

# UTC Campus Recreation INTRAMURALS Handbook



Welcome to the Intramural Sports Program at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. Our goal is to support the mission of UTC Campus Recreation providing holistic experiences that educate and empower members of the University and Chattanooga community.

Divisions are offered for men's, women's, and co-recreational play for students and members of all skill levels and interests. All leagues, tournaments, and events are organized in order to provide an environment that both supports a competitive atmosphere but also one that is fun, friendly, and safe.

Our professional and student staff are focused on providing the best experience possible for all participants in our program. Our student supervisors, officials, and scorekeepers are an essential part of our program and the product it provides to UTC.

This handbook is designed to provide a complete background on the policies and procedures of the Intramural Program at UTC. We strongly encourage each participant to review the information provided in this handbook before participating in any of our programs.

It is the responsibility of each participant to know the policies and procedures of the Intramural Sports Program and comply with these policies at all times.

**Contact Information** 

Campus Recreation Main Office (423) 425-4213

**Coordinator of Intramurals** 

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Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Intramural Office at the UTC Sports Complex or the Campus Recreation office located at the ARC.

#### Social Media

Facebook- UTC Campus Recreation Twitter- @UTC\_Campus\_Rec Instagram- @utccampusrec

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#### **Registration Procedures**

1. All sport registrations are started on the IMLeague website. Once on the IMLeague home screen, search for UTC under the schools section. Login with your utc email and password to create your account.

2. Once you log into IMLeagues, all current intramural league options and events for UTC Intramurals will be shown. Click on any sport you would like to register for and select a division to create a team.

3. Each Division visible in the middle of the screen shows the respective league, game time played during the week (Game Slots), and the description of the division.

4. Once you decide on a division that is appropriate for you, click on it to begin the registration process. You will then see additional details about the division and can click the "create a team" button to join.

5. You will next be prompted to register as either a team, join a team already created, or as a free agent player for that specific division. Registering as a team will prompt you to create your team name.

6. If you desire to register as a free agent, see Free Agent section below.

7. Once you create a team, you will be prompted to sign the IMLeague Intramural Waiver required for participation in all intramural sports activities. This is required to advance through the process.

8. Next, you will be required to enter an emergency contact for yourself in case of injury/emergency.

9. The final step before finalizing the registration process is completing a short quiz (in most cases) about participation in the sport. All answers are located in the Intramural Handbook and specific sport rules for the individual sport located on the UTC Intramurals page. Team Captains are expected to understand the rules of the league and be able to communicate them to other team members.

10. You should now see the team you registered in the desired league and at the time slot you selected. Invite or add your team members to your team, or be sure that you have joined the correct team.

### Levels of Competition

For all season long sports, divisions are available for participation to allow for different skills levels. For most sports there are typically a Men's, Women's, and Co-Recreational league offered. Participants may only participate in one Men's/Women's league AND one Co-Recreational League.

Co-Recreational leagues allow for the participation of participants of any gender while utilizing unique rules. (See specific sport rules for details).

Within each league, divisions are available that provide opportunities for various groups/skill levels. Fraternity and Sorority leagues are available for participation for Fraternities and Sororities who wish compete only against other teams in Greek Life. Each team member must be a current, active member of his/her organization to be eligible to participate in this league.

Be aware that participation in a Fraternity/Sorority league DOES count as participation in a Men's/Women's league and a participant cannot participate in another Men's/Women's team.

Within Men's, Women's, and Co-Recreational Leagues are Competitive and Recreational divisions. Competitive divisions are designed for participants who desire a challenge and are typically somewhat familiar with the specific sport. League champions will receive a Intramural Champions T-Shirt.

Recreational leagues are designed for participants who are typically somewhat new to the specific sport and are looking just to get involved in the sport for fun.

#### Scheduling

Schedules are published for sports/event on IMLeagues for both team captains and participants to view.

For season long sports, participants are required to sign up for their preferred time on the corresponding league they are interested in. Examples include "Monday and Wednesday 9pm" and "Tuesday 7pm". Teams will play on these dates each week for the duration of the season. (EXCEPTION: When leagues do not fill, some teams will be asked to be moved to other time slots in order to balance/effectively schedule leagues. Teams will be contacted prior to being moved to another time.)

Schedules are typically available at least 2 days prior to the start of the season. Teams are asked to communicate schedule conflicts with the Intramural Office as soon as possible to effectively make changes. Be aware that not all conflicts can be accommodated and will be judged on a case by case basis.

#### Team Captains

Team Captains are a vital part of the Intramural Sports program and its success. Intramural Sport team captains are the conduit between the Intramural Office and each team for any issues during the season. Team Captains are also responsible for being effective leaders on the playing surface by professionally communicating with all Intramural Staff.

Team Captains are expected to communicate effectively through both email and phone with the Intramural Sports office and Intramural Coordinator. Any team issues, scheduling changes, or overall concerns will be directly communicated with the Team Captain of each team. Captains are expected

to relay this information to their team effectively and effectively control their team during play.

Captains are heavily encouraged to communicate early and often with the Intramural Sports office about any issues that arise while participating in Intramural Sports.

#### Free Agents

Interested participants who do not have a team for a particular sport/event are encouraged to sign up as a "Free Agent". Being a Free Agent allows a participant to join a specific sport and make themselves available for other teams to identify and potentially pick up.

In order to become a Free Agent, first select the division of the particular sport you are interested in on IMLeagues. If you are eligible to join the particular sport, you will be prompted to choose between creating a team, joining a team, or registering as a "Free Agent". Select "Register as a Free Agent" and you will be placed on a list of available players that each team captain can see.

If you are a team captain that is interested in picking up a Free Agent, you must first visit the "My Teams" page. Once there, first check the box labeled "Interested in Free Agents". This will list your team for all Free Agents to be able to view when they register. To add Free Agents, click the "Pending Roster" tab on your My Teams page. There you will be a "Browse Free Agents" button that will allow you to browse all Free Agents that are available.

#### **Team Rosters**

For any sport, teams are required to add participants to their roster through the IMLeagues portal. Active and accurate rosters are a requirement for participation and help to ensure a smooth process during sport sign-ins. Team Captains adding players to their roster are responsible for knowing if a participant is eligible to participate in that specific league (see Participant Eligibility).

Teams may add players at any point during the regular season of an individual sport. Once playoff schedules are posted, rosters are frozen and teams may no longer add another participant to their team. Be aware that in order for a participant to be eligible to participate in playoff games, they must have participated in at LEAST ONE game during the regular season with that team.

Once a player has participated at least one time with a team, they are no longer eligible to be moved to another team's roster.

## Participant Eligibility

The Intramural Sports staff does not assume the responsibility for checking upon the eligibility of each individual participating, but any case of ineligibility called to the staff's attention will be dealt with according to the following policies:

Team Captains are responsible for checking the eligibility of their own players.

- 1. Participants must present a valid UTC ID or government issued photo ID in order to participate in any intramural activity.
- 2. Any individual may participate in accordance with their personal gender identity in good faith.
- 3. An electronic waiver must be signed by each participant PRIOR to participating in any Intramural Sports activity (available to be signed when creating a team on IMLeagues).
- 4. Students: Only students who are currently enrolled and have a current membership at the ARC are eligible to participate in Intramural Activities. If you are not able to access any of the Campus Recreation facilities due to not having a membership or other restrictions, you will not be eligible to participate in Intramurals.
- 5. Faculty and Staff: Faculty and staff who are employed full-time or part-time by the University of Tennessee Chattanooga are eligible to participate in Intramural Sports. Faculty and Staff members MUST have a current ARC membership in order to participate.
- 6. Spouses/Domestic Partners of Current Students or Faculty/Staff: Spouses and Domestic Partners of Current Students or Faculty/Staff are eligible to participate in Intramurals with an ARC membership.
- 7. Men must compete in the Men's or Co-Rec division and Women must compete in the Women's or Co-Rec Division. In the event that a gender specific league is not available, a participant may participate in a different league with permission from the Intramural Sports Coordinator.
- Any individual who participates in a varsity or junior varsity sports at the intercollegiate level is ineligible to participate in that related Intramural Sport during the same academic year. Application of this rule applies to red shirt, walk-ons, transfer, and junior college athletes from any 2-year or 4-year institution.
  - a. A participant who meets any of the following criteria is considered to be a varsity/junior varsity athlete:
    - i. Name appears on an official intercollegiate varsity or JV roster during the academic year. This includes players who are listed on a roster but are not receiving financial assistance and players listed on the roster who leave the varsity/JV team during the academic year.
    - ii. Ii. Has competed in an intercollegiate contest
- Each team may include a maximum of two (2) players on its roster who are members of a UTC Club Sports team for that related Intramural Sport. A participant is considered to be a current member of a sport club for the entire academic year in which he/she participates with that sport club.

#### **Rescheduling Games**

As teams are responsible for selecting the individual dates that they participate, Intramural Sports will not accept requests to reschedule regular season games at any time.

During playoffs, rescheduled requests will be accepted if the team has another playoff game scheduled at the same time and the majority of the team's players are affected by this conflict.

Any reschedule request must be made 2 days prior before the day of your game. Be aware the submitting a request to the Intramural Coordinator does not guarantee your game will be changed.

#### **Inclement Weather**

Intramural Sports events are subject to cancellation/postponement due to inclement weather or unsafe playing conditions. In the event Intramural Sports games are cancelled, all team's captains will be communicated with via email regarding the cancellation. In the event of games being rescheduled from inclement weather, captains will be contacted via phone or email. Games will be played rain or shine at the Sports Complex unless otherwise noted.

#### Attire & Equipment

Appropriate attire is required for participation in all Intramural Sports contests. See specific sport rules for attire requirements. Most activities require athletic footwear in order to participate. Must be closed toe and closed heel footwear.

All Intramural Sports participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment to any Intramural Sports contest. In most cases, Intramural Sports provides all required equipment needed for participation (ex. Gloves, Footballs, Jerseys). If equipment is needed to participate that is not provided by UTC Intramural Sports, participants will be notified prior for registering for the event.

All outside equipment must be approved by the intramural supervisor prior to its use.

Teams are strongly recommended to wear matching shirts and colors while having a back up color to avoid conflicts.

# Forfeits & Defaults

The goal of the Intramural Sports program is to involve its participants in an active program. If a team forfeits a game, the objectives of the program are not met and students, faculty, and staff are deprived of active participation. It is with this principle in mind that the following rules governing defaults and forfeits have been made.

Defaults will be assessed to a team if they are able to notify the Intramural Sports office prior to 4pm on the day of their game. If a team does not notify the Intramural Sports Office prior to 4pm on the day of the game, a Forfeit will be assessed. For any default assessed, the game will be recorded as a loss to the team unable to play and teams will be notified that the game will not be played. A sportsmanship rating of 3 will be assigned to both teams. Each team is only permitted one Default per sport's season. A second default will be treated as a forfeit and will result in any applicable penalties for a forfeited game.

Forfeits will be assessed to a team for the following reasons:

- 1. Failure to show up at a scheduled game (no show or not having the minimum # of players)
  - a. A forfeit will be declared if an individual or team fails to have the minimum number of players required to start the game at the scheduled start time. Game time is forfeit time. In this event, the opposing captain will be given the option to either take the win by forfeit or wait 10 minutes until the minimum number of players shows up for the opposing team. Once a captain decides to wait, the decision is irreversible and the game clock will begin at the scheduled game time.
- 2. Use of a player who is ineligible to participate
  - a. If a participant is deemed not eligible under Intramural Sports guidelines (see Participant Eligibility), their team will be assessed a forfeit for any game they participate(d) in.
- 3. Excessive unsportsmanlike conduct by team
  - a. A team receiving three unsportsmanlike penalties or technical fouls in a game will receive a forfeit for that game.

For any Forfeit assessed, the game will be recorded as a loss. A sportsmanship rating of 3 will be given to both teams and the team receiving a forfeit will not be eligible to participate in the playoffs of that particular sport. Any team receiving its second forfeit will automatically be dropped from further competition in that sport.

#### Protests

If during an Intramural contest a team believes that an error has been made in terms of enforcement of a rule, the captain of the team may file an official protest. Please note that any judgement calls cannot be protested.

In order to file an official protest, the team captain must inform the officials immediately the he or she would like to protest the decision that was made. This action MUST come before the next play or action in the game. Once another play has begun, the enforcement of the rule is no longer protest able.

In the event of a protest, the game will be stopped and all information regarding the game will be recorded by the Intramural Staff (game time, score, what rule is being protested). If the ruling can be resolved on the spot, the Intramural Sports Supervisor will make a ruling and the game will continue. If the call cannot be resolved, the game will continue under protest and the Intramural Sports Coordinator will review the protest the next business day. If the protest is successful, the game will be replayed from the point in which the protest was started.

#### Participant Conduct

All participants in Intramural Sports are expected to act in accordance with the University of Tennessee Chattanooga's Student Code of Conduct. Intramural Sports are not a venue for verbal or physical abuse of staff, players, or spectators.

There is absolutely no alcohol or drugs allowed before, during, or immediately after intramural play. UTC is a tobacco free campus, any participant, coach, or spectator found in violation of this will be removed immediately.

Any violation of the Student Code of Conduct is subject to referral to the University for Disciplinary Action.

#### **Ejections and Misconduct**

Intramural staff reserves the right to remove any participant or spectator from play at any point for any reason they see fit if it affects the overall safety or spirit of the game.

If the event of misconduct by participants in violation of the Intramural Sports policies and procedures, participants are subject to ejection from the Intramural Sports event. In the event of an ejection, the participant in no longer eligible to participate in any Intramural Sports activity until they meet with the Intramural Sports Coordinator.

#### **Sport Champions**

All champions of Intramural Sports leagues will be provided Intramural Championship shirts upon completion of the playoff bracket. Each league has limits on the amound of T-shirts they will receive if they win their league.

Champions will also have the option to have their picture taken after their championship victory.

#### Extramurals

UTC Intramural Sports participants are afforded the opportunity to participate in state, regional, and national tournaments. These tournaments give participants from UTC the opportunity to compete against other intramural teams on the state, regional, and national level. If your team is interested in participating at any of these events, contact the Coordinator of Intramural Sports or visit our website.

# **Campus Recreation Contact Information**

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