Midwestern State University
Department of Recreational Sports
RULES & ELIGIBILITY

All eligibility requirements and procedures will be governed by the National Intramural – Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) with the following Midwestern State Recreational Sports Modifications.

Eligibility & Registration

- All participants must show a valid MSU ID to participate in Recreational Sports. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Participant must be an enrolled MSU student. Staff and faculty are welcomed to participate in any Rec Sports with MSU ID.
- **Teams or free agents may sign up at http://www.IMLeagues.com/MWSU**
- Updates to the roster can be made at any time before and during regular season play. This excludes playoffs and championship games. Different limits may be set for one day or two day tournaments (Assistant Director Discretion).
- Varsity athletes must sit out an entire Fall or Spring semester before participating in their specific sport. (i.e. Basketball, Flag Football, Soccer, Volleyball, etc.).
    - Example: If you are on the MSU volleyball team, you are still eligible to participant in all Rec Sports, excluding volleyball, until you sit out one full semester from your varsity athletic participation.
- Fraternity/Sorority organizations participating in intramural activities at Midwestern State University must be considered a registered student organization and in good academic standing with the Office of Student Development and Orientation for the respective semester they wish to participate.
    - Grade reports for Fall will effect participation for Spring; grade reports for Spring will effect participation for Fall.

Independent Teams & Free Agents

- All major sports (i.e. Flag Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Softball, Dodgeball, etc.) will have a Captain's Meeting prior to the season opening. A team representative is required to attend. Violation of this rule will result in a pre-registered team NOT being entered into the official tournament/league schedule.
- Teams may sign up and participate in multiple sports under the same team name.
- Once you choose your team and play 1 game, you MUST stay on that team! Team hopping is not allowed unless authorized by the Assistant Director depending on circumstance.
- Team captains are responsible for making sure all sports rules are understood clearly by their respective team.
- FREE AGENTS (i.e. those who do not belong to a team) may request to join a team but it will be at the discretion from the captain of the team being requested to join (Teams do not have to accept free agents).

Fraternities & Sororities (Below will be additional to all other rules)

- Under no circumstance can a non-Greek student participate with a sorority or fraternity in a Greek League format. Teams must consist of pledge(s) or member(s) of that particular sorority or fraternity in a Greek League format.
- During regular season play, all Greek teams will compete against each other in a Greek League format when available. Playoff and championship may differ depending on season record.
- Fraternity/sorority organizations that wish to participate must be eligible to participate in accordance with the Office of Student Development and Orientation (See Eligibility & Registration).

Game Compliance & Forfeiture

- A team will have no more than 10 minutes after their scheduled game time to have the minimum amount of eligible players present to play.
    - For every minute late, there will be a point total (different for each sport) added to the opponents score.
    - No matter the game prior, the time for teams to show up is the same and the clock will be started at or immediately after the previous game, strictly following the posted scheduled start time.
        - For example, if the 6:30PM volleyball game ends at 7:03PM, the 7:00PM game forfeit clock will still begin at 7. The entire game will be played if both teams are on time.
    - To receive a forfeit, one of the teams must have the minimum number of eligible players present.
    - All teams will be given 1 forfeit for the season. Once used, another forfeit for that team will cause elimination from the tournament.

Scheduling

- Teams will provide availability before season starts during the captain's meeting to determine when games will be played.
- The Assistant Director will schedule games with team availability as accurately as possible.
    - Scheduled games can be found on IMLeagues and will be updated daily.

Defaults

- If a team knows prior to game time that they will be unable to attend a game, they may contact the Assistant Director of Recreational Sports by 3pm the day of the game and explain.
    - A team will be allowed 2 defaults per season, but any more than 2 will disqualify them from the playoffs (subject to change per sport).
- In the event of bad weather, games will likely be rescheduled at a later date if possible (Assistant Director Discretion).

Reschedules

- To reschedule a game, a team must talk to the Assistant Director of Recreational Sports by 3pm one business day before the game. If after the minimum required timeline, it will be considered a default (See Default section above).
    - The captain wishing to move the game will need to contact the other captain and **BOTH** captains must contact the Assistant Director of Recreational Sports by phone or in-person (text and email may be used at the permission of the Assistant Director) expressing their willingness to move the game to an approved time.
    - There may not be any openings for a game to be rescheduled; therefore this is strictly on a first come first serve basis.
- The Assistant Director of Recreational Sports may approve or deny reschedules following these rules under his/her own discretion.

Protests

- A team or player may protest a team's eligibility, a player's eligibility, or a call made during the game at any time during the scheduled game time.
- In order to make a formal protest, a player/coach from either team must verbally protest to a Recreational Sports Manager (RSM).
    - Once verbally communicated to an RSM, a protest form will be filled out.
    - If a protest occurs, the game shall still be played and completed as scheduled with a score determined pending a decision on the protest.
- Each protest will be reviewed at by the Assistant Director of Recreational Sports and a decision will be made regarding the protest.

Sportsmanship

- Sportsmanship maintains the integrity and fun of recreational sports and will be taken seriously at all times.
- At the end of each game/match, the officials, managers, and any staff working will give the participating teams a sportsmanship rating of 0-4.
    - 0 will automatically be given for a forfeit.
    - No higher than a 2 will be given if a team receives a Technical Foul/Unsportsmanlike/etc.
- A team must have an average of 3.0 throughout the league to be eligible for the playoffs.
    - For example, if a team is 5-0 but their sportsmanship average is 2.9, they will not make playoffs. NO EXEPTIONS.
    - No rounding will be used for average of sportsmanship rating.
- Any type of verbal or physical abuse (unsportsmanlike) will not be tolerated and will result in ejection from the game and potential suspension from future Recreational Sports games/events/tournaments.
    - Any type of language that is deemed to be offensive or vulgar will not be tolerated and will result in ejection from the game and potential suspension from future Recreational Sports games/events/tournaments.
    - All ejections will be reviewed by the Assistant Director and will require a 1-1 meeting with ejected participant before being allowed to play again. The Assistant Director reserves the right to suspend any player for unsportsmanlike conduct if necessary.
- The Assistant Director can use discretion to determine the length and severity of suspensions.
- Officials are in charge of the game and will do their best to call each game; most officials used in Rec Sports are students in the officiating class on campus. If you disagree with a call, you can have your captain of the team communicate with the officials about it. All officials' calls are final unless otherwise decided by the Assistant Director.

Liability

- Participation in MSU Recreational Sports is on an "at will" basis. MSU Recreational Sports is not responsible for any injuries that may occur.
- Students may purchase insurance through the Vinson Health Center.
- All participants in MSU Recreational Sports will be required to sign a liability waiver form while signing up through IMLeagues before competition.

The MSU Department of Recreational Sports is not liable for any injuries that may occur while participating in its events. This includes but is not limited to, broken bones, dislocations, lacerations, or even possibly death. Please see MSU's Liability Waiver Form on IMLeagues for more information.

To request disability accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services (940) 397-4140 or debra.higginbotham@msutexas.edu, at least one week prior to the event.

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