



Sports Code of Conduct

Sports Code of Conduct

Goldsmiths Students' Union offers students the opportunity to be involved in National and International competitive and recreational league matches, sports team training sessions and annual tournaments such as Varsity. Goldsmiths Students' Union expects all its members to endeavour to protect the Goldsmiths brand and reputation and as such ensure participant's behaviour are in keeping with this code of conduct and safe space policy.

All teams and clubs should demonstrate high standards of behaviour, promote their clubs in a positive way, and strive to compete at the highest level of ability. All members/clubs shall ensure that when representing their respective team, they maintain a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

The following rules have been formulated to demonstrate behaviours that are expected of all members representing Goldsmiths Students' Union, University of London.

Members of Goldsmiths Students' Union, University of London team (which extends to players, team members & coaches):-

- Shall familiarise myself with the relevant regulations to my sport.
- Shall not do anything which is likely to intimidate, offend, insult or discriminate against another person on the grounds of their religion, sexual orientation, gender identification, disability or race.

- Shall follow the rules of the facilities in which I train and compete
- Shall show due respect to other users of facilities when other sports are taking place external to Goldsmiths events.
- Shall behave in an appropriate manner when representing the club/team.
- Shall not use abusive or aggressive behaviour
- Shall not be in possession, use or be under the influence of performance enhancing drugs or social drugs at any club or GSU event.
- Shall not consume alcohol playing games, or prior to matches and training or be under the influence of alcohol prior to or during fixtures.
- Shall welcome and be hospitable to all visiting teams and treat all opponents with respect.
- Shall commit to playing a full competitive match.
- Shall not incite or cause violent behaviour both on and off the field of play.
- Shall not cause or incite damage to property both on and off the field of play.
- Shall not take glass or alcohol onto any sports facility owned by Goldsmiths University or an away site
- Shall not urinate on/near the playing pitch or University playing facilities.
- When wearing branded University or Union attire, all players shall represent Goldsmiths University, Union and club in an exemplary manner and follow GSU and (if applicable) specific club social guidelines and code of conduct.
- Should refrain from using social media in a way which may offend club members or other readers.
- Shall not bring any University or Union's reputation into disrepute.
- Shall uphold sportsmanlike behaviour at all times

This is not an exhaustive list and final rulings on issues regarding conduct will be dealt with by Goldsmiths Students Unions Sports Office

Breaching of any of the guidelines in these documents may constitute as Misconduct.

Initiations

Goldsmiths Students' Union believes the practice of initiations is a dangerous and degrading exercise that jeopardises the safety of members and reflects negatively on the public image of students. We are aware that unforeseen circumstances resulting from such activities can cause anguish that may affect students and their families personally and academically. It is also a requirement of the British Universities Colleges Sport (BUCS) that all Universities must have an initiation policy in order to compete in the BUCS competitions.

Our position is that we strictly do not condone initiations of any kind on Goldsmiths College campus or off site when representing your club.

Inductions

Inductions are permitted. An 'Induction' is defined as: An event where new members are introduced to the rules, committee hierarchy and other members of the club/society they have joined. Inductions often take the form of a social event, based on the university campus.

Inductions are allowed by Goldsmiths Students Union.

Disciplinary Action

If any member fails to comply with these rules, they may be subject to disciplinary action. Any disciplinary action shall be dealt with by the Students' Union in conjunction with the Union's disciplinary procedures. Any member subject to a disciplinary shall have the right to put forward a defence against any accusations made against them.

All punishments will be subject to the relevant Goldsmiths Students' Union's disciplinary procedures as well as individual club disciplinary procedures (if applicable).

Disciplinary Procedures

This will be implemented according to the relevant level of misconduct by the student concerned. For internal club disputes, we expect, in the first instance, issues to be resolved within the club structure by the committee. If the matter cannot be resolved in this way, then the Students' Union will intervene and conduct an appropriate investigation. (The Students Union encourage each club to create their own internal club code of conduct if they feel necessary. Such documents should be approved by the team and signed by each member of the elected committee and a copy sent to the Sport Development Coordinator for approval and filing).

Process of an Investigation

1. Complaint Received

If any member/player is deemed to have undertaken an act of misconduct, there will be consequences, with the punishment dependent on the severity of the act.

A complaint should be made in writing to the Sport Office/Union office within 5 days of the alleged misconduct.

2. Investigation

The Students' Union will carry out an investigation into the incident. The individual(s) involved will be contacted to inform them that they are under investigation and they will be asked to respond to any complaints made.

4. Appeal Procedure

If a club or individual wishes to appeal the decision that has been taken against them they should appeal to the Students Union in writing and follow the Union's procedures in place.

5. Repeat Misconduct

If an individual is already on a warning from a previous incident, the seriousness of the second incident will be considered to be one level higher. Warnings against individuals will stand for one calendar year from the date they are given. All disciplinary action will come into force immediately.

Potential Individual Sanctions and Punishments

- Match Bans
- Training Bans
- Fine for damages
- Ban from all Club/Society related events
- Expulsion as a member of the Club and SU

Potential Students' Union sanctions against the Club

- Club fine
- Freezing of club budget for a set time
- Removal of ability to hire out or use university facilities as a club
- Suspension of teams for a set period of time
- Removal from BUCS/LUSL competition
- Disaffiliation of team