



## **BUCS policy on initiations and alcohol abuse in sport**

October 2013

British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) is acutely aware that student life and student sport often involves alcohol consumption, but it condemns any behaviour that damages students' health and wellbeing or adversely affects the student sporting experience.

As the national body for university sport in the UK, BUCS recommends that all teams, clubs, athletes and athletic unions take a responsible attitude to the provision and consumption of alcohol at sporting events and club social events on and off campus.

Excess alcohol can lead to anti-social behaviour and in some instances has resulted in death. BUCS expects all its member institutions to ensure that the consumption of alcohol in and around sporting events and club social events is managed appropriately, promoting moderation and responsible behaviour at all times.

Playing sport at university is a great way to develop skills and make new and lasting friendships, adding value to the overall student experience. However, sport involvement and participation should never put students in situations where they feel bullied, harassed or intimidated.

### **BUCS Policy on anti-social behaviour – Regulations and Conditions**

BUCS expects all teams, clubs and athletes to familiarise themselves with [Regulations 16 & 17](#) which outline its approach to behaviour at BUCS sporting events or fixtures which in summary state -

Any grievance or complaint regarding student behaviour at its sporting events, fixtures or competitions should be submitted to BUCS and will be dealt with through its disciplinary process and this could take the form of:

Either

An institution appealing for contravention of BUCS rules and regulations ([Reg.16](#))

And / or

A written complaint from an institution or member of the public for bringing BUCS into disrepute ([Reg 17](#))

Disciplinary outcomes may include:

- Deduction of BUCS points
- Fines
- Individual(s) suspension/expulsion from BUCS competitions/leagues
- Team suspension/expulsion from BUCS competitions/leagues
- Club suspension/expulsion from BUCS competitions/leagues

Complaints should be submitted (via email) to [appeals@bucs.org.uk](mailto:appeals@bucs.org.uk) and BUCS will enact its disciplinary proceedings against the individual(s) or institution.

In addition to the General Regulations member institutions must:

- For all BUCS-managed events, where institutions are organising travel for supporters the institution must notify BUCS of the number of supporters likely to attend and give the name(s) of 1-3 persons who will be travelling with the supporters who will assist the event organisers to manage the supporters' behaviour should the need arise. The following is a guide to the number of named persons required;
  - Less than 35 supporters – 1 named person
  - 36 – 60 supporters – 2 named persons
  - 61+ supporters – 3 named persons

BUCS reserve the right to refuse entry or exclude any supporters arriving or in attendance at BUCS events under the influence of alcohol or demonstrating anti-social behaviour.

- **From October 2013 all institutions must provide BUCS with a link to their code of conduct in relation to initiations, and alcohol abuse in sport.**

Members which do not comply will not be permitted to remain members of BUCS.

All BUCS member institutions agree to abide by the general regulations and conditions detailed in the BUCS anti-social behaviour policy and to provide evidence of an institutional Initiations Policy, understanding that any breach in these regulations and conditions will result in disciplinary action being brought against Clubs, Teams, athletes or supporters from my institution.