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# 1. Preliminary

## 1.1. Organisation and Name

- a. The name of this organisation shall be the Trinity Sport Union, hereafter referred to as the 'TSU.'
- b. Its emblem shall be a gold shamrock.

## 1.2. Purpose and Functions of the Trinity Sport Union

The Trinity Sport Union (TSU) is the representative body for Student Sport Clubs in Trinity College Dublin, as recognised by the Board of Trinity College Dublin and the Council of the University of Dublin. Its function is to represent, support, and seek to develop the affiliated sports clubs. The TSU advocates for the interests of these clubs, their members and all students engaged in sport, at all levels within the College, across national and international platforms. It provides practical support through funding, operational advice and works collaboratively with clubs to promote effective governance in line with the TSU Constitution, the Trinity Sport Code of Ethics, and relevant college policies. The TSU seeks to foster an inclusive and diverse sporting environment that welcomes participation from all students, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, or ability. It promotes the achievements of clubs and their members and facilitates events and initiatives that contribute to a vibrant student sport community.

# 2. Affiliation and Membership of the TSU

There shall be Affiliated Clubs, Student Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members of the TSU.

## 2.1. Affiliated Clubs

- a. There shall be affiliated clubs to the TSU.
- b. See Annex I for list of Affiliated Clubs.

## 2.2. The TSU Executive Committee shall have the power to amend the rules on affiliation. This includes the power to grant, suspend, or withdraw affiliation based on adherence to TSU policies, codes of conduct. Student Members

- a. Student Members shall be defined as current students of Trinity College Dublin who are members of affiliated sports clubs.
- b. To qualify as a Student Member, an individual must have paid the appropriate University Fee, the Trinity Sport Union (TSU) fee, and any other applicable club or administrative fees. All Student Members shall have the right to vote at general meetings of the TSU.

## 2.3 Associate Members

- a. There may be Associate Club Members to the TSU.
- b. These shall be any person that has not paid the student University fee for that Academic Year.



- c. They are subject to the Associate Member Fee, which is set at the start of each Academic Year.
- d. They have no voting rights at general meetings unless they are also one of the six advisory board members.
- e. The total number of Associate members may be limited by the TSU to a particular club or the TSU as a whole and a club shall receive no extra funding for Associate members.
- f. Affiliated Sport Clubs may apply to the TSU Executive Committee for approval of Associate Members. The Committee retains full discretion in approving such applications.
- g. Applications for Associate Members may only fall into the following categories:
  - i. Alumni
    - a. Alumni of TCD, Oxford, and Cambridge are eligible to become Associate Club Members.
    - b. Nominees must demonstrate an ongoing essential contribution to the affiliated club that nominates them.
  - ii. Competitive Members
    - a. Associate Sport Club Members shall be those members that are not students at Trinity College Dublin, staff, or alumni, but to which their membership has been demonstrated to be necessary to the competitiveness of an affiliated Sport Club.
  - iii. Staff
    - a. Staff at TCD are eligible to become Associate Club Members.
    - b. It must be demonstrated that the proposed staff has served, or continues to serve, an essential role to the furthering of the objectives of the Affiliated Club by which the alumnus has been proposed.
  - iv. Honorary Members
    - a. An eminent sportsperson or a person who has done exceptional service to the TSU may have Honorary Membership conferred on them by the Executive Committee.

### 3. The TSU Executive Committee

There shall be an Executive Committee of the TSU, hereafter referred to as the 'Executive'

#### 3.1 Powers of the Executive

- a. The Executive has the power to make rules and regulations which shall be binding on all affiliated members and sport clubs.
- b. No member of the Executive or of any Sub-Committee of the Club and no manager or employee of the Sport Union shall have any personal interest in the sale of excisable liquor therein or in the profits arising from such sale.
- c. The Executive shall hold not less than five meetings per year and shall hold at least two meetings in each teaching term.
- d. Eight members shall form a quorum at meetings of the Executive.
- e. All members of the Executive, except for the Ex-Officio Members, have voting rights on matters within the remit of the Executive.



- f. The Chair and roles that support the TSU oversee the day-to-day management and development of the Clubs.
- g. Amendments to Annexes and the creation of annexes may be done with approval of the Executive without need for a general meeting.

### 3.2 Positions on the TSU Executive Committee

- a. Student Officers:
  - i. Chairperson
  - ii. Vice-Chairperson
  - iii. Honorary Secretary
  - iv. Junior Treasurer
- b. General Officers:
  - i. Senior Honorary Treasurer
  - ii. Chairperson of the Pavilion Bar
- c. Committee Members:
  - i. Club Representatives, of which there are eight.
  - ii. Honorary Secretary of the Captains' Committee
- d. Advisory Board (formerly Pavilion Members):
  - i. Advisory Members, of which there are six.
- e. Ex-Officio Members
  - i. Club Operations and Development Manager
  - ii. Director of Sport and Physical Activity in Trinity College Dublin.

### 3.3 Instantiation (Formation) of the TSU Executive Committee

- a. Student Officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting (the Annual General Meeting will take place in Hilary Term). Student officers must be Student Sports Club members at the time of their election.
- b. General Officers are appointed by the Executive Committee. Candidates should preferably be alumni, staff, or former staff of Trinity College Dublin. They should have a record of engagement with the TSU or its affiliated clubs and demonstrate the necessary experience or qualifications relevant to the position.
- c. Committee Members:
  - a) Club Representatives are Student Sports Club members who self-nominate and are approved by a majority at an AGM when there are more than 8 candidates running for election. If there are less than 8, they may be co-opted from the student members of the TSU at a meeting of the executive.
  - b) Honorary Secretary of the Captains' Committee: This person shall be elected by the Captains' Committee from within their membership at their first meeting in the academic year.
- d. The Advisory Board Members are nominated by a member of the Executive and approved at an Executive meeting. The Advisory Board shall consist of staff, former staff or alumni of the University.
- e. Ex-Officio Members serve on the Executive for the duration of their employment in the respective positions.



### 3.4 Terms of Office

- a. Each Student Officer and Club Representatives shall hold office for one year but shall be eligible for annual re-election for one further term which can occur consecutively for each position held.
- b. General Officers shall hold office for one year but shall be eligible for annual re-appointment for a further four consecutive terms for each position held.
  - a) The Executive may, in exceptional circumstances, extend a General Officers' term beyond the aforementioned limit.
- f. In the case where a vacancy occurs during the year, the Executive Committee may appoint a replacement.
- g. Where a Student Officer or General Officer does not complete their term of office, their replacement shall serve out the balance of that term and be eligible for re-election.
- h. Advisory Board Members shall hold office for one year but shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further term pending approval from the student officers.
- i. For an Executive Committee Member to be in good standing, they must attend at least three Executive Meetings per Academic Year.
- j. Those members that are not in good standing may be replaced by the Executive Committee.
- k. An Ex-Officio Member's term shall coincide with the term of their employment.
- l. All members of the executive must become members of the TSU for the duration of their term by paying any applicable fee.

### 3.5 TSU Executive Committee Meetings

- a. The Executive shall hold no less than five meetings per year, with no less than two meetings per teaching term.
- b. Ten voting members shall form a quorum.
- c. The Meeting Agenda shall be circulated at least seven days prior to the meeting
- d. Each member of the Executive, other than an ex-officio member, who is present at meetings is entitled to vote at said meeting.
- e. The Chair shall have a casting vote where appropriate.

### 3.6 Management of the Sport Union

- a. The business affairs of the Sport Union shall be under the management of the Executive.
- b. The following shall be Sub-Committees of the Sport Union and all decisions by such said Sub-Committees, apart from the authority of the Captains' Committee to award Pinks, shall be subject to the approval of the Executive:
  - i. The Captains' Committee.
  - ii. The Pavilion Bar Committee.
  - iii. The Finance Committee.
  - iv. Such other Sub-Committees as the TSU Committee may see fit to appoint, the duration of which is at the discretion of the Executive.



### 3.7 Subcommittees of the TSU Committee

- a. The Captains' Committee:
  - i. Shall consist of the Chair of the Sport Union, who shall be ex-officio and shall act as the Chair of the Captains' Committee, and the captains of the affiliated Sports Clubs.
  - ii. Shall meet no less than two times in each academic year
  - iii. Shall approve the criteria for, and the award of, University Pinks.
  - iv. Shall make submissions on any matters relating to sport in the University.
  - v. The captains shall elect, from within their number, an Honorary Secretary of the Captains' Committee at their first meeting in the academic year.
  - vi. The Secretary of the Captains' Committee shall be a Committee Member on the Executive.
  - vii. Sixteen members shall form a quorum
- b. The Pavilion Bar Committee:
  - i. Shall consist of the Chair of the Pavilion Bar Committee, the Honorary Secretary of the Sport Union, two Representatives from and appointed by the Executive and, ex officio, the Pavilion Manager, and the Director of Sport and Physical Activity.
  - ii. Shall have the power to co-opt other persons from amongst the Members of the Sport Union at the discretion of the Pavilion Bar Committee.
  - iii. Shall supervise and organise the administration and management of the Pavilion Bar.
  - iv. Shall prepare a Statement of Income and Expenditure relating to the Pavilion Bar and shall submit such statement to the Executive no less than three times per academic year.
  - v. Three members shall form a quorum.
  - vi. Shall transfer an agreed amount from the Pavilion Bar's net profit to the Sport Union each year.
  - vii. Notwithstanding sub-article (vi), the Executive may direct the Pavilion Bar Committee to transfer all or any portion of net profits to meet extraordinary exigencies.
- c. The Finance Committee:
  - i. Shall consist of the Chair of the Sport Union, the Senior Honorary Treasurer, the Junior Honorary Treasurer, and the Club Operations Manager.
  - ii. Shall allocate the annual club budgets, set the criteria for financial audits of clubs, and shall have the power to review and audit club accounts.
  - iii. The Finance Committee shall have the power to amend the Rules Relating to the Financial Regulation of Clubs not prescribed in this Constitution.



## 4 Affiliate Sport Clubs of the TSU

- a. No Sport Club in the University shall be affiliated to the Sport Union until such Club is approved by the Executive and ratified at an Annual General Meeting.
- b. In order to be ratified, the sport must be recognised by Sport Ireland.
- c. Recognition by Student Sport Ireland (SSI) does not obviate the Sport Union's affiliation and ratification process.
- d. Nothing in this article, however, shall invalidate the affiliation of any Sport Club already affiliated to the Sport Union at the time of the adoption of this Constitution.
- e. The Executive Committee shall have the power to make rules and regulations which shall be binding on all Members and Sports Clubs affiliated to TSU.
- f. The Executive shall have the power to enact a club affiliation policy document.
- g. The Executive shall have the power to suspend the operations of a Club where there are alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct or where the Club has failed to follow the rules relating to the Financial Regulation of Clubs.
- h. Following the review, the Executive shall have the power to recommend that the ratification of Club should be revoked.
  - i. This recommendation must be passed at a general meeting, whereby the Club continues to be suspended until the general meeting.
  - ii. Where such a motion is passed at a general meeting, the Club shall be disbanded, and any assets shall be subsumed into the Sport Union.
- i. To maintain ratification, a Club's committee shall consist of, at a minimum, a:
  - i. Club Captain
  - ii. Club Secretary
  - iii. Treasurer
- j. Clubs must notify the Sport Union of incoming Officers and any changes in Officers during the academic year.
- k. Clubs must submit a copy of their Club Constitution when requested.

## 5 Finance

- a. No Club shall establish or operate an account in any Financial Institution except with the approval of the Finance Committee.
  1. All clubs must disclose all accounts used to the Finance Committee.
- b. Clubs shall have appropriate internal financial controls to maintain the financial integrity of the club.
- c. Clubs shall submit, to the Finance Committee, an annual statement to of their accounts at the end of the academic year, which may be subject to audit by the Finance Committee.
- d. Clubs shall complete, and submit it to the Sport Union, an annual budget request by a date determined by the Finance Committee.
- e. Club accounts may be subject to audit by the Finance Committee at any time for all monies received by such Club from subscriptions, social functions, and from all other sources.





- f. Sponsorship of Clubs from external sponsors shall be subject to approval by the Sport Union.
- g. Clubs may make an additional application for financial support to the Finance Committee during the club season in extenuating circumstances.
- h. No Club shall authorise the use of the University's facilities to external clubs or charge for admission to the University's facilities.
- i. Accounts shall be kept by the Senior Honorary Treasurer of the Sport Union.
  - 1. These accounts may be audited by an auditor appointed by the Executive.
- j. No such Sport Club member shall establish or operate any such account to the benefit of or on behalf of such Sport Club.

## 6 General Meetings & Annual General Meetings

### 6.1 Annual General Meetings

- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at the end of the Hilary Term, at a date determined by the Executive.
- b. Twenty members shall form a quorum.
- c. Notice of the AGM shall be published by the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days in advance of the meeting.
- d. Notice of any intended business, that is not a Constitutional Amendment, must be received by the Executive at least five days in advance of the meeting.
- e. All decisions shall be approved by a simple majority of the Student Members present at the meeting.
- f. The following shall be the order of business at the Annual General Meeting.
  - i. The minutes of the previous AGM.
  - ii. Any matters arising out of the Minutes.
  - iii. Honorary Secretary's Report; Senior Honorary Treasurer's Report with Financial Statements for the previous year duly audited; Reports from Sub-Committees and any other reports which the Chair deems appropriate to receive.
  - iv. Any special matter not included in the above which the Chair may consider proper to be discussed.
  - v. The election of the Officers of the TSU as provided for in this Constitution.
- g. Election of Student Officers and Club Representatives at the AGM:
  - i. Nominations for Student Officer and Club Representatives roles must be sent to the TSU Executive at least five days before the AGM.
  - ii. A list of all nominees will be shared with members at least three days before the AGM.
  - iii. If only one person is nominated for a position, they will be elected automatically, unless the Student Members at the AGM vote against it by a simple majority.
  - iv. If more than one person is nominated for a position, an election will be held at the AGM. Voting will be by secret ballot, and each Student Member present may vote once per position. Voting for student officers





and Club representatives may be extended to specific periods beyond the end of AGM.

- v. If there is a tie, the Chair of the meeting will have the casting vote.
- vi. Only Student Members and the six Advisory Board members have voting rights in General Meetings.
- vii. Election results will be announced no more than 10 days following the AGM and will take effect once the vote is ratified by the outgoing Chair.

## 6.2 General Meetings

- a. The Honorary Secretary shall call a general meeting of the Sport Union whenever required so to do by the Executive or on a motion in writing of not less than 10 Sports Clubs.
- b. Notice of a general meeting shall be published by the Honorary Secretary at least 10 days in advance of the meeting.
- c. Notice of any intended business, that is not a Constitutional Amendment, must be received by the Executive at least ten days in advance of the meeting.
- d. All decisions shall be approved by a simple majority of the voting members present at the meeting.

## 7 Amendments to the Constitution

- a. A Motion to amend the Constitution may be moved by the Executive or on a Motion in writing of not less than 10 Sports Clubs.
- b. Where such a motion has been submitted to the Honorary Secretary, the said Honorary Secretary shall call a general meeting which shall be held within 21 days of receipt of such motion.
- c. Notice of such meetings shall state the terms of the proposed amendment to the Constitution.
- d. An amendment to the Constitution requires a simple majority of voting members present.
- e. The Executive shall have the power to alter or amend Articles of this Constitution for the purposes of complying with any existing or future legislation or Court decisions.

## 8 Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Procedures

- a. The Executive shall have the power to make Rules and Regulations, as it deems necessary, to ensure the proper conduct for Sports Clubs and their members.
- b. The Executive may defer to the policies of the University in the absence of a Sport Union policy.



## 9 The Pavilion Bar

- a. The TSU established the Pavilion Bar and has the sole authority to trade on the premises.
- b. The rules and regulations concerning the operation of the pavilion bar shall be reviewed annually by the Pavilion Bar Committee, ensuring compliance with any regulatory requirements.
- c. Those rules and regulations shall not be subject to the rules on amendments within this Constitution.



## Annex I – The Affiliated Clubs of the Trinity Sport Union

1. The following are the active affiliated clubs of the Trinity Sport Union:

Dublin University AFC Ladies

Dublin University AFC

Dublin University American Football

Dublin University Archery

Dublin University Badminton

Trinity Barbell

Dublin University Basketball

Dublin University Ladies Boat

Dublin University Boat

Dublin University Boxing

Dublin University Camogie

Dublin University Climbing

Dublin University Ladies Cricket

Dublin University Cricket

Dublin University Cycling and Triathlon

Dublin University Equestrian

Dublin University Fencing

Dublin University Football

Dublin University Frisbee

Dublin University Gaelic Football Ladies

Dublin University Gaelic Football

Dublin University Ladies Golf

Dublin University Golf

Dublin University Handball

Dublin University Harriers & Athletics Club

Dublin University Hockey

Dublin University Ladies Hockey



## Trinity Sport Union

## Constitution

Dublin University Hurling

Dublin University Judo

Dublin University Karate

Dublin University Kayak

Dublin University Netball

Dublin University Orienteering

Dublin University Rifle

Dublin University Sailing

Dublin University Snowsports

Dublin University Squash

Dublin University Sub Aqua

Dublin University Surfing

Dublin University Swimming and Waterpolo

Dublin University Taekwondo

Dublin University Table tennis

Dublin University Lawn Tennis

Dublin University Trampoline

Dublin University Volleyball