



MACQUARIE
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MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY SOCIAL SPORT PARTICIPATION GUIDE



SOCIAL SPORT PARTICIPATION GUIDE

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PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF SOCIAL SPORT COMPETITIONS

The purpose of the social sport program is to provide an opportunity for everybody, whether a student, staff, Sport and Aquatic member or general community members to take part in competitive and non- competitive recreational sport activities.

The objectives of the social sport competitions are as follows:

1. To provide opportunities for social contact and development of lasting friendships.
2. To encourage and provide opportunities for participants to develop a positive attitude to lifetime recreation.
3. To provide an opportunity for everyone, regardless of their skill abilities to compete/learn their desired sport.
4. To provide opportunities for personal growth and leadership development.
5. To have set procedures and policies to produce a consistent high level of customer services across all social sporting competitions.

ELIGIBILITY /AGE LIMIT

To participate in Macquarie University Sport competitions all participants must be over the age of 16 years.

Eligibility status is the responsibility of each individual participant and team captain. To be eligible to compete in the competitions every player must be on a team roster. Macquarie University Sport does not assume the responsibility for the eligibility of participants but will assist in the interpretation of the rules and question cases brought to its attention. Macquarie University Sport reserves the right to check eligibility when deemed appropriate. Teams may request to have eligibility checked; however, the request must apply to specific individuals (see protests).

REGISTRATION

In order to compete in the competitions all participants must register and make due payment with Macquarie University Sport, before the registration closure dates. Only participants registered on team rosters or as an individual can participate in social sport competitions.

Registering a Team

In order to register a team, a captain must complete the team registration form and register the team online. Forms will NOT be accepted if partially completed (positions in competitions will not be held for teams who have not completed their form entirely). When registering a team, it is important you know the personal details of every team member you are registering.

Registering as an Individual

Participants who register as an individual will be allocated a team once registration closes. Participants must complete the online registration form. Please note that forms will NOT be accepted if partially completed.



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LEAGUE DIFFERENTIATION / FORMAT

Macquarie University Sport offers different divisions and grades to accommodate for players of all skill and ability. Please note Macquarie University Sport reserves the right to modify the division teams have applied for within the first two weeks of competition according to ability and/or prior performance.

Below is the list of sports offered with their divisions/grades explained:

Touch Footy: *min 6 max 12*

- Mixed Division - This division is for all mixed team. The mixed division requires minimum two (2) women on the field at all times.

Netball: *min 7 max 12*

- Monday Night Mixed - This division is for teams that are looking for a social competition.
- Tuesday Night Mixed - This division is for teams that are looking for a social competition

Football: 7-a-side *min 7 max 12*

- Mixed Division - The mixed division require minimum two (2) women on the field at all times.

Basketball: *min 5 max 10*

- Open Division - This division is open to all teams. There is no minimum or maximum amount of males/females.

Volleyball: *min 7 max 12*

- Mixed Division - The mixed division require minimum two (2) women on the field at all times.

CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The captain will be the main point of contact for Macquarie University Sport and will be the only player in the team to receive all relevant information relating to their competition. It is the captain's responsibility to inform his/her team of rules/regulations, schedules, and policies. Captains will be held responsible for the behaviour of teammates and spectators. Only captains may make protests or change the team roster.

Prior to the start of the competition the team captain will receive all relevant information regarding draws and timetables.

Prior to game time, the captain is responsible for ensuring that all players have signed in with the Sport Officer. Following the game, both captains must sign the score sheet to confirm that the game is recorded correctly and may give official comments if they choose. Captains are urged to notify all players and supporters that alcohol, tobacco and other illegal substances are prohibited at all playing venues and that no one is permitted to participate while under the influence of said substances.

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Jewellery (rings, watches, necklaces, ankle bracelets, earrings, rubber bands, etc.) and 'casts' are prohibited. Religious medallions may be worn so long as they are taped to the body or tucked into clothing. Medical alert bracelets must be taped with proper information visible. Proper shoes are required in all sports.



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TEAM ROSTERS & CHANGES

All competitions have a maximum number of players allowed to be registered for a team. Only players that have been registered on the team rosters are allowed to play. Team rosters are used throughout the season to ensure fair play amongst all teams.

A player may be dropped from a roster one time only, during the regular season. It is the team captain's responsibility to notify the Sport Officer of the roster change. The dropped player may be replaced on the team roster during the regular season; the replacement player will need to be added to the roster. The team captain will need to notify the Sport Officer of the changes.

If teams do not have full rosters they will be able to add a player to the roster anytime during the regular season. To be added to a roster, new participants and their team captain must see the Sport Officer prior to competing.

Please note that any roster changes must be made prior to the last round of the regular season and will NOT BE PERMITTED before or during competition finals.

T-SHIRT POLICY/UNIFORM GUIDELINE

Matching coloured team shirts/bibs will be required in all social sport competitions, certain sports may require playing number (refer to individual sport rules). The team is required to have all players wear the same shade of colour to every game.

In the case of team wearing similar colour t-shirts, the Sport Officer will provide bibs.

OFFICIAL'S RATING

At the conclusion of the game/match, team captains are asked to sign the game sheet, approving the final score, as well as giving written feedback on game officials. These comments should be written with the intent to help improve the quality of the officiating in our program and will not have an effect on the official's employment status or future regular season assignments.

PROTESTS

Only a protest relating to players' eligibility will be accepted. Protests challenging the accuracy of a judgement calls made by the officials or Sport Officer will not be accepted.

Protest relating to player's eligibility

If a team requests to check the eligibility of a player on another team, they must immediately contact the Sport Officer on duty either before, at half time or within 5 minutes after the game has concluded. Protests will not be accepted at any other period. Any team protesting eligibility must provide the players name in question in full.

In the case of a protest relating to a player's eligibility the Sport Officer on duty reserves the right to ask the individual in question for identification. If the individual refuses or fails to show proper identification or cooperate fully with the Sport Officer onsite they may be asked to leave the game. In the case of failure to provide proper identification that team may be forced to forfeit that game and be subject to removal from the competition. Both teams must accept the casual Sport Officer's decision no matter the outcome.



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Protests relating to Officiating

All individuals and teams competing in Macquarie University Sport competitions agree to accept officiating calls / judgements. Please note that in NO case will a game's outcome be changed other than protests relating to players' eligibility.

Macquarie University Sport encourages feedback on the performance of officials; however, teams must follow the official's rating procedure outlined in the document.

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

The disciplinary policy is applicable to players, teams and officials from any Macquarie University Sport competition. It outlines the process of complaints and how Macquarie University Sport will handle player, team and spectator behaviour. It is important to familiarise yourself with the below actions. Additionally, this policy must be communicated to all officials.

Player behaviour within a game

- First Offence - The sports officer will approach the individual and issue a verbal warning.
- Second Offence - Should the behaviour continue, or the Sport Official feels the first incident was substantial. A final verbal warning is issued.
- Third Offence - Once the player has received two verbal warnings, they are to wait 5 minutes on the sideline because of the players actions.

Team/Spectator behaviour within a game

- First Offence - Should a team or spectator/s of a team behave in an inappropriate way, verbally or physically, the game will be stopped, and a verbal warning will be issued by the Sport Official to the team captain.
- Second Offence - The Sport Official will issue a final verbal warning and explain the consequences, should the team or spectator/s of a team continue the conduct.
- Third Offence - Should the behaviour continue, or the Sport Official feels the first incident was substantial, the team/spectator will be asked to leave the grounds and will forfeit that game and the opposing team will win on forfeit grounds. If the incident occurs at the Sport & Aquatic Centre the Duty Manager will be radioed to advise of the situation and assist with the incident.

Macquarie University Sport reserves the right to:

- Stop play during a game to ensure the emotional or physical safety of competitors or officials, and/or to request assistance from higher authorities.
- Ask a player or team to leave the game and/or the venue **in the first instance** should the behaviour be excessive or substantial enough to do so. This includes, but is not limited to: physical or verbal abuse and deliberate unsportsmanlike play likely to cause injury.
- Remove a team, or player, from the competition, without refund, should inappropriate behaviour continue during the season. This will be in accordance with grievance form lodged, Macquarie University Sport standards and receipt of formal warnings.



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Official/Administrator Behaviour

If a team or player believes an official is conducting themselves in an inappropriate manner, then the Sport Officer must be informed straight away. If the behaviour should continue, then the player or team may lodge a complaint form against the official.

If a team or player believes the Sport Officer is conducting themselves in an inappropriate manner, then the player or team may lodge a complaint form against the Sport Officer.

Under no circumstances does poor conduct excuse players or officials from reciprocal action. It is the responsibility of the officials to ensure everyone involved always acts in a safe and appropriate way.

GRIEVANCE FORM

The grievance form is designed for participants, officials, or casual Sport Officers of Macquarie University Sport competitions to lodge a formal complaint of inappropriate behaviour about another player, team or officials.

Inappropriate behaviour can include, but is not limited to, aggressive language or body language, physical abuse, dangerous acts, rudeness, abusive or detrimental language, disrespect, racial remarks, gender specific remarks or any other behaviour deemed negative or not in the spirit of the game.

If a participant, team or officials would like to submit a formal complaint in relation to any of the above, the casual Sport Officer must have the party submit a grievance form.

Grievance forms must be lodged within forty-eight hours (48hrs) of the incident occurring. Forms can be obtained from the Sport Officer.

EJECTIONS

Macquarie University Sport reserves the right to eject any individual, team or spectator who interrupts the flow of a game in any manner. Players may be ejected before, during or after any game and ejections can be made by any official or the Sport Officer. The jurisdiction of the Sport Officer and staff begins when the participant/spectator enters the precinct/venue/field/court and ends when the involved persons leave the venue in which the game/match is being held and the visual confines of the playing area. Any ejected player(s) must leave the playing area and venue immediately. If the player refuses to leave within a reasonable time, the game will be forfeited. Captains must assist Macquarie University Sport staff with retrieving the ejected participant's identification.

Ejected players are ineligible to participate in all Macquarie University Sport activities until they meet with the Sport Officer. The player must e-mail or call the Sport Officer and schedule an appointment to seek reinstatement. For more information concerning general length of game suspensions, please consult our suspension guidelines.

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Repeated unsportsmanlike conduct issues will be monitored by the Macquarie University Sport staff and participants demonstrating a pattern of unsportsmanlike behaviour are subject to suspension from all Macquarie University Sport activities.

FORFEITS

- Teams that forfeit their game will not be refunded for the game forfeited. Teams who have their opposition forfeit will not be refunded but will be awarded 3 points for the win and added goal difference. Macquarie University Sports and Aquatic Centre staff will endeavour for a friendly game to still go ahead with a different opposition.
A team must attend every game coordinated for the season or notify U@MQ if they cannot attend a fixtured game. In this instance a forfeit will result.
- A forfeit may be declared if a game does not start within 10 minutes of the allocated starting time.

LADDER/RESULTS CALCULATION

In the case of most sports (unless specified in the rules) teams will receive the following competition points, which will determine their position on the ladder:

- Win = 3 Points
- Draw = 1 Point
- Loss = 0 Points
- Forfeit = -3 Points

CANCELLATIONS/RESCHEDULING

During inclement weather (including lightning), the Sport Officer, Officials or Macquarie University Sport staff at the site can cancel games. Macquarie University Sport will make every reasonable effort to inform teams of cancellations, such as utilising e-mail or the Sport Fields Wet Weather line (02 9850 9488). In some cases, the Sports Officer will call the team captains, though due to the number of teams playing per night this is not always possible. Do not assume the game will be cancelled, as weather is very unpredictable.

In the case of a cancellation of games, Macquarie University Sport will only schedule one (1) make up round. Due to various factors no more than one (1) round will be rescheduled. In most cases the rescheduled round will take place after the last round of normal competition, and the finals will be pushed back one (1) week. Team captains will be notified of the rescheduled games dates.

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FINALS SCHEDULING/FRIENDLIES

The competition season will be held as friends and scores uploaded to Fusesport. The team at the top of the ladder at the end of the season will be awarded as competition winners.

AWARDS

Winning Teams:

Winning teams of the sports will receive trophies and have their team placed on the Social Sport website.

INJURIES

Participation in Macquarie University Sport competitions is completely voluntary. These activities intrinsically involve risks of physical injury greater than those encountered in daily life, and by taking part in sports and other activities participants acknowledge and assume risks inherent therein.

Macquarie University Sport does not carry accident or injury insurance to cover participants in sports activities, unless the participant is a Macquarie University Student and properly registered for the Macquarie University Sport competition. If participants are not Macquarie University students, they will fall under the Macquarie University Public Liability Insurance. Therefore, participants competing in Macquarie University Sport sporting competitions are strongly urged to purchase health insurance before participating in any activity.

Macquarie University Sport provides Sport Officers who are trained to provide immediate first aid. Should an injury occur, the Sport Officer will treat the injury and manage calls to emergency services if required.

PLAYING RULES

The rules in all sports are based on National association rules with modifications, where appropriate, to make the activity safe and enjoyable for the players while attempting to maintain the identity of the game. Macquarie University Sport reserves the right to modify playing rules at any time. The rules of each sport will be discussed at the captain's meeting for that sport and are also available for download on the website www.campuslife.mq.edu.au/socialsport.

Sport Officers have the authority to rule on items not specifically covered in the rules, in cases which the contest officials cannot come to a decision. The Sport Officer may also assess/conduct penalties which the game officials do not call-in order to ensure proper safety and sportsmanship, which may end games prior to normal conclusion. A game becomes official after half of its normal length has been completed.

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