



## **POLICY STATEMENT 13 GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR NON-VARSITY ATHLETICS**

### **POLICY DIGEST**

Monitoring Unit: Office of Student Life & Enrollment  
Initially Issued: June 10, 1975  
Last Revised: April 1, 2016

### **I. PURPOSE**

To establish guiding principles for non-varsity athletics of LSU.

### **II. DEFINITIONS**

Instructionally related athletics are those for which academic credit can be given (i.e., Physical Education classes).

Intramural Sports are voluntary recreational activities open to all students. Competition is between LSU students groups or individual students.

Club Sports are sport interest groups that meet regularly for on-campus recreation or for competition with off-campus teams. Club Sports II are open to undergraduate students, faculty, and staff. They are coached by volunteers. Club Sports I have eligibility rules and scheduled competition with other colleges and universities, and usually have paid coaches.

### **III. GENERAL POLICY**

- A. All instructionally related athletics will be administered and directed by the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education. It is the responsibility of the Chairman of the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education to insure that these programs are conducted in accordance with the provisions of Title IX Guidelines.
- B. The Intramural and Campus Recreation Program will be carried out within the overall program of the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education. To recommend policies and objectives for these programs, an Intramural and Campus Recreation Policy Committee will be established with membership as follows: one staff person and one faculty person appointed by the President; one faculty person appointed by the Chairman of the Health, Physical and Recreation Education Department; one person appointed by the President of the Student Government Association; one person appointed by the Assistant Coordinator for Campus Recreation; the chairperson of the Women's and Men's League Committees. It is the responsibility of the Coordinator of Intramural Sports and Campus Recreation to make certain that these programs are carried out in accordance with the provisions of Title IX Guidelines.
- C. The organization for Intramural and Campus Recreation is attached as Exhibit I.

- D. All Club Sports programs are conducted under the administrative direction of a Coordinator of Club Sports in the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education. Current examples of Club Sports for men are rugby, soccer, lacrosse and cricket. Current examples of co-recreational Club Sports are archery, judo, basketball, swimming, tennis, volleyball, gymnastics and tract.
- E. The Chairman of the Department of Health, Physical and Recreational Education will consult with appropriate University officials and propose to the President an operating policy for the University to follow with respect to injuries sustained by participants in instructional, intramural and club sports programs.
- F. The Department of Athletics operates the Varsity athletic program of the University; these operations are financially self-sustaining. Income comes from gate receipts and other event-related sources and, in addition, each semester each student has included in his/her general University fee an amount which is, in effect, an admission fee to all Varsity sports events. This is collected by the University during the process of registration and is budgetarily transferred to the Department of Athletics.
- G. To facilitate the transition from Club Sports status to Varsity status, each year certain team sports can be named by the President to Club Sports I status. This brings increased levels of financial and institutional support for the programs during the operating year. Club Sports I programs to be recommended to the President for designation in the 1975-76 year are the women's program in basketball, the women's program in swimming, the women's program in tennis, the women's program in gymnastics, and the women's program in volleyball. All other club sports are in the Club Sports II status. Club Sports II status is the more traditional conceptual status of Club Sports programs.
- H. Club Sports I have several distinguished characteristics. They have assigned coaches who are usually paid, though these coaches normally are only assigned part-time to their coaching responsibilities with respect to a particular club sport. The coaches usually will be regular University employees and they may have joint appointments with other departments or they may have multiple duties within the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education. There are a limited number of partial scholarships available to participants in Club Sports I. There are eligibility and transfer rules for participation in Club Sports I. The completion in Club Sports I is especially intercollegiate in nature.
- I. The organization for Club Sports is attached as Exhibit II.
- J. Club Sports I status is a transition status and it is anticipated that should sufficient fan and participant interest develop, these sports will move to Varsity status. This would imply that the responsibility for the administration of these sports would be transferred to the Athletic Department at the time they are designated as Varsity sports. As a result of this future potential relationship, it is necessary that there be a close working relationship between the Department of Athletics and the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education with regard to matters involving Club Sports. The Department of Athletics will provide logistical and operational support to Club Sports I programs-- though not necessarily at the same level and to the same extent as is provided for Varsity sports. This support will include (though not limited to) use of the training room facilities, sports information assistance crowd control etc.
- K. The progress of Club Sports I teams will be reviewed each year and teams may be elevated to

regular Varsity status, maintained in Club Sports I status for further development, or returned to Club Sports II status. This decision will be made each year by the President with the advice of the Club Sports Advisory Council through the Athletic Council. Approval for movement of a team's status from Varsity designation to Club Sports I or II status is made by the President on the advice of the Athletic Council. The Chairman of the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education may designate any new team to Club Sports II status, but only the President may approve the designation of a new team to Club Sports I status or to Varsity status.

- L. To advise and assist the operation of Club Sports program, a Club Sports Advisory Council has been established. The members of this Council are as follows: one faculty member representative of the Athletic Council designated by the Chairman of the Athletic Council with the consent of the Athletic Council; the Director of Athletics or his designated representative; a representative of the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education selected by the Chairman of the Department; one person designated by the President; one person designated by the President of the Student Government Association; one person designated by the Vice President for Student Life & Enrollment.
- M. This group will elect a Chairperson from their ranks. This Advisory Council will report to the University's Athletic Council. Among the duties of this Club Sports Advisory Council will be advised the Coordinator of Club Sports on policies, programs and procedures to operate and promote the status of Club Sports I teams and to facilitate their achieving Varsity status. The Coordinator of Club Sports will submit the Club Sports operating budget to the Club Sports Advisory Council at the beginning of each year, and they will approve in principle the division of financial resources among the various Club Sports programs. They will establish eligibility and transfer rules for Club Sports I teams.
- N. Club Sports will be financially supported by a line item budget in the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education. Funds for this budgetary support will come from the Department of Athletics and from the General Fund of the University in a manner established by the President with the advice and guidance of the Director of Athletics, the Chairman of the Department of Health, Physical and Recreation Education, and the campus Budget Committee.