



ATU Sport

ATU Sport provides a Recreational Programme focused on inclusive participation for all students and staff who wish to exercise, keep fit, and play sport in a safe and fun environment. The Programme promotes health, well-being, and engagement at all experience levels and aims to be flexible to each campus's needs.

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ATU Recreational Sports Program

ATU Sports Recreational Programme encompasses all internal recreational physical activities, including national campaigns from third-level bodies and local partnerships.

The recreational programme is divided into 3 categories:

- a) Recreational sports clubs
- b) On campus physical activity
- c) Physical Activity Campaigns

1. Recreational Sports Clubs

Students and staff who wish to form a sports club for recreational non-competitive purpose will come under this category.

1.1 Standard Provisions

Subject to sports officer approval, recreational clubs will have access to:

- **Facilities** - On campus spaces (sports halls, studios, pitches) for a minimum of one hour per week.
- **Equipment:** Basic equipment (e.g., bibs, balls, markers, nets, posts), provided by the Sports Office/Sports Centre or Students' Union. All equipment remains the property of these offices.
- **Staff Support:** Guidance and assistance from Sports Officers and Sports Centre staff.
- **Promotion:** A profile on the SU Life platform to support recruitment and advertising.
- **Internal Travel:** Travel between ATU campuses for recreational events, note this is subject to Sports Office approval.

1.2 Additional Provisions – Subject to Approval

Depending on the nature of the recreational activity clubs may also access:

- **Coaching:** Where a supervised coach is required for safety reasons, members must contribute towards coaching costs. Contributions will vary depending on the activity and demand.
- **External Facilities:** When on-campus facilities are unavailable, clubs may apply for external facility rental, with associated costs considered by the Sports Office.
- **Individual Competitors:** Students who wish to represent ATU individually at recreational competitions must complete an [individual competitor funding application](#).

1.3 Club Requirements

To qualify for support, recreational clubs must:

- Recruit and advertise through SU Life, Clubs & Societies Day, and social media.
- Appoint at least two **Student Liaison Officers** to coordinate with Sports Staff (a full committee structure may be established instead if preferred).
- Ensure the club is covered under ATU insurance.
- Adhere to the ATU Student Code.

Student Liaison Officer Role

The Student Liaison Officer supports the recreational club and communicates with the Sports Office on the club's behalf. Each recreational club should appoint at least two Student Liaison Officers, ideally one from years 1–2 and one from years 3–4, to ensure continuity between academic years. These positions do not require a formal election but must be registered with the Sports Office or the Clubs & Societies Office at the Students' Union.

Student Liaison Officers are responsible for:

- Setting up the club on SU Life and maintaining its profile.
- Accepting the Clubs and Societies guidelines upon registration & adhering to these recreational guidelines.
- Reporting incidents or accidents promptly (ideally within 48 hours) to the Sports Office.

2. On Campus Physical Activities

On-campus physical activities include initiatives such as fitness classes, 5K runs, and social leagues.

2.1 Provisions

Participants in on-campus activities will have access to:

- Indoor and outdoor campus facilities.
- Sports Office/Sports Centre equipment.

- Qualified instructors for fitness classes - please note: where qualified instructors are required to run fitness classes or courses, students and staff will be required to contribute financially.
- Support and advertisement from the Sports Office/Sports Centre.
- Insurance cover.

2.2 Requirements

To qualify for these provisions, activities must:

- Involve a minimum number of active student/staff participants (numbers vary by campus and activity).
- Be covered under ATU insurance.
- Take place at times suitable for students. Where possible, activities may also be extended to staff and the wider community.

3. Physical Activity Campaigns

Physical activity-based campaigns involve initiatives by external bodies (e.g. Sport Ireland, Local Sports Partnerships) or internal student groups.

3.1 Provisions

Campaigns may be supported with:

- Indoor and outdoor facilities (subject to demand and season).
- Sports Office/Sports Centre equipment.
- Promotion and support from the Sports Office/Sports Centre. (Note – co-ordination of the campaign is the responsibility of the external body or student group)

3.2 Requirements

To qualify for support campaigns must:

- Be covered under university insurance

- Support and promotional material must be made available from external body or student body leading the campaign

4. Sponsorship & Fundraising

4.1 Recreational clubs may explore the possibility of sponsorship & fundraising opportunities.

- All sponsorship ideas must be provided to the ATU Campus Sport Service before a final decision is made to proceed.
- Sponsorship cards/letters can be provided from the ATU Campus Sports Service.
- ATU will not permit sponsorship of Alcohol/Tobacco/Gambling related companies.
- Funds can be raised through raffles or competitions. Prizes for such raffles cannot be provided through funding received from Clubs and Societies budget.
- As per the Student Alcohol Policy, alcohol or items promoting alcohol brands, licensed entertainment venues, tobacco or gambling companies cannot be used as prizes. All funds raised must go through the sports office and be recorded on SU Life.
- ATU Recreational club should always refer and align to ATU Clubs and Societies Guidelines in relation to any fundraising activity

5. Sportswear & Leisurewear

- Recreational club leisurewear items are not funded by ATU.
- Clubs may purchase leisurewear using their own funds or through fundraising. All leisurewear must comply with ATU Sport Leisurewear Guidelines (see Resources section on SU Life)
- Sponsorship promoting alcohol brands or licensed entertainment venues is not permitted on club leisurewear.
- In cases where an individual club member competes on behalf of ATU, a returnable ATU Sport jersey/top will be provided.