



## Clubs & Societies

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Common Constitution  
for

University of Limerick  
Clubs & Societies

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Passed on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012 by UL Clubs  
and Societies Council

## UL Rowing Club

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Adopted with additions on the 28<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017



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# The Constitution of UL Rowing Club

## 1. Constitution

The Constitution is ratified by UL Rowing Club (herein referred to ULRC) and replaces any previous constitution of the Club.

The Constitution is available to all members of ULRC.

## 2. General Provisions

### 2.1 Title

The title of the Club shall be the University of Limerick Rowing Club or may be abbreviated to UL Rowing or ULRC.

### 2.2 Affiliation

ULRC is affiliated to Rowing Ireland as its National Governing body also referred to as the IARU (Irish Amateur Rowing Union)

### 2.3 Aims & Objectives

The aims & objectives of the Club are as follows:

To promote the sport of rowing in the University of Limerick to its current and past students.

ULRC aims to increase the levels of participation at a high club and university level within Ireland and occasionally abroad.

ULRC also aims to develop its coaches and increase the level of knowledge within the club on a continuous basis.

## 3. Membership

### 3.1 Types of Membership

The membership of the Club shall consist of Full Members, Associate Members and Honorary Members who have paid their Membership Fee.

#### 3.1.1 Full Members

- a) All students currently attending a course at the University of Limerick and all current staff [permanent and part-time] and alumni of the University of Limerick and UL Students Union are eligible to be Full Members of the Club/Society. Attending a course for the purpose of the Constitution means pursuing any degree (undergraduate or postgraduate), full-time or part-time

and includes time spent on teaching practice, co-operative education, Erasmus and link-in modules.

- b) Students of Mary Immaculate College, Limerick are not eligible to be Full Members of the Club.
- c) Anyone who is a Full Member of the Club shall be entitled to be nominated to any position on the Committee or to any other committee of the Club.
- d) Full Members and Full Members only, shall have voting rights at any general meeting of the Club.

### **3.1.2 Associate Members**

- a) A member of the public who is aged eighteen years or over is eligible to be an Associate Member of the Club.
- b) Associate Members shall have no voting rights at any meeting of the Club and may not hold a Core Committee Position in the Club. **Change to associate members have voting rights but may not be able to hold down core committee position**
- c) Associate Members shall be entitled to hold other committee positions in accordance with the provisions of section 4.2 or may be requested by the Club to serve in an advisory position to a committee.

### **3.1.3 Honorary Members**

- a) The Committee of the Club may, subject to prior consultation with and approval of the Clubs & Societies Executive, invite any person who they deem to have done great service for the Club to be an Honorary Member in perpetuity of the Club.
- b) Honorary Members shall have the same rights as Associate Members, unless they fulfil the criteria for full membership in which case they shall have the same rights as a Full Member
- c) Notwithstanding clause 3.2.1 below, Honorary Members shall be exempt from paying any Membership Fee.

Current students should account for at least 75% of the listed membership of the Club.

## **3.2 Membership Fees and Term**

Every member of the Club must pay an annual membership fee in order to be eligible to be a current member of the Club, as well as completing the form in the membership books or Electronic Membership Form.

University of Limerick Rowing Club

The categories of Membership Fees as follows:

- |                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| a. UL Student               | €50  |
| b. Alumni & Staff of UL     | €240 |
| c. Associates               | €240 |
| d. Novice/first time rowing | €20  |

The membership amount shall be determined by the ULRC Committee annually, taking into consideration the University's Student Capitation. The membership amount is at the discretion of the ULRC Committee and shall be allocated annually.

The term of membership shall be from the date that the member signs the membership book or completes the electronic form until the Monday of Week One of Semester One of the following academic year.

### **3.3 Resignation of Members**

Any member who wishes to resign must do so by giving the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days written notice (which includes notice by email) of their intention to do so.

## **4. The Committee**

- (i) The general business of the Club shall be vested in the Committee which shall be responsible for the organisation, control, and all aspects of the day to day running of the Club.
- (ii) The Committee shall consist of the Officers of the Club, and two members, exclusive of the members *ex officio*, to be nominated at the Captain's discretion from among the members of the Club, to hold office for the ensuing year.
- (iii) Members so nominated, and having been summoned, who shall absent themselves from three consecutive meetings of the Committee shall *ipso facto* cease to be a member thereof unless they can provide a satisfactory reason for their non-attendance. If they cannot the Committee shall co-opt another member in their place.

- (iv) Four members of the Committee, *ex officio* or otherwise, shall form a quorum of the Committee. Any vacancies which occur during the year shall be filled by the Committee from amongst the Club membership, for such period as it decides. It shall meet at least once in every two months. It shall have the power to make such regulations as are consistent with this Constitution and as are thought necessary for the well being of the Club.
- (v) Matters coming before the Committee shall, unless otherwise stated be decided by a simple majority vote.
- (vi) If any committee member is deemed to be failing to uphold their role on the committee as stated in the constitution or is acting out of order with the club constitution can be voted out immediately by a majority vote of the three core committee members and the club president.

#### **4.1 Composition**

The Committee shall be composed of the following officers:

- i. Club Captain
- ii. Secretary
- iii. Treasurer
- iv. Safety Officer
- v. Men's Vice-Captain
- vi. vii. Women's Vice-Captain

of whom the Captain, the Secretary and the Treasurer are Core Committee Positions and two of the officers holding a Core Committee Position shall be the Club's representatives on the Clubs' and Societies' Council ("**CSC**").

A club president will also be appointed and/or dismissed by the same rules as a committee officer on a yearly basis at the club AGM. The club president must not be a student of UL and must be and alumni of the club. The president will be nominated each year at the AGM by the Captain

##### **4.1.1 The Captain**

- (i) The Captain shall have primary jurisdiction in all matters concerning the training and rowing of members of the Club, including their participation on crews at all levels.

- (ii) The Captain, Committee, and members shall exercise a duty of care in respect of the Club's equipment, and the Captain shall ensure that this duty of care is observed at all times.
- (iii) The Captain shall ensure that no crew competes under the name of the Club without the consent of the Captain.
- (iv) The Captain shall contribute to the selection and appointment of the Club's Coach and shall secure additional coaches in agreement with the main coach.
- (v) The Captain shall chair all committee meetings, AGM's and EGM's

#### **4.1.2 The Secretary**

- (i) The Secretaries shall during their term of office keep and up to date record of the names and addresses of all members of the Club.
- (ii) The Secretary shall be the custodian of all minute books, records, correspondence, and other documents appertaining to the conduct of the Club and coming within the province of the student officer, and shall produce same upon request by any member of the Captain's Committee.
- (iii) The Secretary shall summon, in accordance with this Constitution, the AGM and such EGMs, as may be required from time to time, including the EGM at which the Captain for the following season is elected.
- (iv) The Secretary shall give the member of the Long Term Committee responsible for the database of all DUBC graduates the names and addresses of all active oarsmen leaving College and the Club either during or upon completion of their studies.
- (v) The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring that all members are registered with the Irish Amateur Rowing Union (or its equivalent body) and that their Rowing Union subscriptions are paid up to date.
- (vi) The Secretary shall be responsible for submitting entries to races and regattas, organizing accommodation for Club crews as and when necessary, and ensuring safe and proper transport and loading of the Club trailer to and from races and regattas.



#### **4.1.3 The Treasurer**

- (i) The Treasurer shall present at every meeting of the Captain's Committee an up to date statement of the Club's budgeted and actual finances.
- (ii) The Treasurer shall present a record of the Club's finances at the Club's AGM. These shall have been approved by the Captain.
- (iii) The Treasurer shall receive all membership subscriptions and keep an accurate record of such payments, and shall issue a receipt for same.
- (iv) The Treasurer shall record the receipt of such grants as are paid to the Club, and of the disbursements made from such receipts.

#### **4.1.4 The Safety Officer**

The Safety Officer's duties shall be to ensure that the Club's Safety Statement is relevant and achievable, that the Club ensures good safety records are kept and that the Club complies with its Safety Statement.

#### **4.1.5 The President**

- (i) The President is the Club's senior representative and will play an active part in the well-being and activities of the Club, aware of the Club's objective for rowing to be of the highest possible standard. The President will represent the Club as occasion demands, promoting its interests at all times, and working to create a positive and supportive climate within and outside the Club.
- (ii) The president must be notified of any major issues, incidents or decisions in the Club by the Captain.
- (iii) Any purchase being made by the committee over the value of one thousand euro must be approved by the president first.

#### **4.1.6 Other Officers**

The Club may appoint other officers at the discretion of the Core Committee. Any such additional officers are not permanent officials of the Committee, may fulfil more than one role and need not be appointed every year, nor replaced if the position should become vacant for any reason.

#### **4.2 Election of Officers**

Subject to section 4.5, officers shall be elected at the relevant AGM (Annual General Meeting) in accordance with the provisions of section 5.2.

### **4.3 Resignation of Officers**

Officers may resign by giving one week's written notice to the Secretary, or in the case of the Secretary, to the Captain.

### **4.4 Retirement of Officers**

All officers shall retire at the AGM immediately prior to the election of the new Committee and that Committee for the following year shall be elected in accordance with the provisions of section 5.2.

### **4.5 Vacancies on the Committee**

In the case of a vacancy on the Committee due to resignation or expulsion as per section 7 of an officer or for any other reason, the Committee shall have the power to co-opt any Member to the Committee until the next general meeting (be it an EGM or an AGM), at which a new officer will be appointed in accordance with section 5.2.

### **4.6 Sub-Committees**

The Committee may appoint and dismiss sub-committees from the Club membership and prescribe rules for those sub-committees as appropriate. Subcommittees will retire annually on the date of the relevant AGM, or when their function is complete, whichever is the sooner.

### **4.7 Handover Documents**

Each outgoing officer of the Committee must present Handover Documents at the end of their term detailing the specific roles and responsibilities and the person(s) with whom they conducted the business of the Club in order to assist the incoming officers with their development of the Club.

## **5. Meetings**

### **5.1 General Meetings**

(Annual General Meeting (AGM) & Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM))

The Committee shall give fourteen (14) days' notice of any general meeting to all members along with a call for any submissions and motions to be submitted to the Committee in writing six (6) days in advance of the general meeting.

**5.1.1** Members shall be notified of general meetings in writing through at least two mediums (text, email, and/or posters).

**5.1.2** The agenda for the general meeting including submissions and motions is to be circulated to Full Members five (5) days in advance of the meeting.

**5.1.3** An EGM must be convened at the request of fifteen (15) or more Full Members in writing to the Captain clearly stating the purpose for that meeting. The EGM will be held no later than fourteen (14) days of receipt of the written request. The Clubs & Societies Executive (CSE) must also be made aware of this request by a member of the core committee

**5.1.4** The CSE must be notified of all general meetings by a member of the Core Committee.

## **5.2 Voting at General Meetings**

**5.2.1** Voting shall be by show of hands unless otherwise determined in a vote of the meeting

**5.2.2** Each Full Member shall have one vote at any general meeting.

**5.2.3** Motions and resolutions must be passed by a simple majority of those Full Members present at the meeting.

**5.2.4** Elections to the roles of officers of the Committee shall be by simple majority vote of those Full Members present at the meeting.

**5.2.5** All nominations for each committee position require a Proposer and separate Secunder from the membership. Any Member may nominate themselves at the meeting for election as an officer of the Club/Society Committee. Officers who have immediately prior resigned pursuant to Clause 4.4 are eligible for reelection (unless they have become ineligible for any other reason).

**5.2.6** In the event of an equality of votes, the Captain shall have a second-casting vote in addition to the vote to which he or she may in any case be entitled

**5.2.7** In the event of a conflict of interest for the Captain, they must vacate the Chair and another Captain must be appointed by a vote of the members present for the duration that the conflict persists.

**5.2.8** At an AGM, the outgoing committee shall present for approval to the meeting the financial accounts of the Club for the year ending at that AGM.

## **5.3 Quorum at Meetings**

**5.3.1** The quorum shall be ten (10) Full Members, excluding Core Committee Members, up to a 100 person membership. If the membership of the Club shall exceed 100, then the quorum shall be five (5) additional members and an additional five (5) per 100 increases in membership thereafter, up to a maximum membership of 500.

**5.3.2** If the quorum is not reached at a general meeting the meeting cannot proceed, but must be reconvened within one week.

**5.3.3** If the Club fails to reach quorum at the reconvened general meeting, it will be put forward for de-recognition at the next CSC.

#### **5.4 Committee Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least six (6) times per academic year with least two (2) meetings being held in each semester. Subject to the rules of this Constitution, the Committee shall determine its own quorum on election, and shall regulate its own procedures. The Secretary shall give at least four (4) days' written notice of any committee meetings.

## **6. Health and Safety**

### **6.1 Health & Safety**

The Committee and the members of the Club will at all times do their utmost to comply with the Health & Safety Statement of the Club to ensure any planned activities are safe to participate in and that members do not engage in behaviour likely to cause harm

### **6.2 Health & Safety Statement**

**6.2.1** The Club must have a Health & Safety Statement. This must follow the template provided by the Health & Safety Consultants for Clubs & Societies. This will be available on the Clubs and Societies website.

**6.2.2** The Health & Safety statement must be reviewed annually by the Committee to ensure it remains relevant to the Club's activities and is compliant with any legislative changes or directives issued by a governing body.

**6.2.3** The Committee will inform its members of their obligations under the terms of the Health & Safety Statement. This should be undertaken at a general meeting and per event/trip briefing

### **6.3 Foreign Trips**

**6.3.1** If any member intends to make a foreign trip on Club business, they must inform the Clubs and Societies Development Officer (CSDO) and the UL Sports Administrator with regard to a Club trip

**6.3.2** An itinerary must be furnished to [the parties in 6.3.1] in advance of all trips outside of the island of Ireland. The itinerary must include:

- (i) Flight/Ferry information, and accommodation phone numbers and a daily schedule of the planned activities.
- (ii) The contact details of the event coordinators while abroad and the person/people designated to be responsible for First Aid (where possible).
- (iii) In Case of Emergency (ICE) contact details must be provided by every participant to the event co-ordinators, and provided to the CSDO and Sports Administrator at least a week in advance of the planned trip.

**6.3.3** The member must take the Clubs & Societies Travel Insurance Policy Number on any trip, which is available from CSDO or ULSU Secretary General in advance of the trip

**6.3.4** In accordance with the Health & Safety Statement, the contact details for the Clubs and Societies Development Officer, General Manager, ULSU President and the UL Sports Administrator must be provided to the event coordinators

## **7. Disciplinary Action**

The Committee and members of the Club shall comply with the disciplinary, grievance, bullying and harassment procedures of the Clubs & Societies Executive as may be amended from time to time

## **8. Financial Matters**

### **8.1 Funds**

**8.1.1** All funds raised by the Club must be used for the express purpose of the promotion and development of Clubs & Societies activities under the auspices of the Students Union except in the case of funds raised by a charity event.

**8.1.2** In the event of de-recognition of the Club, any funds remaining shall revert to the Clubs & Societies to be administered by the CSE.

### **8.2 Bank Accounts**

**8.2.1** All accounts operated by the Club must be made known to the CSE in the annual budget.

**8.2.2** At least three ( 3) officers of the Committee, of which one must be the Treasurer, shall be nominated as signatories on the Bank Mandate for the Club's accounts, and at least two (2) officers, of which one must be the Treasurer, is required sign off on all transactions.

## **9. Equipment**

### **9.1 Equipment Policy**

**9.1.1** Equipment owned by the Club shall be used solely for the purposes of the Club in accordance with this constitution and shall be held and dealt with by the officers and members of the Club accordingly

**9.1.2** In the event that the Club is de-recognised the ownership of all equipment/inventory shall be transferred back to the Clubs and Societies of University of Limerick Rowing Club

the University of Limerick Students Union under the management of CSE. This equipment will be held in trust until the Club is re-started or a similar interest club/society that may benefit from the use of such equipment (as decided by the CSE). In the alternative, it may be decided by the CSE to sell off all such assets and return all proceeds to the Special Events Fund or Annual Budget of Clubs and Societies as appropriate.

**9.1.3** In the event of de-recognition, all officers of the Committee of the Club must ensure that all equipment is returned to the CSE without delay complete with keys for storage and location where necessary.

**9.1.4** The Committee of the Club is responsible for keeping a record of all assets controlled by the Club and for the storage and maintenance of any equipment and for keeping records of the maintenance, which shall be available to the Clubs and Societies Executive committee on request.

**9.1.5** The Committee is charged with the welfare and transfer of all such equipment.

**9.1.6** The CSE shall be the arbitrators of all aspects of the Clubs & Societies Equipment Policy.

## **10. Legal Protocol**

The Club shall comply with the Clubs and Societies Executive Club and Society Protocol in Legal Proceedings, a copy of which is attached as a schedule to this Constitution.

## **11. Interpretation**

### **11.1 Interpretation of the Constitution**

Where a dispute arises as to the meaning of this Constitution or a dispute as to a conflict between this Constitution and the Constitution of the University of Limerick Students' Union, then the dispute shall be referred to an arbitrator to be appointed by the President of the University of Limerick Students' Union and the arbitrator's decision is final.

**(Copy of Schedules attached)**

### **Initiation of Disciplinary Action**

The following constitute breaches of discipline:

University of Limerick Rowing Club

- (i) Serious or persistent breach of Health and Safety.
- (ii) Bringing the name of the Club into disrepute.
- (iii) Acting against the aims and/or objectives of the Club
- (iv) Misappropriation of any funding relating to the Club
- (v) Discrimination & Harassment as defined in the Equal Status Act 2000
- (vi) Gross misconduct by any member.

1. All complaints relating to alleged breaches of discipline shall be made in writing (including email) to a member of the Core Committee and to the CSE in reasonable proximity to the date of the matter giving rise to the complaint. The member of the Core Committee shall submit that written complaint to the Committee, whose decision, subject to the provisions of this rule, shall be final and binding.
2. On being advised of a complaint of an alleged breach of discipline and being of the opinion that the matter is of a sufficiently serious nature, the Committee, acting with all reasonable haste, shall appoint a sub-committee (as per section 3.1), comprising of five full members to deal with and adjudicate upon the complaint. (For the purposes of this section 7, the subcommittee dealing with the complaint is hereinafter termed "**the Discipline Committee**".)
3. A written notice of a date, time and place of the meeting of the Discipline Committee at which such matters are to be considered and the nature of the complaints shall be given to the member concerned at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.
4. The member shall be entitled to attend at such meeting and shall be afforded the opportunity to respond to the complaints
5. The quorum for a meeting of the Discipline Committee shall be three (3). Voting shall be by secret ballot, and the elected Captain of the Discipline Committee shall be entitled to vote and not have a casting vote. A majority of those present and voting shall be required to find a member in breach of discipline. The Discipline Committee shall have power to caution, discipline, and sanction such member in such manner as it considers appropriate, or to suspend the member's membership for such period as it considers appropriate, or to expel the member from membership of the Club or of any committee thereof, or to impose such condition on members continued membership as the Discipline Committee considers appropriate.
6. During a period of suspension, a member shall be denied all rights and privileges of membership. In the event of suspension or expulsion the member shall not be entitled to a refund of the whole or any part of the



Membership Fee for the year/s in which a suspension or expulsion occurs, and any Membership Fee falling due within the period of suspension shall remain due and payable.

7. A member desiring to appeal against the finding of the Discipline Committee and/or against the sanction imposed may within fourteen (14) days of the decision request the CSE to consider the appeal. Such request must be made in writing. Upon the receipt of such an appeal the CSE shall appoint one of its members to hear the appeal, who will request written submissions from both the Discipline Committee and the member lodging the appeal and shall make their decisions based on those written submissions. In exceptional circumstances the CSE appointee may (at his or her sole discretion) convene a meeting with either or both of the Discipline Committee and/or the appellant, either alone or together.
8. In the event that a finding by the Discipline Committee of a breach of discipline is upheld, or in the event of an appeal against severity of sanction only, the CSE shall, inter alia, have power to reduce or increase the sanction.
9. Pending the decision of the CSE, the sanction imposed by the Discipline Committee shall not take effect.
10. The decision of the CSE shall be final and binding.

### **Grievance Procedure**

The Clubs and Societies are voluntary social, recreational and leisure clubs who run activities for students and staff of the University of Limerick to enjoy in their leisure time. In this regard, we would hope that Club & Society members will get along with each other without any grievances arising. However, we do understand that from time to time, grievances caused by misunderstanding, disagreement or general dissatisfaction may occur among Club members. Full recognition is given to the significance of personal grievances and it is our policy that all grievances will be dealt without undue delay and resolved at the earliest possible stage

1. In the first instance, it is expected that any Club member with a grievance will attempt to resolve it informally by speaking with the individual(s) concerned in an attempt to resolve the issue amicably. If a resolution is agreed at this stage, both members involved should agree to put the issue behind them for the good of the Club/Society.
2. If the member experiencing the grievance does not feel confident in approaching the individual(s) concerned, they should speak to a member of the Club/Society committee and explain their grievance to them. The committee member should facilitate a meeting between the member and the

individual concerned with a view to resolving the grievance as quickly and amicably as possible. This meeting should take place within five days of the member raising the grievance.

3. If there is no agreement at this stage, the member experiencing the grievance should submit their grievance in writing to the Club committee. The committee should appoint two members of the committee to investigate the grievance within five days of receiving the grievance. The investigation should be done through meeting both parties involved in the grievance and any other person who the two members consider appropriate. Minutes should be taken at the meeting and a report of the findings prepared. A decision should be made by the two members as to what the outcome of the grievance is. This information should then be presented to both parties of the grievance. Those investigating the grievance should aim to resolve the grievance within ten days of receiving the grievance.
4. If either party is unhappy with the outcome of the investigation into the grievance, they should appeal the decision to the Clubs and Societies Executive Committee outlining the reasons for the appeal within seven working days of receiving the outcome of the grievance. The Clubs and Societies Executive Committee should appoint two members to hear the appeal meeting within five days of receiving the appeal. An investigatory meeting should take place if necessary and a decision made within ten days of receiving the appeal.
5. It is expected that at any stage at which resolution is achieved that the members will agree to work together in harmony for the sake of the other members of the Club.

#### **Bullying and Harassment Procedures:**

There is both an informal and formal procedure to deal with the issue of bullying/harassment within the clubs. It is our aim that any investigation that takes place will be completed as quickly as possible.

#### **Informal Procedure:**

It is often preferable for all concerned that complaints of bullying or harassment are dealt with informally whenever possible. While in no way diminishing the issue or the effects on individuals, an informal approach can often resolve matters more effectively. As a general rule therefore, an attempt should be made to address an allegation of bullying/harassment as informally as possible by means of an agreed informal procedure. The objective of this approach is to resolve the difficulty quickly and effectively, with the minimum of conflict and stress for the individuals.

Any member who believes he or she is being bullied/harassed should explain clearly to the alleged perpetrator(s) that the behaviour in question is unacceptable. In circumstances where the member finds it difficult to approach the alleged perpetrator(s) directly, he or she should seek help and advice, on a strictly confidential basis, from a fellow member of the University of Limerick Rowing Club

Club. The fellow club member can be a support for the complainant in approaching the alleged perpetrator to explain the reasons they feel they are being bullied or harassed.

It is recognised that it may not always be practical to use the informal procedure, Particularly where the harassment / bullying is of a very serious nature.

**Formal Procedure:**

If an informal approach is inappropriate or if, after the informal stage, the bullying/harassment persist, the following formal procedures should be invoked: -

1. The complainant should make a formal complaint, in writing, to the Club committee detailing precise details of actual incidents of bullying/harassment; for example, state the name of the alleged perpetrator, the nature of the complaint, dates and times of when the incidents occurred, witnesses, and any action that the complainant may already have taken, if any.
2. The alleged perpetrator(s) should be notified in writing that an allegation of bullying has been made against them. They should be given a copy of the complainant's statement as soon as is practicable and advised that they shall be afforded a fair opportunity to respond to the allegation(s), within specified time limits. No outcome regarding the complaint will be made until a full and fair investigation has taken place.
3. Before commencing an investigation, the Club committee may take the decision to exclude the alleged perpetrator from any Club activities while the investigation is ongoing if it is deemed appropriate. This in no way implies any wrong doing on the part of the perpetrator but will be taken as a cautionary measure to prevent exacerbating the situation between the complainant and the alleged perpetrator.
4. The Club/Society committee will appoint two members of the committee who will be tasked with investigating the complaint. They will prepare clear terms of reference which outline the background to the complaint, who should be interviewed through the course of the investigation and the timeline in which to resolve the complaint.
5. Meetings will be arranged with the complainant, the alleged perpetrator and any other person who the two members consider appropriate. All will be asked to respond to the complaint and detail their version of events. Both parties and witnesses have the right to be accompanied by a representative at all meetings. Meeting notes will be taken and once committed to type must be signed by the relevant person who was interviewed as a true and accurate reflection of the discussion.
6. Those investigating will prepare a report of their findings and submit it to the Clubs/Societies committee for a final decision. The two committee members who have taken part in the investigation should not make a decision regarding the outcome.

7. Once a decision has been made, the complainant and the alleged perpetrator must be informed as soon as is practicable.
8. If the complaint is upheld, the Club/Society committee will instigate the Clubs and Societies Disciplinary Procedures. Actions taken can include expulsion from the Club/Society.
9. If the complaint is not well found, both parties should be brought together by the Club/Society committee and a mediation process should be implemented to ascertain whether both members can move on and continue to partake in the club/societies activities.
10. If the complaint is discovered to be malicious or vexatious, the Club/Society
11. Committee may instigate the Clubs and Societies disciplinary procedures against the complainant.
12. Retaliation of any kind against the member for complaining may also constitute
13. Bullying/harassment and is a serious disciplinary offence.

### **Appeals Process**

If either party is unhappy with the outcome of the investigation, both parties have the right to appeal to the Clubs and Societies Executive Committee within 5 working days of the findings being issued. A party, who wishes to appeal the outcome, should put the reason for the appeal in writing and address it to the Student's Union President.

Upon receiving the appeal letter, the Clubs and Societies Executive Committee will appoint two members of the Committee to hear the appeal. They may choose to conduct further investigations or implement a new investigation. A decision regarding the outcome should be taken within ten working days of receiving the appeal.

### **Confidentiality:**

All individuals involved in the procedures referred to above should maintain strict confidentiality on the subject. All involved will be reminded of this throughout the investigation process.

## **CLUBS & SOCIETY PROTOCOL ON LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

[Passed 24/02/09]

### **STEP 1**

A formal request must be made from a Club or Society to the Clubs & Societies Executive prior to any legal advice being sought to the Clubs & Societies Executive. The formal request will be in written form outlining in detail the time line of alleged grievance and how it affects the clubs activities or good name. Full disclosure of all documents and correspondences (email, phone calls, text, web) must be made

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available to the Clubs & Societies Executive. The written request must be accompanied by a signed declaration by the committee that the information contained within is truthful and an accurate account of the issue in question.

#### STEP 2

The Clubs & Societies Executive will convene and the issue will form part of their weekly meetings on the official agenda. Clubs & Society Executive members with membership of the club or society in dispute must declare all affiliations and vacate the meeting where conflict of interest arises.

The Clubs & Societies Executive shall request the signatories of the initial formal request to attend a meeting in person of the Clubs & Societies Executive prior to a decision being made to grant or reject the request for referral to the ULSU solicitor

A majority decision is required from the Clubs voting members of the C&S Executive and a majority of the Society voting members of C&S Executive in order to grant permission for the issue to be referred for legal advice to the ULSU solicitor by the applicant club/society. In the event of conflicts of interest it will be a majority of the *remaining* voting members of the Clubs & Societies Executive

#### STEP 3

When a legal opinion has been offered, it must be disclosed in full to the Clubs & Societies Executive. Each subsequent request to proceed from one legal action/proceeding to another will be subject to approval by the Clubs & Societies Executive on the basis of legal opinion and the “majority decision basis”.

#### STEP 4

Clubs & Societies Executive retain the right to sanction or reject the initiation of any legal action or proceeding subject to the legal advises at any time. This shall be on the grounds that no one club or society may unnecessarily expose the level of risk to the overall integrity of the University of Limerick’s Clubs and Societies.

## 12 Appendix 1

### 12.1 Club Policies

# University of Limerick Rowing Club



## Club Policies

Updated September 2017

### Membership

- All members must sign up on ULSU online before partaking in any activities.
- Further membership details circulated to all members by week 1 of first semester for returning members. Full membership details to new recruits at end of Phase 1 Recruitment (End week 6) (This document)
- Membership Fees
  - Learn to Row 6 week program (Incl experienced 1st years) - 20 Euro ○ Student - 50 Euro
  - Alumni & Non-UL Students - 240 Euro

- Learn to race 6 week program including races - 30 Euro
- Rowing Ireland Fee - Due October each year. This fee is collected by ULRC and paid direct to the Rowing Ireland for your racing license.
- Master sheet of ULRC membership to kept by Treasurer to include membership and race fee tracking.
- Rack Fees
  - Student Racks - Free
  - All other Racks - 100 Euro
- Regatta Fees Account - 200 Euro
  - For competitive squad members.
  - Record kept by Treasurer and circulated to all members after each event.
  - Balances refunded immediately - at the end of the season or if a member drops out early.
  - Options:
    - ▣ Cash Installments. Frequency to be agreed. Half by December 1st.  
Final Deadline March 1st of each year.
    - ▣ Direct Debit. Frequency to be agreed.  
Final Deadline March 1st of each year.
- All members are advised that receipts will be issued for any monies received, except clearly referenced bank transfers. Money should only be handed to senior committee members, Treasurer, Secretary or Captain.
  - If a receipt is not forthcoming immediately the responsibility is on the member to follow up and acquire one from the Treasurer.
  - Un-receipted monies for any dues can not be guaranteed.
- No member is under any obligation to join a squad.

**By joining ULRC you acknowledge the deadlines above, where relevant. Failure to abide by these deadlines will forfeit your access to ULRC equipment and facilities until relevant fees are paid in full.**

## Squad System

ULRC operates three basic squads for operational and training purposes.

### Core Squads

- Beginner (Novice) on graduating from Learn to Row program.
- Competitive - comprising Club, Inter and Senior grades
- Recreational - for non-competitive rowers of all ages.

Squads are mixed and are subdivided from year to year depending on size, ability, coaching availability etc.

Beginner rowers follow a learn to row program for 6 - 12 weeks and on completion can decide to join a Novice or Recreational squad.

Competitive rowers follow a racing focused program which normally begins with a 5 session per week commitment including Saturday mornings.

Recreational rowing have access to the gym and boats at off-peak times. Crews are often mixed and individual levels of training vary.

## Clothing

All official ULRC clothing is centrally ordered by the committee.

**One-piece:** Navy, maroon and gold material. Gold crest embroidered on the front and 'ULRC' embroidered in gold on back.

**Racing Undershirt:** White only - T-Shirt or Racing Long/Short Sleeves

**Hoodies:** Navy with Gold embroidery

**Jackets/Turtles:** Navy All embroidery, crest/name/back panel should be in white.

**Legs:** Navy

**Hats:** Plain white

## Equipment

- Equipment divided into Tier 1 - Priority racing equipment and Tier 2 - Training equipment.
- Competitive squads have priority on all equipment as allocated by the coaching staff.
- Recreational squad has access to Tier 2 equipment only.
- All boats are **washed down** boats after use.
- Log any problems with boats on whiteboard near changing rooms and inform the captain & your relevant coach.
- Seats, stretchers and riggers are marked for each boat and should not be removed or swapped without notifying the coaches.
- Trailer Loading
  - First crew to use a boat at an event has the responsibility of loading it before the event.
  - Make sure that all foot stretchers & shoes are secured in the boat before loading. No loose nuts & bolts.
  - Last crew to use a boat at an event has the responsibility of loading it at the event.
  - Coxswains or Bow (of cox-less boats) is responsible for tying in seats, all seats provided with bungee cords should be tied in. This prevents wheels getting damaged and saves space in the trailer.
  - Riggers should generally not be tied together. If doing so the backstays should be removed and taped separately to conserve space in the trailer compartments.

## Water Training

- No crews or scullers are allowed on the river without a coaching launch.
- Crews must follow the correct training direction while on the water. Stay on the correct side of the river to avoid a collision.



- All water training will be organised by senior coaches.
- Launches are not to be used by members unless approved by senior coaches and committee.
- The boathouse and boat bays are to be securely locked while crews are on the river.

### **Traveling/Accommodation**

- Accommodation will be centrally organised for all events by the committee.
- Athletes, coxswains and coaches will stay together at all events where accommodation is required.
- Non-competitive members may be required to stay in different accommodation.
- Flights/Accommodation centrally booked for foreign events.
  - Enables same flights to be booked.
  - Enables adjacent rooms to be booked.
  - Optimises event participation and preparation.

### **Fund-raising**

- 3-4 events planned for first semester. (Usually bag-packing, Run Series etc.)
- Students who participate fully in first semester fund-raising will receive significantly reduced accommodation, travel and race fee's for Intervarsities.
- All fund-raising over 10k will be used for second semester events other than Inter-varsities.
- Events complete by March, so as to concentrate on training fully during the racing season.
- Participation in fund raising is required to be part of a club squad.

### **Medical**

**PLEASE NOTE – ROWING IS A PHYSICALLY DEMANDING SPORT THAT REQUIRES HIGH LEVELS OF HEALTH AND FITNESS FROM ALL PARTICIPATING ATHLETES.**

#### **Medical History**

If there is any disability, illness or injury that may be affected or aggravated by participating in a club activity YOU must NOT participate until you have discussed this with a coach and a senior committee member. Such disclosure will be kept confidential.

If you have any pre-existing medical conditions that the coaching team should be aware of, please inform them immediately.

I confirm that I do not have any injury or illness that may be aggravated by my participation in rowing club activities other than disclosed by me and I acknowledge that the University of Limerick Rowing Club, in particular all coaches, committee members, volunteers and or agents, are relying on this statement in allowing me to participate in club activities. If I suffer any such illness or injury I agree to notify the Coach and a senior committee member immediately.

Notwithstanding the above, and in consideration of my membership fee and or my participation in any aspect of the sport of rowing, I also confirm and agree to abide by the rules / code of conduct made at any time by the University of Limerick Rowing Club and by the terms and conditions of the University of Limerick Rowing Club Release, Waiver and Indemnity Agreement.

**WARNING – ROWING IS A WATER BASED SPORT THAT REQUIRES ALL PARTICIPATING ATHLETES TO BE AWARE OF THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH WATER BASED ACTIVITY.**