, and requesting to join.

What is needed to sign up?

1. Each participant must have purchased a Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass for the current semester.
2. Day and time preference for when your team would like to play.

Each player will need to purchase their own "Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass" for the current semester to be eligible to sign in and play.

REFUND POLICY

No refunds are given for Intramural Sports. If a medical condition arises that precludes completion of the season, with medical documentation, refunds may be given on a pro-rated basis, based upon the start date of the sport, minus a processing fee of \$15. Refunds will not be granted for contests not played due to a default, forfeit, or weather-canceled games.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS & HB 280

In accordance with HB 280, commonly known as the "campus carry" legislation, concealed handguns are not permitted in the Ramsey Student Center, as handguns are prohibited in buildings or on property used for intercollegiate games at all times, not just during events. Similarly, handguns are prohibited throughout the entire facility, not just those specific areas of the facility in which games are played. For more information, please visit the University System of Georgia website:

<https://www.usg.edu/weaponscarry>

FREE AGENTS

A free agent is a person who is passionate about participating in a particular sport but currently does not have a team to join.

How to create an account as a free agent on the [UGA Rec Sports App](#):

1. Follow the instructions under "How to create your team on the [UGA Rec Sports App](#)" on page 3 under Entry Procedures steps 1-6
2. You can list yourself as a free agent in as many divisions within a league as you would like. You will be visible to all members of the site and can request to join teams or post information about yourself so teams can request to add you to their team.
 - a. To register, you must select the division you want to register with as a free agent.
 - b. Select the green "Register/Sign Up" button on the top right.
 - c. In the drop-down menu, select Free Agent.
 - d. Follow the IMLeagues process from there.
3. We strongly encourage free agents to form teams themselves by contacting others through free agents on the App.

4. If a free agent team is formed, follow the procedures listed above in "How to create your team on the [UGA Rec Sports App](#)" under Entry Procedures.

The Intramural Sports program allows participants to register their information as free agents. If a team needs additional participants, a free agent can be contacted from the list on IMLeagues. Free agents do not need to purchase the Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass to join the free agent list, but they must purchase the pass to participate in games.

NOMAD

The purpose of the Nomad Rule is to help teams avoid defaults or forfeits and the associated forfeit fee, when possible. This policy is not to be exploited by an individual for any competitive purpose. Anyone found to be abusing the Nomad Rule may lose the ability to participate in Intramural sports in the future. If a team does not have the minimum number of players needed to start or finish a game, they may add a nomad for that game. Nomads must operate under the following conditions:

1. A nomad can only be used for regular season games. No playoffs.
2. A nomad must already be on a team in either the single-sex league or the co-rec league they are trying to add to as a nomad. You can never be a nomad if you are not currently on a team. If you are not on a roster, you are a free agent and can join any team, but you can never play as a nomad if you are not on a legal team in that sport.
3. A nomad can be used only if the team is below the roster minimum for a sport. If the team drops below the minimum during the game, the nomad can be used as a sub.
4. Nomads can never become officially rostered members of a second team. Being a nomad does not allow a participant to change teams.
5. An eligible player could be a nomad for multiple teams throughout the season. Captains are still responsible for the sportsmanship and behavior of all team members, including nomads.

For example, Thomas is the captain of a Co-Rec soccer team that plays on Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM. At 4 PM on the day of their second regular-season game, two of their teammates forget they have a test from 6:45 to 7:45 PM, one is sick, and another does not feel like playing tonight. Since Thomas missed the 3 PM default deadline, the team must go to the game site and have at least one player check in, or they will incur a \$20 forfeit fee for not having anyone show up. Thomas's coworker Lauren plays on a different Co-Rec team on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM. While at work, they discuss Thomas's situation for their IM soccer game, and Lauren offers to play. Under the Nomad Rule, Lauren may participate on Thomas's team as a nomad because Thomas's team will be below the minimum needed in soccer.

TEAM CAPTAIN

Each team entered in an Intramural Sport must have one designated captain to serve as a liaison between the team and the Department of Recreational Sports. A captain may represent only ONE men's, women's, or open team and ONE co-rec team in any given sport.

Responsibilities of a team captain:

1. Find out the most convenient time for most team members to play and register your team.
2. Complete and pass the online preseason captains quiz through IMLeagues.
3. Have teammates register on IMLeagues and be added to the roster before games begin.
4. Check each participant's eligibility before and during the season. Inform each participant that they may play on only one men's, women's, or open team and one co-rec team.
5. Find out from players on your team whether they are members of a UGA Club Sport team. The captains are responsible for ensuring that their team is not violating the club player rule (see page 7) – Club Sports Members and Intercollegiate Athletes.
6. Be familiar with the rules and regulations governing each sport's deadlines and the policies of the Intramural sports program regarding forfeits, defaults, sportsmanship, etc.
7. Keep the team informed about the game site, time, opponent, uniform color, and any other relevant information.

8. Inform participants that they must present a physical copy of their UGA ID card, a photo of their UGA ID card (front and back), their Digital Student Profile from Athena, or their "Virtual ID Card" in the UGA Rec Sports App prior to every contest. No other form of identification will be accepted.
9. Be responsible for the conduct of participants, coaches, and spectators before, during, and after each contest.
10. If a participant is ejected or a problem arises during the game, it is the captain's responsibility to inform that player of the penalty as stated in the Disciplinary and Ejection Policy Section on page 14.
11. Inform participants that they are responsible for all injuries incurred while participating in the program. Encourage injured participants to go to the University Health Center, even if the injury seems minor.
12. Check the contest schedule daily. This is especially important if games must be postponed because of inclement weather. Keep your team members well informed.
13. Act as a team spokesperson on and off the playing field. If you have any questions, please ask. The Competitive Sports staff is here to assist you.
14. Responsible for the team's regular-season and post-season forfeit buyback fees.

TEAM NAMES

Each team must provide an APPROPRIATE team name consisting of fewer than 20 characters. Please note that the Competitive Sports Administrative Staff reserves the right to alter any team name or logo deemed inappropriate or not in the spirit of good sportsmanship.

1. If a team name is deemed inappropriate, the team's name will be changed to "Team" followed by the captain's first and last name (e.g., Team John Doe). If the Competitive Sports staff must alter a team name, there will be no opportunity to change it.
2. If a team name is repeated within the same sport, it will be the team's name followed by the captain's last name (e.g., Team X – Smith).

Team names accepted in previous seasons are not guaranteed approval in the future.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

It is the responsibility of the Intramural Sports team captain to ensure that their team members are eligible to participate. Any questionable cases should be brought to the attention of the Competitive Sports professional staff to obtain an official ruling.

1. To participate in the Intramural Sports program, students must be either fees-paid students or part-time students with a Ramsey Membership. Spouses/Domestic Partners of a student may participate in Intramural Sports if they purchase a UGA Dependent ID Card at the Tate Student Center and hold a Ramsey Center Membership.
2. To participate in the Intramural Sports program, full-time, part-time, or retired University employees (Faculty/Staff) must have membership to the Ramsey Student Center. Spouses/Domestic Partners of Faculty/Staff and retired staff may participate in Intramural Sports if they purchase a UGA Dependent ID Card at the Tate Student Center and hold a Ramsey Center Membership.
3. To participate in the Intramural Sports program, an individual must have paid the activity/recreation fee for the current semester and purchased the Competitive Sports Unlimited Play Pass. When purchasing the Pass, they will sign a participation waiver.
4. **All participants must present a physical copy of their UGA ID card, a photo of their UGA ID card (front and back), their Digital Student Profile from Athena, or their "Virtual ID Card" in the UGA Rec Sports App prior to every contest. No other form of identification will be accepted.**
5. Individuals may participate in one single-sex league, including Open divisions, and one Co-Rec team.
 - a. All violators will be suspended from further participation in that sport for the remainder of the season, including the postseason. Teams may also be penalized for using ineligible participants.
6. Any individual who participates on more than one team during any sport season and/or participates under an assumed name shall be suspended from participation in that sport for at least the remainder of the season. Any illegal participant and the team captain may be suspended from future Intramural Sports if deemed warranted.
7. A participant is **not** permitted to transfer from one team to another after their team either forfeits or they have participated in or checked into one scheduled game.

8. Teams found to be playing with non-students, who are ineligible, will forfeit any game with said participant(s) and will not be eligible for the postseason tournament. In addition, the captain will be assessed the postseason forfeit buy-back fee.
9. Rosters are limited to a specific number for each sport: (20) for flag football, softball, and kickball; (15) for volleyball, basketball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, dodgeball, team tennis, and inner-tube water polo; (8) for all 4v4 sports; and (4) for team golf.
10. If there are not enough teams to support a single-sex league (men's or women's), both sexes are eligible to compete on one team in the Open League and one team in the Co-Rec League (if offered).
11. Summer Sports: To be eligible to participate in a summer Intramural Sports program, they must meet the preceding criteria. In addition, all summer participants must be able to provide a valid UGA ID Card and, if asked for proof of registration for the previous spring, current summer, or upcoming fall classes.

IMPROPER USE OF IDENTIFICATION

1. If a Competitive Sports staff member determines that an individual is attempting to check in or has already participated using false identification in any Intramural Sports contest, that individual will not be allowed to play. The individual will be ejected and asked to show proper identification. If the individual refuses or fails to show proper identification or to cooperate fully with the Competitive Sports staff on site, the team will be asked for the individual's information. If the team does not provide the individual's name, the captain will also be ejected from the contest. If the team has enough players left, the game will either start or resume. If not, the team will forfeit. The Competitive Sports Administrative staff will follow up the next day with any further actions deemed necessary.
2. Both parties involved will be suspended from ALL Competitive Sports participation, as detailed in the updated disciplinary and ejection policy on page 14.

CLUB SPORTS MEMBERS AND INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETES

1. A club sports member is defined as any individual who has an approved waiver, is on the club sport's roster, and participates in practices and/or plays in games. Once you are on or considered on the club team, these restrictions apply for the entire school year (August 1 through July 31). Those who violate this rule will be subject to further penalties outlined in the disciplinary section of the Participant Guide.
2. A club sports member shall be eligible for Intramural participation in their specialty sport, subject to the following restrictions. Volleyball, 4v4 outdoor soccer, indoor soccer, Pickleball, 4v4 Flag Football, and 4v4 volleyball teams are restricted to ONE such participant on their roster. All other IM Sports can have TWO such participants on their roster. Co-recreational teams in sports allowing two club sports members are limited to one member of each sex. No co-recreational team can have multiple club players of the same sex on its roster.
3. Any registered student-organization team that travels and competes will be subject to the same rules as club sports members.
4. Intercollegiate teams are sponsored by an NCAA Division I Athletic Department. A member of an intercollegiate team (those listed on the current and/or previous year's roster, including walk-ons) will not be allowed to participate in Intramural activities in that sport or a similar sport (e.g., baseball and softball) during the academic year. A member of an intercollegiate team is defined as a person whose name is on the roster or who is working out or participating with the team. If the athlete has sat out without practicing or playing with the intercollegiate team for **at least one calendar year** from their last participation, they will become eligible to participate in the Intramural sport of their specialty.
5. A varsity athlete who played a team sport (football, soccer, etc.) at an NCAA Division I School during the current year is ineligible to participate in a similar sport. If, after August 1 of that year, they are not on a Division I roster, they will be eligible to participate. An individual who participated in **an individual sport** (tennis, golf, etc.) at any NCAA Division I School **must sit out two years** before becoming eligible for Intramural competition.
6. All former athletes must still meet the required eligibility guidelines (see Eligibility Guidelines on page 6).
7. A former Olympic, National, Junior National, or professional team member may not participate in their specialty sport or a similar Intramural sport for **four (4) years** after their Olympic, National, Junior National, or Professional experience.
8. A former or current intercollegiate athlete or club sport member may appeal their status regarding restrictions in a particular sport. Such an appeal must be submitted in writing to the Competitive Sports Administration before participating. Any athlete or club member found to be violating the above rules will be suspended from intramural sports.

in that sport for one calendar year.

LEAGUE SPORTS AND DIVISION PLAY

At the beginning of each semester, the Intramural Sports program will advertise the sports leagues and special tournaments offered that semester. At that time, a team captain will be responsible for registering their team for the day and time they are able to participate.

1. League sports normally take place Monday through Thursday from 5:00 PM to 11:00 PM, and Sunday leagues run from approximately 1:00 PM to 11:00 PM; all days and times are subject to change.
2. When registering a team, captains will select the league to join. Depending on the sport, the league format will follow one of the following:

A
Men's/Open Co-Recreational

B
Men's Women's Co-Recreational

C
Men's Fraternity* Sorority* Women's Co-Recreational

- a. To be eligible for the Fraternity and Sorority Leagues, all participants must be active members and/or pledges properly recorded in the IFC/Pan-Hellenic/Multicultural/NPHC Office. If an individual meets all other participant guidelines, they may represent a fraternity or sorority in this league. Fraternities and sororities may register only one team in the Fraternity and Sorority Leagues. Additional teams may play in the Men's or Women's Leagues.
 - b. Open leagues can be added to any sport as needed.
 - i. An open league is open to anyone who meets intramural sport eligibility requirements and is eligible to participate in the league.
3. After a captain has selected one of the listed leagues, they will be asked to select a division. These divisions indicate which day and time the team would like to participate. Once in a division, a team will be scheduled to play other teams in their division during the season.
 4. Teams will be scheduled for at least three games during the regular season, as space and time allow. The Competitive Sports staff cannot guarantee that all regular season games will be played due to potential foul weather, facility space, and time constraints within the semester. The department is not responsible for defaults or forfeits.
 - a. Games postponed due to rain or field conditions are not guaranteed to be rescheduled. The Competitive Sports staff will do their best to reschedule games canceled due to inclement weather, but a guarantee cannot be made due to facility space, time restrictions, and/or field conditions.
 - b. Any rescheduled games will be posted on IMLeagues, and teams will be responsible for verifying their schedules.
 6. For all league sports, schedules will be created and posted on the IMLeagues website after 5:00 PM on Friday after the entry deadline has passed. If any changes are made to the schedules after this time (before or during the season), the team captain will be notified immediately by e-mail or phone.
 7. A team will NOT be eligible for the postseason tournament if they:
 - a. Forfeit twice during the regular season.
 - b. Forfeit and do not purchase the "[regular season forfeit buy-back fee](#)."
 - c. Default twice during the regular season (equals 1 forfeit) and do not purchase the "regular season forfeit buy-back fee."
 - d. Have two (2) or more ejections during the season.

POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

1. After the conclusion of an Intramural Sports season, all fall and spring sports will follow a single-elimination tournament format. An online tournament bracket draw will be hosted on the [UGA Rec Sports App](#).
 - a. Log in to the App via the UGA SSO system before your scheduled time to pick your slot.
 - b. The captain or co-captain is the only person who can select each team's playoff spot.
 - c. On your personal home page (if you do not think you are on the right page, click your name in the upper-right corner of the screen), a message should appear with a countdown timer showing when it is your team's turn to pick.

- d. Click on the countdown timer message.
 - e. Each team will have at most two minutes to choose their spot in the bracket before the next team can choose.
 - f. If you miss your time slot, you can log in any time after it until a specified end time to make your choice.
 - g. We will let all team captains know the deadline for the selection process to close. After the specified end time, we will automatically assign you a game time.
 - h. Please pay close attention to the time and day you are picking, as well as the games farther down the bracket. No changes are allowed once you choose your place in the bracket. We will not move games or teams.
2. Participant Eligibility – eligible participants can be added to any team up through the semifinals of any tournament or league. Participants on the team's roster must meet all eligibility guidelines.
 3. Rescheduling due to weather - In the event of inclement weather and game cancellations, all tournament games may be moved to the next available day. This could affect all future rounds of games, not just the day when games were canceled due to inclement weather. Captains are responsible for checking IMLeagues for updates. When possible, game times and locations will remain the same, but there is no guarantee.
 4. **Teams are not allowed to default in the postseason.** If a team does not remove itself from the playoffs before the bracket is scheduled and does not show up for its game, or if it does not have enough players to start the contest, a postseason forfeit buyback fee will be assessed to the team captain, and the captain will be suspended from all sports until the fee is paid. The fee-paying team captain should email compsports@uga.edu to indicate completion of the transaction so the captain's suspensions can be lifted.
 5. **A team is ineligible for the post-season tournament if it receives two ejections in one sport. If a team's second ejection occurs in the playoffs, the game will end at that time, and its opponent will be credited with the win.**

NOTE: For all soccer leagues, a Blue Card results in disqualification and does not count as an ejection for this policy.

POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT FORMAT

1. The postseason tournament for all league sports will consist of a single-elimination tournament per league. Time permitting and if the number of teams in the league meets the following requirements, tournaments will adhere to the following format:
 - a. Division Breakdowns
 - i. If 2-64 teams qualify for the tournament, all teams will be placed in one bracket.
 - ii. If 64+ teams qualify for the tournament, the tournament will split into two brackets based on winning percentage. Teams with a .500+ winning percentage move to the Competitive Bracket and teams with a below .500 winning percentage move to the Recreational Bracket.
 - Competitive Bracket: 3-0, 2-0, 1-0, 2-1, and 1-1
 - Recreational Bracket: 1-2, 0-1, 0-2, and 0-3
 - b. Fraternity and Sorority League teams will be included in the single gender bracket formats listed above.
 - c. If a team has received a win by default or forfeit and believes it should be considered for a different league tournament than the one indicated by its record, the captain must notify the Competitive Sports staff before the deadline teams have to remove their teams from the postseason captain's online draw. The Competitive Sports staff will evaluate each request individually. After a request is submitted, there is no guarantee the team will be moved. Competitive Sports staff have the final decision on team placement in the tournament brackets.

AWARDS

Championship T-shirts will be awarded in the following divisions: Women's, Men's, Co-Recreational, and Open (when offered).

FORFEITS

During all Intramural Sports activities, the onsite staff can declare a contest forfeited. The Competitive Sports staff will have the official time for all contests and activities. A forfeit is declared when a team fails to show up for the contest or activity. Forfeited games are unplayed games that are recorded as a loss toward the teams' overall record.

1. To help teams avoid forfeiting, we have a Nomad rule. Please check out the [Nomad Rule](#).

2. Teams will be granted a five-minute grace period from the original start time. After this period, all participants must be checked in by the Competitive Sports staff and ready to play. If no one from a given team is present at the site after this grace period, the contest will be declared a forfeit (i.e., if a game is scheduled for 6:00 PM and the clock reads 6:05 PM, the game is a forfeit).
 - a. If the game before your scheduled game runs past the five-minute grace period, the conclusion of that game will be the next game's forfeit time.
 - b. Some sports have specific score-related penalties that are meant to disadvantage a late-arriving team. See sport-specific rules for grace-period point penalties.
3. If a team is deemed to have forfeited a contest, the team must pay the regular-season forfeit buy-back fee to be eligible to return to the league. Payment must be made with the Membership Services Staff at the Ramsey Student Center or [online](#) by 2:00 PM on the day listed in the table below. Teams that forfeit during the regular season and purchase the regular-season forfeit buy-back will be eligible to compete in the postseason tournament if they meet all other playoff requirements.

Day of the Week the Forfeit Occurred	Day of the Week for the Forfeit Buyback Deadline
Sunday	Wednesday 2 PM
Monday	Thursday 2 PM
Tuesday	Friday 2 PM
Wednesday	Sunday 2 PM
Thursday	Monday 2 PM

- a. The only exception to the "regular season forfeit buy-back" fee is a forfeit of a game not scheduled on a team's regular day of play. A team that falls under this exception will receive a loss for the missed game, but no "regular season forfeit buy-back" fee will be assessed. The team will remain eligible for the postseason tournament.
4. If a forfeit has been declared, the teams involved may still use the game site to practice or scrimmage until fifteen minutes before the start of the next contest. During this time, the Competitive Sports staff is not permitted to officiate or keep score, and participants will play at their own risk.
5. If a full team is present, it must sign in the minimum number of legal participants. These participants must be ready to play for the contest to be considered a win by forfeit. If a team leaves before the Competitive Sports staff declares a forfeit, the game will be declared a double forfeit.
6. A team will automatically be removed from the league if it forfeits two games in a season.
7. Two defaulted games will be treated the same as a forfeit.
 - a. EXCEPTION – 4v4 sports teams that default on two games in the same night will not need to purchase the regular-season forfeit buyback.

NOTE: A refund request will not be granted for contests not played due to a default or forfeit.

DEFAULTS

During all Intramural sports activities, the on-site staff may declare a contest a default. The Competitive Sports staff will have the official time for all contests and activities. A default is declared when a team fails to have the minimum number of legal participants ready for play in the contest or activity. Defaulted games are recorded as a loss in the team's overall record.

1. To help teams avoid forfeiting, we have a Nomad Rule. Please review the Nomad Rule.
2. A team may default a game before the scheduled game time by contacting the Competitive Sports staff by 3:00 PM on the day of the scheduled game. A team that contacts the Competitive Sports staff after 3:00 PM will be required to default its game at the game site. One rostered player must report to the game site and check in with our staff.
 - a. To default a game, please email compsports@uga.edu
3. Teams will be granted a five-minute grace period from the original start time. After this period, all participants must be checked in by the Competitive Sports staff and be ready to play. If a team is present but fails to meet the minimum number of legal participants required for play after this period, the contest will be declared a default. For example, if a game is scheduled for 6:00 PM and the clock reads 6:05 PM, the game is a default.
4. Two defaults during the season are equivalent to one forfeit, and the team must purchase the regular-season forfeit buy-back to be eligible for the playoffs.

- a. EXCEPTION – 4v4 sports teams that default two games in the same night will not need to purchase the regular-season forfeit buy-back.
5. Any team that defaults three games in the season will be removed from the league.
6. If a team has been granted a default and the contest is later canceled due to weather or a scheduling issue, the default will be removed, and the contest will be played normally if it is rescheduled.

NOTE: Refund requests will not be granted for contests not played due to a default, forfeit, or weather-canceled games.

7. Please see the individual sport rules at the link below to view the stated number of participants required to begin.

[\(https://recsports.uga.edu/intramural-sports-rules/\)](https://recsports.uga.edu/intramural-sports-rules/)

INCLEMENT WEATHER/LIGHTNING POLICY

When participating in outdoor sports, the weather plays a major role in whether games can be played. If there are any questions about the playing conditions for the night, please check your email for a message from IMLeagues. The message will be updated with the most current information and sent by 3:00 PM that day, if possible. The Competitive Sports onsite staff can postpone or cancel outdoor sports at any time if deemed necessary. Intramural contests canceled due to inclement weather may or may not be rescheduled, depending on field availability and time constraints. For further information on the rescheduling of games, please refer to league sports and division play (League Sports and Division Play page 8).

1. **Lightning:** At the Recreational Sports Complex and the Club Sports Complex, our facilities are equipped with lightning detectors. If inclement weather occurs and lightning is detected within three to eight miles of the facility, participants will be asked to leave the playing areas and seek cover. At this time, games will be suspended for at least thirty minutes. Games will resume from the point at which they were paused if no lightning has occurred during this thirty-minute period. If the storm persists, the Competitive Sports staff will decide whether to cancel or continue waiting. The on-site staff will not know whether games will be rescheduled. That decision will be made by the Competitive Sports professional staff, and teams will be notified of the decision.
2. **Site Conditions and Rain:** Recreational Sports staff reserves the right to cancel games due to standing water on the playing areas or other unsafe conditions. If games are canceled due to inclement weather or poor field conditions, the fields will be closed, and teams will not be permitted to use them.

PARTICIPANT CONDUCT

1. The playing field is not a place for physical or verbal abuse, and such behavior will not be tolerated.
2. All participants are expected to comply with the [University of Georgia Code of Conduct](#).
3. Each team is responsible for the actions of its members and fans before, during, and after any game or activity. Failure of a team to cooperate with officials or to control and restrain any of its members is cause for suspension.
4. If an individual and/or spectator conducts themselves in an unsportsmanlike manner during an Intramural competition, the Competitive Sports staff have the authority to act as they deem necessary to keep the game under control. Depending on the severity of the incident, as determined by the staff, the Competitive Sports staff may take the following actions: issue warnings, eject from the game and the area, and/or suspend the game.
5. Unsportsmanlike conduct is unacceptable. The Competitive Sports staff will investigate reports of such behavior. In doing so, the individual(s) and/or team(s) involved may be questioned and required to submit a written or verbal statement regarding the incident.
6. Fighting includes, but is not limited to, combative acts such as:
 - a. An attempt to strike, punch, or kick by using a fist, hands, arms, legs, or feet regardless of whether contact is made.
 - b. An attempt to instigate a fight by committing an unsporting act that causes a person to retaliate by fighting (See NFHS Rulebooks).
7. Ejected participants and disruptive fans must leave the area immediately. Failure to comply within one minute will result in the team forfeiting the contest. If the individual refuses to provide our staff with their name or to cooperate fully with the Competitive Sports staff on site, the team will be asked for the information. If the team does not provide the individual's name, the captain will also be ejected from the contest. If the team has enough players left, the game will

either start or resume. If not, the team will forfeit. The Competitive Sports Administrative staff will follow up the next day with any further actions deemed necessary.

8. If a team is behind and fails to comply, its next game could also be defaulted, resulting in the team being ineligible for the playoffs.
9. An ejected player is suspended indefinitely until a Competitive Sports professional staff member reinstates them.
10. A participant who commits two (2) unsportsmanlike penalties or fouls in a game will be ejected from the game and will be subject to sanctions listed on page 14 in the Disciplinary and Ejection Policy section of this guide.
11. **If a team receives two ejections during the season, it will not be eligible for the post-season tournament. If a team's second ejection occurs in a playoff game, the game will be terminated immediately, and the opposing team will advance in the bracket.**
12. Unsportsmanlike behavior after a game may result in suspension and/or a default in the next game.
13. Any incident deemed to be of serious concern will be referred to University Police and/or the Office of Student Conduct.

MERCY RULE

Intramural Sports aims to create an environment that is enjoyable and safe for all participants. We do not currently have a mercy rule in place. If both teams are playing in the spirit of the game, play will continue. If one team begins to make a mockery of the game, the Competitive Sports staff may end the game at that time. The losing team may request that the Competitive Sports staff end the game before the game clock expires.

PROTESTS

1. A captain may protest a participant's eligibility before, during, or by 11:00 AM the day after an intramural contest. To protest a participant's eligibility, the protest must include the specifics of the protest and be submitted via email to the Competitive Sports email address, compsports@uga.edu.
 - a. **During the regular season**, if a participant is found ineligible, all games they played in will be forfeited.
 - b. **During the playoff tournament**, eligibility protests must be filed before 11:00 AM the day after the contest. If a team is found to be in violation of the eligibility guidelines, it will be removed from the tournament. The team that was faced prior to the protest will advance in the tournament; all prior rounds will remain unchanged.
 - i. If a protest is filed after the championship game and is upheld, no champion will be declared for that league. The game will not be replayed or rescheduled.
2. Protests may be filed regarding the rules at the game site. During play, if a team wants to protest, it must be made to the official or supervisor on site using the word "protest" BEFORE the play resumes. Once play has resumed, a protest will not be honored. Protests may not be filed regarding judgment calls.

APPEALS

Participants may appeal eligibility decisions to the Competitive Sports staff no later than 24 hours after the contest in question. The Competitive Sports staff do not hear appeals regarding officials' judgment calls during a game.

SPECTATOR PASSES

Those who are not members of the Ramsey Student Center and wish to watch an Intramural contest in the facility must check in at the admissions desk to gain access.

UNIFORM AND JEWELRY

Jewelry

1. The following items are prohibited for participants to wear:
 - a. Earrings with hoops
 - b. Casts
 - c. Combat boots, five-fingered (Vibram) shoes, open-toed shoes, metal cleats
 - d. Participating without footwear
 - e. Rigid or pointed jewelry that, in the staff's opinion, may harm any participant

2. Other jewelry (rings, necklaces, ankle bracelets, watches, fitness trackers, non-hoop earrings, rubber bands, etc.) that is not prohibited by the above rules may be worn during activities that do not involve frequent contact with opponents or teammates. (Examples include, but are not limited to, volleyball, softball, dodgeball, tennis, pickleball, badminton, racquetball, and kickball).
3. In activities that involve frequent contact with opponents or teammates (examples include, but are not limited to, basketball, flag football, soccer, and ultimate frisbee), exposed jewelry is prohibited. Participants will be removed from the contest at any time if jewelry becomes exposed and will be allowed to return once the jewelry is removed. Religious medallions and medical alert bracelets may be worn in any activity and may display appropriate information. If participants arrive with jewelry, it must be secured and covered by the participant before they arrive on site. Staff will not provide materials to cover any jewelry, religious medallions, or medical alert bracelets. Participant safety will be the primary factor in any questions regarding jewelry.

Uniforms

4. Teams listed as the home team on the schedule will be required to wear light-colored jerseys, and teams listed as the visitor team on the schedule will be required to wear dark jerseys. No gray shirts are permitted for any players.
5. Additional sport-specific equipment and uniform policies are outlined in the individual sport rules.

FACILITY

1. No alcohol or tobacco products are allowed at any Intramural sports site. Any team or its spectators found in violation of this policy are subject to removal from the facility and suspension from the Competitive Sports program.
2. No animals or bikes are allowed on the playing fields. Teams found in violation will be suspended from the Intramural Program.
 - a. UGA Registered Service Animals are permitted at the facilities. A Service Animal tag and a Guide Dog ID card must be presented when bringing a service animal into the facilities.
3. At the Rec Sports Complex: All vehicles must be parked in a marked parking space in the surface lot or the parking deck. Park at your own risk. Parking services will ticket and/or tow vehicles parked illegally.

EXTRAMURAL TOURNAMENTS

Participation in Intramural Sports at The University of Georgia allows students to connect with one another and build friendships within the campus community. Some sports offer students at UGA the chance to connect with others at other universities while competing at a higher level and representing UGA. These extramural tournaments take place at the state, regional, and national levels for flag football, basketball, and soccer.

Teams interested in participating in these tournaments should be on the lookout for on-campus qualifying tournaments and state tournament dates. If you or your team are interested in competing at the next level, please contact the Competitive Sports Staff at any time for information and updates.

DISCIPLINARY AND EJECTION POLICY

The following suspensions result from a participant being ejected from a contest.

Minimum Suspensions:

1. All suspensions for **Intramural Sports programming are immediate and indefinite** until the participant meets a Competitive Sports administrative staff member. All suspensions listed below are minimums and may be increased at the discretion of the Competitive Sports staff.
2. Suspensions will not begin until the suspended player meets with a Competitive Sports administrative staff member. At the discretion of the Competitive Sports staff, a suspension may include loss of facility access.

Student Identification Card Infraction:

Any participant who attempts to fraudulently use a UGA 81# ID Card may be suspended for one (1) semester from all activities sponsored by the Competitive Sports program. The rightful owner of the UGA ID Card may also be suspended for one (1) semester from all activities sponsored by the Competitive Sports program.

Reinstatement Meetings:

Ejected players must email the compsports@uga.edu account to schedule a meeting with a Competitive Sports administrative staff member.

Ejection Category	Punishment
Level 1	Meeting or email for a warning, no minimum suspension
Level 2	Indefinite suspension until reinstatement meeting, minimum one game suspension
Level 3	Indefinite suspension until reinstatement meeting, minimum two game suspension
Level 4	Indefinite suspension until reinstatement meeting, minimum one season suspension or three games
Level 5	Indefinite suspension until reinstatement meeting, minimum suspension of calendar year