

## **PARTICIPATION | Providing Equitable Opportunities for Participation**

*Intramural Sports strives to provide ample and equitable opportunities for participation to all eligible members of the FSU community. To best ensure appropriate use of our programs by eligible participants, numerous guidelines regarding team rosters and participant pregame check-in and identification have been established.*

### **Team Rosters**

#### *A. Season Roster*

A team's official season roster is comprised of those eligible players who properly check-in (ID info into IMLeagues app and/or present proper ID) at the game site prior to the game in which they wish to join the team. Additions may be made to the season roster throughout the regular season and during the playoffs (prior to 12 Noon the day of the league championship) simply by having any new player properly check-in for the team prior to a game. All roster additions are completed at the check-in area at the game site on the day of the game.

#### *B. Participant Check-In & Game Roster*

All players must check-in prior to each game with valid FSUCard or IMLeagues app to be eligible to participate in that game. A team's game roster is comprised of those players on the team's season roster who have properly checked in at the check-in area prior to participating in that particular game.

#### *C. Roster Locks*

A team roster is locked at 12 Noon on the final scheduled day of the team's league playoff tournament. No additions will be processed after 12 Noon on that day. For leagues with the final tournament day falling on a weekend day, rosters will lock at 12 Noon on Friday. Rainouts or other postponements which extend a playoff tournament will also extend the roster lock deadline appropriately.

### **Individual Participants & Team Participation**

Limits have been established for the number of teams on which individual participants may participate, when a participant is considered to have played in a contest, and a participant's ability to change from one team to another.

#### *A. Number of Teams, Co-Ed Participation*

Participants may play for only one single gender team (men's, fraternity, women's, or sorority team) in any one sport. Therefore, a participant may NOT participate in both the fraternity league and men's competitive league, for example. Male and female participants may also play for one co-ed team in the same sport (in addition to their men's or women's team).



## B. Team Composition, Single-Gender Leagues

Due to limited participation opportunities within our women's divisions, female participants are permitted to participate on men's teams for sports in which gender specific leagues are offered for both men and women during the same season. The limitation of one single-gender team per student still applies. Thus, when a female chooses to participate on a men's team, she forfeits her right to participate on a women's team in the same sport. Male participants are restricted to participating on a men's team.

For sports in which gender-specific leagues for both men and women are not offered during the same season, leagues in such seasons shall be classified as open (co-ed or mixed) and players may participate on any one team regardless of gender.

## C. Game Participation

A participant is considered to have officially played for a team once they have been signed-in on a team's roster at the game/match site, regardless of whether they actively play in the game/match. The first team played (or signed up for) is the participant's official team of record for the respective sport's entire season.

## D. Free Agents

When a player does not have a team to play on, they can become a free agent. This feature shows other teams that someone is looking for a team.

There is a sign-up process for players to become a free agent on IMLeagues. This does not guarantee they will be on a team once the season begins.

In some leagues, there are free agent teams already created for people to join. If there are enough players to fulfill the roster requirements, the team will be scheduled during the regular season.

## E. Nomad Policy

A team may add a "nomad" player or players who are not currently rostered on the team to avoid a default/forfeit and play competitively. A team may use nomads when they have less than the minimum required number of participants present at game time. All nomads must follow eligibility guidelines:

1. A team **MUST** announce nomads to officials, supervisors, and opposing team captains during the pregame meeting
2. A team may only pick up nomads to field a full team excluding substitutes
3. If rostered players arrive after the contest start, a nomad must leave the game
4. A team may decide to use a nomad at any point in the game if an injury occurs and the team will be playing with less than the required number of participants
5. Teams and nomads must follow prohibited and restricted participation guidelines
6. If a nomad is not currently rostered, they will automatically be added to the team's roster
7. Any poor sporting behavior penalties and suspensions will be carried over to the nomad's rostered team
8. Teams may not use nomads during the playoffs
- 9. All roster requirements for each sport is found on the IMLeagues website**

## F. Change of Teams

A participant, having played for one team, may not change to another team during the season without the written permission of the Intramural Sports administrative staff. Appeals to change from one team to another shall be made in writing to the Intramural Sports administrative staff for review.

## G. Illegal Participation on Multiple Teams

If a participant is discovered to have illegally participated for multiple teams during the regular season, they shall be removed from any teams in which they joined subsequent to their first team registration. Furthermore, the participant shall be suspended for future play for their original team for the number of games that they played illegally for other teams. In sports where a team's record affects playoff or tournament qualification, those games in which the illegal player was used shall be considered an administrative forfeit. Additional penalties may apply.

## Prohibited, Restricted, and Limited Participants

The following groups of participants are considered restricted players with regard to their eligibility for select Intramural Sports and events: current student-athletes, former student-athletes, ex-student-athletes, current and former professional athletes, and sport club members.

### A. Definitions - Prohibited, Restricted, and Limited Players

Players classified as Prohibited may not participate on any Intramural team in the designated sports.

Players classified as Restricted are permitted to participate only on Intramural teams registered in the highest competitive division available in the designated sports.

Players classified as Limited are permitted to participate on any Intramural team regardless of division in the designated sports.

### B. Number of Restricted and Limited Players per Team

In sports in which the standard number of players to participate is 5 or more, the total number of Restricted and Limited players on a team's season roster (sum of both classifications) shall be no more than 2.

In sports in which the standard number of players to participate is 4 or less, only one Restricted or Limited player shall be permitted on a team's season roster.

### C. Related Sports

For varsity and club athletes, the following list designates the related IM and varsity/club sports for the purpose of this rule.

**Football:** flag football, 4-on-4 flag football

**Basketball:** basketball, 3-on-3 basketball

**Baseball & Softball:** softball, wiffleball, home run derby

**Volleyball & Sand Volleyball:** volleyball, sand volleyball, wallyball

**Swimming:** swim meet

**Tennis:** tennis, team tennis, pickleball

**Golf:** mini golf, golf

**Soccer:** soccer, 3-on-3 soccer

**Bowling:** team bowling

**Ultimate:** flickerball, ultimate frisbee, double disk, disc golf

**Water Polo:** innertube water polo

**Bass Fishing:** fishing tournament

#### *D. Current Varsity Athletes - Prohibited Players in Related Sports*

Varsity athletes who are receiving any assistance by way of athletic scholarships or aid shall be classified as Prohibited players in related Intramural Sports. There are no restrictions on varsity athletes with regard to participation in non-related sports. For the purposes of this rule, such aid for a varsity athlete is defined as follows: Any aid, assistance, or benefit given to a student for their participation as a player in any varsity sport that is not available to the general student population. This includes, but is not limited to, scholarship, varsity lockers, towels, green fees, apparel, footwear, equipment, etc. Any athlete who appears on any roster with the varsity team (including walk-ons and redshirt players) is considered a student-athlete under this section. This section remains in effect for as long as the student receives this aid, whether or not they continue to play or practice with a varsity team.

#### *E. Current Practice Squad Members - Restricted Players in Related Sports*

A student who is a member of the practice squad for a Florida State University varsity team is classified as a Restricted player for Intramural competition in that and related sports during the current academic year.

#### *F. Former Varsity Athletes - Restricted Players in Related Sports*

A student who has been a member of a varsity team at a four-year college or university in a particular sport is eligible for Intramural competition in that or its related sport during the next academic year. Graduates or transfers from community colleges are also affected by this rule. The fall term is considered the start of the next academic year. A former varsity athlete is classified as a Restricted player in related Intramural Sports for two years following the conclusion of their varsity participation.

#### *G. Ex-Varsity Athletes - Restricted Players in Related Sports*

If a varsity athlete drops or is dropped from an intercollegiate team prior to the opening of the intercollegiate season, they will be considered former varsity athletes for the purpose of Intramural participation and subject to the terms of subsection F. Varsity athletes who participate in varsity sport events following the opening of the intercollegiate season will be considered varsity athletes under subsection D regardless of whether they drop or are dropped from the team during the season.

#### *H. Professional Athletes - Prohibited Players in Related Sports*

Anyone who is or has been a professional athlete, semi-professional, or amateur in a particular sport is classified as a Prohibited player in related sports for two calendar years following their final appearance as a professional in their sport. After two years, former professional athletes may petition the Intramural Sports Office to be considered Restricted players. A written appeal is required.

### *I. Sport Club Members - Limited Players in Related Sports*

Members of FSU Sport Clubs are classified as Limited players for Intramural competition in related sports. A person is deemed a club member if they participate in a club contest or practice following the designated tryout period, pays club dues, or appears on the team roster or waiver form with the Sport Clubs Office, Campus Recreation, or the Office of Student Organizations and Involvement. Once a person has been deemed a club member, they will be considered a club player with regards to Intramural Sports for that current semester. Removal of the person from any club roster does NOT affect their Intramural status as a club player. Intramural players who join a club team during the sport's intramural season may be required to discontinue playing for their intramural team in order to keep the intramural team eligible under this rule.

After a player is 1 semester removed from their respective club team, they will not be a Limited player in related sports (excluding summer semesters).

### *J. Other Groups*

The Intramural Sports Office reserves the right to classify other groups of individuals as Prohibited, Restricted, or Limited players in order to provide a fair, fun, and equitable Intramural experience to other teams or participants within the program.

## **Participant Surveys**

Prior to, during, and following select Intramural Sports seasons, participants may be contacted by email with a request to complete a survey regarding their participation in various aspects of the Intramural Sports program. Participation in a survey is optional and a decision to not respond does not negatively affect future participation in the program. Participants may always provide feedback to the Intramural Sports staff via forms available at the game site, via the Intramural Sports webpage, or in-person in the Intramural Sports Office at the Main Campus Fields (1001 W. St. Augustine St.).

## **Championship Awards**

Winners of All-Campus Championship games and matches receive an FSU Intramural Sports championship award. In team sports, the number of awards given to All-Campus Championship teams may not exceed 150% of the standard number of participants needed to field a regulation team. The number of awards is rounded up to the nearest whole number. For example, in 7-on-7 flag football, the maximum number of awards given would be 11. Only those persons listed on the team roster will be eligible to receive an award. In individual or dual sports, only the champions will receive awards. FSU Intramural Champion awards are available only to All-Campus Champions in each division (men's, women's, and co-ed [when available]). In individual or dual sports, champions of the advanced bracket receive awards; lower brackets may not. The winner of the All-Campus Championship (when only league winners match off in the All-Campus game) will win All-Campus shirts and the loser will win league shirts.