

## Part I: Introduction to Club Sports

A Club Sport is a group of students that is voluntarily organized to further their common interests in an activity through participation and competition. The common interests should be competition, instructional, or performance-based and should promote physical activity. Each Club Sport will determine its own membership guidelines, but they must be free of any restrictions or discrimination based on race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, disability, age, or sexual orientation. Any restrictions based on gender are subject to the approval of DePaul and the Department of Campus Recreation.

While the Club Sport staff and Campus Recreation assist clubs in their operations, the emphasis is on student leadership and development. **Students are directly and ultimately responsible for all aspects of operating and managing a successful and competitive organization.** As a result, Club Sports present a unique opportunity for students to develop both athletic and leadership abilities, which will assist participants well beyond the years spent at DePaul University.

Some of the additional advantages of forming a club include:

1. Administrative assistance and guidance
2. Facility clearance and scheduling (at the Ray Meyer Fitness and Recreation Center)
3. Equipment storage and check-out –as available and on a limited basis
4. Budget preparation and presentation assistance
5. Mailboxes
6. Telephone usage – as available and on a limited basis on long distance phone calls
7. Fundraising assistance
8. Publicity and promotion
9. General supervision for on-campus practices and games
10. Copy service – as available and on a limited basis
11. Fax service
12. Assistance in the development of new clubs

**This Handbook outlines the policies and procedures of DePaul University and the Department of Campus Recreation (managed by Centers LLC) that directly affect the safety of the club sport participants and the operation of each club. All individuals who choose to participate in a club sport are required to become familiar with and agree to abide by the guidelines, rules, and requirements for club sports instituted by DePaul University and the Department of Campus Recreation, many of which are detailed in this Handbook. As such, all club sports participants, are strongly encouraged to become familiar with the material presented in this Handbook, as well as any additional guidelines established by DePaul University (particularly Student Life) or the Department of Campus Recreation. The policies and procedures outlined in this handbook are subject to change at any time, provided such changes are adequately distributed.**

**\*\*Participation in any Club Sports program as a purely voluntary activity. INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATE AT THEIR OWN RISK. It is the responsibility of each individual club sport member to be aware of the possibilities of bodily or other injury that may occur during the course of participation in a club sport, and to be aware of the fact that each participant may be responsible for any and all costs arising out of injury or property damage sustained through participation.**