

**Policy Title:** Sporting Clubs

**Policy Owner:** Director, Digital and Campus Services

**Keywords:** sporting clubs, insurance, approved clubs, public liability

**Policy Code:** PL111

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[Intent](#)

[Organisational Scope](#)

[Definitions](#)

[Policy Content](#)

[Accountabilities and Responsibilities](#)

[Related Documents](#)

[Contact Information](#)

[Approval History](#)

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**1. INTENT:**

The purpose of this policy is to outline Edith Cowan University's (ECU or the University) position with respect to sporting clubs, including Approved Clubs.

The University recognises the importance of sporting clubs in providing opportunities to socialise, network, exercise and relieve stress.

**2. ORGANISATIONAL SCOPE:**

All members of the University Community who are members of, or have administrative responsibility for, Approved Clubs or other sporting clubs that are reasonably understood to be connected with the University.

**3. DEFINITIONS:**

The [University Glossary](#) and the following definitions apply to this policy.

Term:	Definition:
Approved Clubs	Sporting Clubs that are incorporated, hold an ECU Trademark Licence Agreement and have formal approval from the Vice-Chancellor to be considered an Approved Club.
ECU Jets	An incorporated, multi-disciplinary, amateur sporting club based primarily at Edith Cowan University in Joondalup.

Term:	Definition:
Fair-Play	<p>Fair-Play is a complex concept that comprises and embodies a number of fundamental values that are not only integral to sport but relevant in everyday life. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fair competition;</li> <li>• respect;</li> <li>• friendship;</li> <li>• team spirit;</li> <li>• equality;</li> <li>• integrity,</li> <li>• solidarity;</li> <li>• tolerance;</li> <li>• care; and</li> <li>• excellence.</li> </ul>
Sporting Facilities	<p>Dedicated areas of sports courts, ovals, and other similar allocated spaces that fall within the scope of the ECU Sports Facilities Approved Clubs Guidelines and Fees document, where students, staff, and members of the general public, can assemble to engage in physical exercise, participate in athletic competition, or witness sporting events.</p>
Trademark Licence Agreement	<p>A Trademark Licence Agreement refers to a formal agreement whereby the owner of a trademark (the licensor) gives another person (the licensee) the right to use the trademark. The agreement stipulates when and how the trademark can be used.</p>

## 4. POLICY CONTENT

### Approved Clubs

- 4.1. The University has four sporting clubs which hold Approved Club status and will not confer Approved Club status on any additional sporting groups. Requests for the establishment of new sporting clubs will be directed to the Student Guild.
- 4.2. The University will define the obligations, requirements and responsibilities of Approved Clubs in the ECU Sports Facilities, Approved Clubs Guidelines and Fees document.
- 4.3. Approved Clubs wishing to maintain their Approved Club status must comply with the obligations, requirements and responsibilities outlined in the ECU Sports Facilities, Approved Clubs Guidelines and Fees document.
- 4.4. The Vice-Chancellor or nominee may terminate an Approved Club's status if they do not comply with their obligations, requirements and responsibilities, or upon any grounds

whatsoever, if it is reasonably believed it is no longer in the best interests of the University to maintain the Approved Club status.

- 4.5. Should an Approved Club choose to relinquish, or otherwise lose their Approved Club status, the Approved Club will not be replaced.

### **Insurance coverage**

- 4.6. External parties, including clubs, Approved Clubs, ECU Jets, and the Student Guild, should not assume that the University's insurance policies will extend to sporting events conducted by them. These parties are responsible for ensuring the events they conduct, or co-ordinate, are insured at a level commensurate with their risk appetite.
- 4.7. Persons participating in a sporting event or activities conducted by external parties, including clubs, Approved Clubs, ECU Jets, and the Student Guild, are encouraged to make reasonable enquiries to ascertain what, if any, insurance arrangements are in place in relation to activities and events, and determine if the arrangements are at a level commensurate with their risk appetite.

### **Support for sporting clubs**

- 4.8. The ECU Student Guild provides primary support to sporting clubs. Should the Student Guild request assistance from the University, the University will, to the extent reasonable and practicable, provide relevant information, advice, and guidance.
- 4.9. Any discounts for hire of Sporting Facilities for sporting clubs will be provided in accordance with ECU Sports Facilities, Approved Clubs Guidelines and Fees.
- 4.10. Decisions on access to Sporting Facilities will be made taking the following into account:
- a. The academic and teaching needs of the University;
  - b. The University's need to be financially responsible in the management of its Sporting Facilities;
  - c. The need to allocate space in a manner that is transparent and, as far as reasonable and practicable, fair to all stakeholders.
- 4.11. The ECU Sports and Fitness Centre Operations Co-ordinator will schedule and facilitate a minimum of four quarterly meetings per year with the ECU Student Guild and other stakeholders as relevant or required. The meetings will provide an opportunity to strengthen partnerships, collaborate, and explore opportunities for improving and enhancing the supports provided to sporting clubs.

### **Sporting Club etiquette**

- 4.12. All people involved with Approved Clubs or other sporting clubs that are reasonably perceived to be affiliated with the University, must uphold the University's values, demonstrate a commitment to Fair-Play, and contribute positively to the University's reputation.
- 4.13. Allegations of misconduct arising during a person's involvement with an Approved Club or other recognised sporting club will be investigated in accordance with the University's Rules, policies and procedures.

- 4.14. If, following an investigation, it is reasonably believed misconduct involving staff or students has occurred, it will be addressed as follows:
- For matters relating to students, action will be taken in accordance with [Statute 22: Student Conduct](#) and [University Rules: General Misconduct Rules \(Students\)](#)
  - For matters relating to staff, action will be taken in accordance with the provisions of the relevant industrial instrument.
  - For matters relating to a person who is both a student and a member of staff, the University will consider the context of the incident, and the capacity within which the person was acting at the time of the incident, and will respond accordingly.

#### **Use of the ECU logo or name**

- 4.15. Approved Clubs must maintain an ECU Trademark Licence Agreement and adhere to the requirements of that Agreement.
- 4.16. The ECU logo or name must not be used by sporting clubs without written approval from ECU Brand and Marketing, and, any approved use of the ECU logo must be in accordance with the [ECU Branding and Logo](#) policy.

#### **5. ACCOUNTABILITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Director, Digital and Campus Services has overall responsibility for the content of this policy and its operation.

The ECU Sports and Fitness Centre Operations Co-ordinator has responsibility for currency of information and provision of advice on the policy content.

#### **6. RELATED DOCUMENTS:**

##### **Statutes and Rules**

[Statute 22 - Student Conduct](#)  
[General Misconduct Rules \(Students\)](#)

##### **Operational documents and resources**

ECU Sports Facilities, Approved Clubs Guidelines and Fees  
Venue Hire procedures

#### **7. CONTACT INFORMATION:**

For queries relating to this document please contact:

Policy Owner	Director, Digital and Campus Services
Contact for enquiries	Operations Co-ordinator, ECU Sport and Fitness Centre

Telephone:	6304 5857
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**8. APPROVAL HISTORY:**

Policy approved by:	Executive Director, Finance and Administration Vice-Chancellor
Date policy first approved:	26 October 2000 (Executive Director, Finance and Administration) 21 April 2010 (Vice-Chancellor)
Date last modified:	July 2021
Revision history:	Oct-02 : Apr-03 : Dec-05 : Dec-07 : Oct-09; Jun-10; Oct-10, Oct-12. Sep-14; Sep-17 July 2021 A comprehensive review and refresh of the policy was undertaken to remove operational content and ensure the policy position is reflective of the current environment.
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