Hull University Union

Social Events, Initiations & Alcohol Policy

for Sports Clubs and Societies

Hull University Union acknowledges that social activities can be an enjoyable aspect of club sport, particularly where they complement a club or societies activities. Examples of acceptable/appropriate activities are a welcome evening for new members, club dinners, social nights and post-match or post-training refreshments. The encouragement of excessive consumption of alcohol must be avoided. Social activities must be organised in such a way that no member feels harassed, intimated, or bullied. Such activities must be inclusive and make allowances for all cultural and personal beliefs. Members should be able to opt out without fear of undue pressure, reprisal, non-selection for competition, embarrassment or any form of discrimination. Sanctions may be imposed on any club/society found to be in breach of this Social Policy (see below).

Clubs/Societies **must not**:

* hold or carry out initiation\* ceremonies under any circumstances
* apply peer pressure upon club/society members in social situations or otherwise
* consume alcohol in minibuses, coaches, cars etc.
* undertake any activity which brings HUU into disrepute or damages HUU’s reputation
* undertake any activity which brings the University into disrepute or damages the University’s reputation

*\*Initiation ceremonies are defined as events in which members (new or old) are expected to perform any activity as a means of gaining credibility, status, or entry within that club. Examples are excessive consumption of alcohol and/or food concoctions, nudity, and any other form of bullying and behaviour that can cause intimidation, humiliation, danger and/or harm to club/society or non-club members.*

Anybody who becomes aware of conduct by a club/society, member or any individual associated with a club/society, which may be in breach of this Social Policy shall report the matter to Hull University Union.

One or more of the following sanctions may be imposed (subject to the right of appeal), where a club/society, member or any individual associated with a club/society is found to be in breach of the Social Policy:

* Expulsion of an individual from club/society activity and termination of their membership
* A club/society fine of no more than £500
* Suspension for a stated period of all club/society activity
* The removal of individual team(s) from the British Universities and Colleges Sport and/or all other competitions

If a breach of this Social Policy occurs at the end of an academic year, sanctions may be imposed on the club/society in the following year.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, as Club/Society President of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, sign this on behalf of the Committee to accept that we have read, understood and agree to abide by the above Social Policy. The Committee agrees to ensure that all sporting and social activity is undertaken in accordance with the Social Policy.

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_