I. Policy

The sports club program is a student-oriented program designed to serve individual interest in different sports. The objective of the sports club program is to offer a sports activity for any interested student who has the desire to participate and to help develop skills in different sports.

II. Procedure

A. The sports club program at USC has two major areas of emphasis:

   1. The recreational-instructional emphasis

   2. The more highly-structured interclub, competition oriented emphasis.

B. A sport club is a registered student organization that provides a program of instruction, recreation, and/or competition in specific sports and recreational activities.

C. A sport club must be registered in accordance with the university regulations governing student organizations. All clubs must renew their registration annually (see STAF 3.10 Student Organizations [http://www.sc.edu/policies/staf310.pdf]).

D. Sports clubs are organized when students express an interest in a certain activity, or because of anticipated needs when a student interest is present, although it may be limited in numbers. In any case, the sports club director is ready to assist any student who wishes to organize any type of club.

E. The emphasis in sports club activities is leadership. The sports club director will provide encouragement, guidance, and coordination, but in the final analysis, the club survives and thrives only by means of active student involvement and participation. The key to a successful sport club is the fact that it is student-initiated and student-controlled, and the
emphasis is placed on participation. As a student initiated activity, the individual club will determine the range and effectiveness of its program.

F. Sports Club Advisors - To encourage positive interaction between both teaching administrative staff and students involved in student organizations, every student organization (including sports clubs) is required to have an advisor. The advisor must be selected from full-time faculty or administrative staff members at the University of South Carolina. Graduate students are not eligible to fulfill this requirement.

G. Clubs are permitted to use the name “University of South Carolina,” in describing the organization only at such times as they qualify as a registered student organization. However, sports clubs must understand and make it clear in their representation to third parties that they speak only for their membership, not the university or the student body as a whole. Sports clubs are not agents of the University of South Carolina; (i.e. The Bowling Club of the University of South Carolina, etc.)

H. Active membership in a sport club shall be limited to persons officially connected with the University as faculty, staff, or full-time students. Students taking six (6) credit hours or more, and who pay the University Fee, and who adhere to the club constitution are eligible for regular membership in a sport club. All participants must complete a Sports Club Membership Application/Waiver of Liability and Release Agreement before participating as a member of a Sports Club. Students enrolled in the spring semester under the above conditions and indicating intent to continue (students who have pre-registered) in the fall semester as well as students enrolled in summer school are eligible for summer membership. Any persons not meeting the above requirements shall not be eligible for active membership in registered sports clubs.

III. Reason for Revision

Policy organization, content, and accuracy reviewed in July 2010; no substantive revisions required.