**Criteria for Consideration**

Department of Recreation and Athletics

Carleton University

Competitive Sports Clubs Criteria for Consideration and Evaluation

A Competitive Club is a student sport organization open to all students currently enrolled in courses at Carleton (subject to each team’s selection process), registered with Carleton University Student Association and Department of Recreation and Athletics, formed by individuals motivated by a common interest and desire to participate in a favorite sport activity.

Clubs offer opportunities for practicing and competing at various levels. Club officers develop valuable leadership skills, as the success of any sport club depends on the ability of its leaders to manage the administrative affairs of the club.

Each year the athletics department receives a grant assigned toward the Competitive Sports Clubs. This grant limits the number of sport teams accepted as Competitive Sports Clubs to 20. The range of funding allocated to a team is $500 - $4500. New Competitive Clubs will begin at a funding level of $500.

Returning clubs must meet the minimum standards set out in the Criteria for Consideration. Clubs that do not meet the criteria will either be removed as a competitive club or be put on a probationary year. Teams placed on probation will have one year to correct the behavior that lead to probationary status. If the probationary issue has not be resolved to the satisfaction of the athletics department by the end of year, they will not be able to renew their Competitive Club status for the following year.

Other CUSA sports clubs will have the opportunity to apply to become a Competitive Sports Club. Instatement will be given as a new Competitive Sports Club based on the best overall rankings below and availability of space within the departments Competitive Sports Club program.

Clubs will be assessed using a rating system of level 1-5. Clubs are not permitted to receive a level one in any criteria, unless the committee deems a proposed solution acceptable. Teams who do not achieve these requirements will either have their status removed or be put on a probationary year.

**Being Recognized:**

By being officially recognized through the Department of Recreation and Athletics, Competitive Clubs are given:

* Support for competitive opportunities where needed.
* An opportunity to compete in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) league where possible.
* Advertising and promotional support (goravens.ca).
* Funding support and opportunities.
* Opportunities for significantly reduced rates or free facility space and time (time will be determined by length of season and availability)
* Support for hosting of events.
* Risk management.

**Criteria for Consideration:**

* *Availability of Facility or Field Space -* Given the limited availability of Carleton’s facilities and the need for all varsity teams and competitive clubs to use these facilities regularly in order to be successful, the athletics department must consider whether new and returning clubs can be accommodated each season.
* If an adequate facility location is not available at Carleton, the club may present an alternative facility solution. If an alternative location is suggested, it must be proven that athletes have a means to get to the offsite facility.
* Practice schedule (determined from Athlete Year End Questionnaire)
* *Potential Risk* – the degree of potential risk associated with club activities and the ability of club members to manage the risk in an acceptable manner.
* For sports that have a higher risk of injury, an athletic therapist may be required for practices and/or games. If required, the club must be able to provide proof that they are able to fulfill the required personal and cost needs associated.
* Teams are required to have a designated safety officer. The safety officer must have their valid standard first aid and CPR C. For higher risk sports, a safety officer may require additional training as deemed necessary by the department of athletics.
* Higher risk teams may be require to have liability insurance.
* Risk factors that will be assessed include: contact with other participants, high impact resulting from sporting movements, physical environment, collision with inanimate objections and ill-fitting equipment.
* *Mission and Goal* – the degree to which the club’s activities reflect the values, mission and goals of the Athletics Department and Carleton University.
* If an incident is reported against a competitive sports club, they will be immediately be placed on probation. The incident will be further investigated by the athletics department.
* All required forms and paperwork will be completed prior to the start of the season.
* Assessment criteria includes: sportsmanship, collaboration, team leadership, resilience, organization, communication and impact on the community.
* *Student Interest* ­– evidence that there is sufficient student interest in participating in the activity (returning players and recruiting expectations) in order to maintain their competitive schedule.
* Required to have a minimum of six participants on the roster.
* At the end of year survey, teams are required to have a minimum of 6 athletes indicating that “yes” they would return if they had eligibility, 4 of which must be returning athletes.
* Teams must be able to demonstrate that they will be able to recruit new players for the following season.
* Participant’s overall experience (determined from Athlete Year End Questionnaire).
* *Leadership* – evidence of responsible student leadership like the ability to meet deadlines and strong communication skills. The availability of certified/licensed coaches or instructors is preferred. Evidence of succession planning.
* Team representative will respond to emails to the designated club email within a timely manner. Lack communication will result in progressive disciple, which may include verbal or written warning, letter of reprimand, probationary Competitive Clubs Status or removal.
* Team representatives will ensure that all information on the goravens.ca website is accurate for their given club team.
* Assessment criteria includes: attendance, coaching review, communication with athletics and updated forms and club information.
* *Competition* – The availability of competition for that sport within the region (Ottawa, Eastern ON/Western QC, all of Ontario, etc).
* Teams must compete within a sanctioned league, approved by Carleton University Athletics (OUA, RSEQ, Scholars League, University Tournament, etc.) where the club competes against teams from other universities within a similar region.
* Provide a variety of competitive opportunities both locally and within driving distances (League play, exhibition games, tournaments, etc.)
* Other criteria includes: quality of league and competition schedule.
* *Financial Stability* ***NEW*** *-* evidence that the club has sufficient funding to complete the season without a defecate.
* Evidence of fundraising efforts to keep participation fees at a minimal cost for student athletes.
* Evidence that participation costs for student athletes is reasonable to the level of sport that the club is assigned to.
* Criteria includes: participant fees, tournament fees, fundraising efforts and remaining account balance.

**The Process:**The application should be submitted to the Clubs Commissioner throughout the year and will be revised on a rolling basis. The clubs will only be admitted once a year, with decisions being made near the end of March. If the club does not meet the criteria for recognition, the Clubs Commissioner will deny the club’s request.

If the club meets the criteria, the Club officers will be contacted to set up a meeting to decide whether or not the club can be recognized as a Competitive Club. All club officers should attend the meeting. Following the meeting, the Clubs Commissioner meets with the selection committee and the club officers will be contacted with 3-5 business days with the final decision (denied, approved or pending).

**Evaluation:**

Recognized Competitive Clubs will be evaluated at the end of each academic year (March) to determine their continuation the following academic year. The evaluation process will include:

* **Club Membership** – club membership and leadership open to all students on campus (Undergraduate and Graduating Students)
* **Leadership** – evidence of responsible student leadership like the ability to meet deadlines and strong communication skills. The availability of certified/ licensed coaches or instructors is another factor.
* **Program** – The club program should provide a variety of sporting experiences that meets the needs and interest of people in the club.
* **Club Meetings** – number of meetings and percentage attendance of students.
* **Project and Activities** – group ability to host competition, fundraisers and various activities to support the group.
* **Financial Stability**
* **Code of Conduct and Adherence to Policy and Procedure**