

Women's Rugby Club at Indiana University Constitution

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Preamble

Rugby is a sport that enables women to learn and master the concept of teamwork by working together with a diverse group of individuals to achieve a mutual goal. It enables women to develop strong leadership skills, communication skills, self-confidence, and a high self-esteem; all necessary for success in today's world. While both men and women both reap the same benefits from playing rugby, due to physical strength and speed differences between the two sexes, it would be unwise and unsafe (not to mention detrimental to the Indiana Rugby Program) to expect both men and women to compete with and against each other. Therefore, it is the intent of the Indiana University Women's Rugby Football Club to provide an environment in which women can be exposed to and learn the sport of rugby, while promoting, supporting and participating in the Indiana Rugby Program.

I. NAME

The official name of this club shall be the Indiana University Women's Rugby Football Club.

II. PURPOSE

To promote and encourage women to take part in athletic activities, including, but not limited to, the game of rugby.

III. MEMBERSHIP

A. Admission to Membership

1. Any person who desires to support the sport of women's rugby and who is willing to abide by both the constitution of the Indiana University Women's Rugby Football Club, and the policies set forth by the Indiana University Club Sport Federation shall be eligible for membership. Participation in the proposed organization must be without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.
2. There shall be two types of membership: Playing member and non-playing member.

- a. A playing member shall be any person who meets the requirements to participate in Indiana University club sports and is willing to participate in the IUWRFC during the game seasons. There shall be two seasons within the calendar year. Spring season being January 1 to July 31, and the fall season from August 1 through December 31.
 - b. A non-playing member shall be any person who desires to be a member or involved within the IUWRFC. Non-playing student members shall hold voting powers exclusive of elections of captains.
3. Persons who wish to join the Club shall inform the President or her designee of that intent. Membership in the Club becomes effective upon the payment of the dues for the season in which the person wishes to play.
4. Membership in the Club shall be on a seasonal basis, however a newsletter will be sent to all members, past and present.
5. All new members shall receive the copy of the Constitution of the IU Women's RFC.

B. Suspension of Membership

1. The membership of any member may be suspended by reason of his/her failure to fulfill requirements to participate in university club sports.
2. The Executive Committee of the Club shall have the power at any time to suspend or revoke the memberships of any member who shall, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, have been guilty of on, or off the pitch conduct discreditable to the Club, Club Sports Federation, or Indiana University. Or who, without sufficient cause, fails to pay membership dues. The Executive Committee shall not exercise such power without first giving the member concerned a sufficient opportunity to justify her conduct. A unanimous vote of the Executive Committee is necessary to approve suspension or revocation.

IV. UNIVERSITY COMPLIANCE

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state, and federal laws.

This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation directly from for profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

V. HAZING

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

VI. OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

A. Elected Officers

1. President

The President shall be a student member in good standing who has at some time held the position of "playing member" for the IUWRFC. The Term of Office shall be one year. No person shall serve more than three consecutive terms as President. The President shall appoint other persons to positions as she deems necessary (e.g. Fundraising Chair, Alumni Coordinator, etc...). The Executive Committee shall take into account such appointments.

2. Vice President

The Vice President shall be a student member in good standing that has at some time held the position of "playing member" for the IUWRFC. The Term of Office shall be one year. No person shall serve more than three consecutive terms as Vice President.

3. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be a student member in good standing who has at some time held the position of "playing member" for the IUWRFC. The Term of Office shall be one year. No person shall serve more than three consecutive terms as Treasurer.

4. Advisor

The Advisor shall be a part or full-time faculty/staff member or assistant instructor, preferably a person with familiarity or previous experience with women's rugby activity.

5. Safety Officer

The Safety Officers shall be student members or coaches that fulfill all requirements and certifications to administer care in case of emergencies.

6. Club Coach/Instructor

The Club shall have a Recreational Sports approved Coach/Instructor.

7. Captain

The Captain of the Club shall be a "playing member" in good standing and shall be elected by the team prior to the first game of the season. No person shall serve more than three consecutive terms as Captain.

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The membership of the Executive Committee shall be the Elected Officers of the Club described in Section VI and all other appointed officers.
- B. The Executive Committee shall meet at its own discretion. Two-thirds of the voting majority shall constitute a quorum. Any motion requires a majority vote of those present for passage.
- C. The Executive Committee will serve as the governing judicial body of the Club as specified in Section III B 2. If the member of the club facing suspension is a member of the Executive Committee, that member will not be allowed to vote against her suspension.

VIII. ELECTIONS

- A. The election of officers shall be by secret ballot at an annual general meeting.
- B. Only playing student members have the right to nominate and vote on office holders.
- C. Election shall be by majority vote of playing members who cast ballots.
- D. Proxy votes for specific offices may be given to the President prior to the time of meeting.
- E. The term of officers shall commence at the adjournment of the general meeting at which they are elected and shall end when their successors take office.
- F. If an office, with the exception of Captain and President, becomes vacant, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement until the office is filled by an election at the next general meeting. The Vice President shall automatically become President if the office is vacant.
- G. In the event that the office of Captain becomes vacant, the Coach shall appoint the Captain until a formal election can be held.
- H. Any officer or committee member may be removed from office for the dereliction of duty by a unanimous vote of the entire Executive Committee. In that event, the person charged may not vote on the removal action. This removal action may be appealed to a special meeting of the membership.