RECOGNITION PROCESS
FOR NEW CLUB SPORTS

MISSION STATEMENT

The UConn Club Sports Program strives to provide leadership and athletic opportunities to students, faculty and staff. The Club Sports Program also offers coaching and spectator opportunities to the UConn and the surrounding communities. The Program offers a competitive outlet for its participants while enhancing their collegiate experience.

GOALS OF THE CLUB SPORTS PROGRAM

➢ To provide diversity in athletic competition at the University of Connecticut
➢ To provide assistance, guidance, and resources for the clubs to effectively and successfully operate; including professional staff and a governing club sports council.
➢ To provide athletic opportunities that compliment students’ collegiate experience.

DEFINITION OF A CLUB SPORT

A UConn Club Sport is a registered student organization recognized by the Club Sports Council (CSC) and formed by individuals with a common interest and desire to participate and compete in a sport or athletic activity. UConn Club Sports require that the team competes at least twice per year against a non-UConn entity. In addition to the competitive component, these club teams may also include recreational and or instructional components. Club Sport organizations are governed by a student council, assisted by professional staff and administratively supported and funded by the University. The Club Sports Program emphasizes student leadership as the club teams are organized, managed and operated all by UConn students.

CRITERIA TO BECOME AND MAINTAIN STATUS AS A CLUB SPORT

➢ Register as Student Organization with the Department of Student Activities (DSA)
➢ Designate Team Officers (President (COO), Treasurer (CFO), Secretary (SEC))
➢ Organization’s core mission must be athletic in nature
  • Activity must have physical attributes and engage in team or individual competition
➢ Compete at least twice per year against a non-UConn entity.
  • Must attend a competition/show/event where they compete against other universities or organizations.
➢ Must be able to identify viable/feasible options for practice, games, competitions etc.
  • Facilities not on the UConn Storrs Campus must be available for rental and located within a reasonable distance from the UConn Storrs Campus.
  • Facilities on the UConn Storrs Campus must be available for use by Club Sports.
➢ Must charge team player dues and have fundraising efforts
  • Team player dues are any amount that each rostered member pays either on a semesterly or annual basis. Dues can vary from club to club.
➢ Meet all submission deadlines
  • Submission of Rosters, Financial Documents and all other applicable forms must be submitted (online or in person) by deadline dates.
➢ Maintain good standing with the University
  • All UConn student organizations must abide by the University of Connecticut’s Student Code. Please refer to the University Student Code for policies on inappropriate or illegal actions. http://www.dos.uconn.edu/student_code.html.
  • All Club Sports must adhere to the terms of conditions of Blueprints: A Manual for Student Organizations - http://www.ca.uconn.edu/docs/Blueprints.pdf.
➢ Receive approval from Club Sports Council
• Council must vote on formal acceptance into the Club Sports Council.
• Acceptance into the council is achieved by receiving approval from two-thirds (2/3) of the total council membership.

➤ Actively participate in all CSC meetings
• Attendance at all Council meetings is mandatory and necessary to achieve quorum when voting.

➤ Attend all required training and workshops sponsored by CSC and DSA
• Student Activities SOLID trainings, Club Sports Officer training.

➤ Actively support and attend CSC sponsored events
• Attendance at all required Club Sport Programs and events co-sponsored by the Department of Student Activities - participation and support from our Club Sport Council members is vital to our programs.

➤ Host a minimum of two (2) community service projects per academic year.
• The club must organize or participate in two community service projects per academic year (one per semester). The Office of Community Outreach may be able to assist in finding a project.

INITIAL ACCEPTANCE PROCESS

➤ Submission of New Club Application due in February (Refer to the list of Club Sports crucial dates each year for the exact date)

The Application must include:
• A statement regarding the proposed club’s athletic and competitive nature.
• The Club’s affiliating governing body.
• Expected budget, expected income, operating costs and possible ways to generate revenue.
• Space/facility required and how often.
• The average number of members.
• The Club’s executive board (COO, CFO, SEC) and national or regional governing body.
• Functional history, why they want to become a club sport, what benefits they are going to offer the Club Sports Program and/or the UConn community.
• Any local, regional or national competitions.
• Plan to meet the Club Sport Recognition Criteria.

➤ Club Sports Executive Board and Coordinator Review
• When proposal is accepted, a meeting will occur between the Club Sports Coordinator and Council officers.
• Council Executive Board will hold a vote.
• If the Executive Board votes to accept proposed club, vote will then be brought to the council.

➤ Petitioning Organization Presentation (to full council)
• Presentation of constitution and written proposal for probationary acceptance into the Club Sports Council.

➤ Council Vote
• Club Sports Council vote must be two-thirds (2/3) of the total council membership for acceptance into the council.
• If approved, club will be granted one (1) year of “first-year probationary” status as a Club Sports Team.

➤ A team in First Year Probationary Status must:
• Attend all CSC meetings and events required by the Club Sports Program Coordinator
• Submit projected expenses and all applicable forms by the deadline dates.
• Submit end-of-semester reports
• Attend two (2) meetings per academic year with the Club Sports Coordinator and the Executive Board.
• Maintain a minimum of eight (8) members.
• Demonstrate fiscal responsibility.
• Charge team dues and conduct fundraisers
• Host two (2) community service projects per year.
• Meet all requirements but receive NO CSC Funding.
• Follow all policies set forth by the Club Sports Program.
• Maintain good standing with the University
  o Refer to the University Student Code or Blueprints: A Manual for Student Organizations for definitions and guidelines

Final Vote After probationary period
(Executive Board w/ input invited from full council)
• End of year vote by the Coordinator and Executive Board for formal acceptance into Club Sports Council and access to Club Sports Funds.
• A minimum of 80% of the student executive officers must vote in favor of formal acceptance.

Formal Acceptance into the Club Sports Program and Funding

ANNUAL RENEWAL PROCESS

• All clubs’ status will be formally reviewed each year by the Club Sports Coordinator and Executive Board.
• Additionally, the Executive Board and the Club Sports Coordinator will continuously monitor club adherence to recognition criteria.
• Decisions regarding the continued status of a team will reside with the Executive Board.

To continue to be recognized as a Club Sport, Teams must:
• Complete and submit all forms as per required deadlines
• Update the Team Constitution every two (2) years.
• Attendance at all CSC meetings, sponsored events and semestery meetings with the Club Sports Program Coordinator.
• Proof of having completed two (2) community standard project per year.
• Participation in at least two (2) competitions with a non-UConn entity per academic year.
• Charge team dues
• Follow all policies set forth by the Club Sports Program.
• Maintain good standing with the University
  -Definitions of the University Student Code and Blueprints: A Manual for Student Organizations is listed above.

Annual Status Renewal Vote
• End of year vote by the Coordinator and Executive Board (w/ input invited from full council) for continuation in Club Sports Council and access to Club Sports Funds for the following year.
• A minimum of 80% of the Executive Board must vote in favor of continued recognition.

Formal re-acceptance into the Club Sports Program and Funding

Failure to Meet Recognition Criteria

Teams may be placed on one-year probation for any of the following reasons:
• Two (2) or more unexcused absences from Council Meetings will result in probationary status.
• Consistently late or incomplete forms.
• Failure to meet with or inform Club Sports Program Coordinator for issues pertaining to the club.
• Failure to complete one (1) community service project.
• Failure to compete in two (2) competitions with a non-UConn affiliate per academic year.
• Failure to charge Team Player Dues.
• Failure to attend required training, workshops, and events sponsored by CSC and DSA.
• Failure to represent the Council and or University in an appropriate manner.
• Failure to obtain 80% of available points by the end of the academic year

Probationary Notes

• Probationary status will last one (1) year beginning at the start of the following semester.
• Appeals can be made on a case by case basis to the Club Sports Program Coordinator.
• USG will be notified of organizations placed on probationary status. (This may impact access to USG funds.)
• Probationary clubs may apply to USG for Funding.
• Probationary clubs will not receive funding from the Club Sports Council.
• While on Probation, an Organization will be expected to:
  o Submit projected expenses and all applicable forms by the deadline dates.
  o Maintain a minimum roster of eight (8) members.
  o Have two (2) meetings per semester with the Club Sports Coordinator and the Executive Board.
  o Demonstrate Financial Responsibility.
  o Attend all meetings and events required by the Club Sports Program Coordinator.
  o Follow all policies set forth by the Club Sports Program
  o Maintain good standing with the University.
• A club that does not meet all of the probationary requirements will be deemed ‘inactive’ and will be terminated from the Club Sports Council.

• A club terminated from the Club Sports Council will be required to wait one (1) academic year before reapplying to be recognized (in probationary status) as a Club Sport.