

Club sports play all year 'round

By Carrie Cook
Emerald Contributor

Students, faculty and staff can enjoy more than 20 sports year-round with the University's co-ed, recreational, and competitive Club Sports Program.

The program was designed for people who want a different athletic program from the already existing intramural and intercollegiate programs at the University. Student interest and participation keeps the clubs operating. Each club is student-organized and the selection of volunteer coaches is conducted by the students.

At the present time, 23 clubs are active. However, student interest could revive three inactive clubs: korfbal, handball and racquetball.

Twelve clubs offer year-round competition. The first of these is the Badminton Club, which is a member of the U.S. Badminton Associations.

The Equestrian Club competes with other Northwest collegiate teams in events for English riders throughout the school year.

Both men and women can compete in the Olympic sport of judo. The Karate Club competes through the school year and finishes with the University Spring Karate Invitational.

The Rugby Club, with both men's and women's teams, is a member of the Oregon Rugby Football Union and takes a trip during spring break to tournaments in Canada and California.

Also competing year-round is

the Sailing Club, which practices at Dexter Reservoir during fall and winter and Fern Ridge Reservoir during spring and summer. The Crew Club is a competing member of the Pacific-10 Conference and Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association and also holds its practices at Dexter Reservoir, near Eugene.

Soccer, table tennis, taekwon do, ultimate frisbee and volleyball are the other sports represented by clubs that compete in collegiate competition throughout the Northwest during the year.

There are 10 club sports offering seasonal competition at some point during the year. The Aikido Club competes in the Northwest and California; the Baseball Club competes against Northwest collegiate teams.

The Men's and Women's Bowling Clubs play in the Oregon Collegiate Bowling Conference and other collegiate tournaments. A Cycling Club competes throughout spring and summer and is a member of the U.S. Cycling Federation.

Men and women of all skill levels have the opportunity to train and compete during part of the year with the Fencing Club. And during spring term, the Lacrosse Club, a member of the Pacific Northwest Lacrosse Association, competes against clubs from other schools and neighborhoods.

The rifle, ski, swimming and water polo teams also compete and practice during certain seasons of the school year with other collegiate teams.

The newest club sport is the Ranger Challenge, which trains members in military skills at the University's Department of Military Skills and at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Funding for the clubs is derived from student incidental fees and student fundraising; therefore, membership fees do not exist.

The Club Sports Program office is located downstairs in the EMU, Room 5, near the Recreational Center. For questions and information regarding the Club Sports Program, call 686-3733.

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