VIII. Sportsmanship Rating System

Intramural officials and supervisors give sportsmanship ratings to teams/individuals after each contest. These ratings reflect behavior before, during, and after the contest.

In order for a team to qualify for the post-season playoff games, a team must have a —2.5 average sportsmanship rating during regular season round robin league play. Teams will start the contest with a 3.0 rating. Teams must earn a higher rating. The highest rating is 4.0

Sportsmanship ratings will be based on the following criteria:

“4.0” - Excellent Conduct and Sportsmanship: Players cooperate with officials and other team members. The manager calmly converses with officials about interpretations and calls. The manager also has full control of his/her teammates. Players go above the expected level of sportsmanship (i.e. sincerely letting the officials know when they make a good call, helping an opponent off the floor/ground, verbally recognizing good play by the opponent, picking up trash from sideline and bench area following contest.)

“3.0” - Good Conduct and Sportsmanship: Players cooperate with officials and other team members. The manager calmly converses with officials about interpretations and calls. The manager also has full control of his/her teammates. An effort is shown to control team members who may be verbally dissenting the official’s call/ruling. No extra sportsmanship effort is shown.

“2.5” - Average Conduct and Sportsmanship: Team shows verbal dissent towards officials and/or show minor dissension's which may or may not merit a technical foul or unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. There is little or no effort to control team members who verbally complain about some decisions made by the officials and/or show minor dissension. Teams that receive one technical foul or unsportsmanlike conduct penalty will receive no higher than a —2.5 rating

“2.0” – Below Average Conduct and Sportsmanship: Teams constantly comment to the officials and/or opposing team from the field and/or sidelines. The team manager exhibits no control over teammates or himself/herself. There is no effort by any team member to control the behavior of any other team member. Teams receiving multiple (more than one) technical fouls or unsportsmanlike conduct penalties will receive no higher than a —2.0 rating

“1.5 and below”- Poor Conduct and Sportsmanship: Team is completely uncooperative. Manager has no control over teammates, and/or himself/herself. Any team causing a game to be forfeited for sportsmanship reasons or receives multiple (more than 1) ejections shall receive no higher than a 1.5 rating. Rating may be lowered based on the severity of the incident(s) which resulted in forfeiture.

Examples of conduct deserving an “1.5 and below” rating are as follows:
The team has been warned about unnecessary roughness and/or jeopardizes the safety of participants. This includes action by any player with the intent of physically harming another player or official.

A player, or a spectator clearly associated with the team, shows disrespect to the official, i.e.: abusive language, obscenities loud enough to be heard, gestures, or actions; threatening language; or actions which endanger the safety/health of the official or supervisor.

Spectators/fans clearly associated with the team, which fails to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion or engage in disorderly conduct, which violates university regulations or jeopardizes the officials’ control of the game. The team shows disregard for the rules or policies of the Intramural Sports Program.

Penalties for “1.5 and below” sportsmanship ratings are severe and considered to be justified for behavior that is unacceptable:

Any team that receives a —1.5 and below rating will automatically be suspended for the next scheduled game and the suspended game will be counted as a loss.

Any team/individual that receives an “1.5 and below” rating during the playoff game will result in the
elimination of the team from further playoff games.

If a team receives a —1.5 and below rating during the championship game, the team WILL NOT be awarded the championship, or championship t-shirts.

The captain of a team receiving a —1.5 and below in any game rating must meet with the Assistant Director Intramural Sports prior to participating in any intramural sport.

The Assistant Director for Intramural Sports will rule on further penalties to be described as a result of unsportsmanlike conduct. If any individual is ejected from an intramural activity for unsportsmanlike conduct, they will be disqualified from that game plus the next scheduled game.

Special contest situations:
For contests that are not rescheduled due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, both teams will receive an —3.0 rating.

A team winning a contest by forfeit or default will receive an —3.0 rating.

A team losing a contest by forfeit will receive a —2.5 rating.

Sportsmanship Ratings during Playoff Games:
Teams are required to have a 2.5 average sportsmanship rating to be eligible for playoff games.

If a team receives a 1.5 rating at any point during the regular season, the team manager must come to the Campus Recreation office by 12:00 p.m., the following day, to discuss the rating with the Assistant Director for Intramural Sports. A decision, based on the meeting, will be made as to whether the team be allowed to participate in the playoff games. If they do continue in the playoffs, they must receive a 3.0 or higher rating for the remaining playoff games.

Any team receiving an —1.5 and below rating during playoff games will be subject to an alternative form of disciplinary action as deemed necessary by the Intramural Sports staff.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Penalties:
Team members, managers, spectators, coaches/managers or entire teams may be asked by an Intramural Sports staff member to leave the playing area if unsportsmanlike conduct or abusive language, including obscenities and other gross language, is displayed or said loud enough to be heard. A team, individual participant, or spectator exhibiting unsportsmanlike or disruptive behavior may forfeit any contest. Team managers and individuals will be warned prior to forfeiting the contest. The decision of the official and/or supervisor on such cases will be final.

Any team, which is involved in a —team fight (most or all of the team members present), will be eliminated from Intramural Sports for the remainder of the tournament/season and/or possibly the remainder of the academic year.

Any team found to deliberately incite a fight during playoff games would be eliminated from the remainder of the tournament and subject to Intramural Sports disciplinary action. The Department of Campus Recreation will not tolerate the physical abuse of any person or conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any participant or employee.

Any player or team follower who makes, or attempts to make, intentional physical contact (strikes, punches, grabs, pushes, elbows, kicks, etc.) with a teammate, opponent, fan, spectator, official, supervisor, or Campus Recreation employee shall be immediately expelled from the game. The individual shall be suspended from further participation in any intramural event until further notice from the Coordinator or Assistant Director for Intramural Sports. Depending on the severity of the incident, further disciplinary action could be warranted
including referral to the Discipline Coordinator with a recommendation of disciplinary action. The Assistant Director for Intramural Sports will render a decision regarding further disciplinary action.

VERBAL ABUSE
Verbal abuse of Intramural Sports Officials, Supervisors, or Professional Staff will not be tolerated. Intramural Sports and university policy specifically prohibits the use of grossly abusive language, which insults, taunts, or challenges another person. This language includes but is not limited to swearing, obscenities, epithets directed at an individual’s race, color, ethnic identity, religion, or sex, or sexual orientation which is personally abusive, degrading, and insulting rather than a communication of ideas or opinion. The penalty will be immediate suspension from the game being played, and if further disciplinary action is warranted the assistant director or coordinator responsible for the program will render an Intramural Sports decision based on the severity of the incident.

ALCOHOL OR DRUG ABUSE
Alcoholic beverages and/or drugs are not permitted on or around the playing area. Contests will not be played and will be forfeited if alcohol or drugs are present.

The Intramural Sports Officials or Supervisor assigned to the game has the authority and responsibility in making decisions regarding students who are not permitted to participate based on if: a) student’s breath smells of alcohol; b) student’s actions and language/gestures indicate probable drug or alcohol consumption. Teams, individuals, or fans suspected of alcohol or drug consumption will be asked to leave the playing area and may be barred from further participation. If warranted, the supervisor responsible for the playing area has the right to ask UTA police to handle the situation.

The University of Texas at Arlington strives to maintain an environment conducive to inquiry and learning and free of illegal drugs.