

INTRAMURAL BULLETIN BOARD

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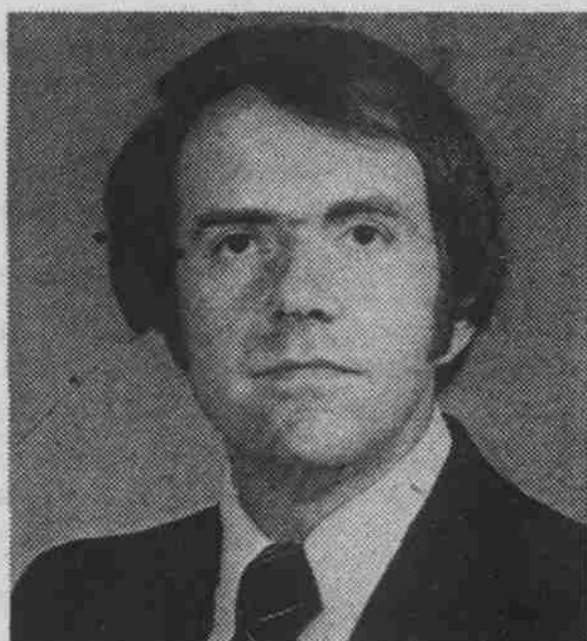
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IM-Rec staff will not tolerate abuse of sport officials, Shields says

by Dr. Ed Shields
UNC IM-Rec Sports Program Director



IM-Rec Director Dr. Ed Shields

UNC Intramural-Recreational Sports basketball began this week with approximately 450 teams and 4500 individuals participating. Competition is expected to be fierce as teams compete for league, divisional and all-campus championships. Many teams in men's residence hall, fraternity, men's graduate/independent, women's competitive, sorority and co-rec divisions will be vying for the championships. For some teams, basketball may be a big factor in their quest for the over-all or point championship for 1981-82.

Although the IM-Rec Sports Program has offered and promoted "recreational leagues" in practically all sports for those individuals not wishing to compete at a level of great intensity (inquire about this if you are interested), the competitive leagues are traditionally the foundation of the program. Winners receive plaques and/or "Carolina Champion" T-shirts, the title of "champion" and the publicity and "bragging rights" which accompany such success.

Obviously, competition is not unique to Carolina intramurals. For many, it is synonymous with the "American way of life." Pressure from all sides has pervaded the sports world and subjected players, coaches and spectators to unrelenting demands to be a "winner." "Winning isn't everything, it's the ONLY thing," and "defeat is worse than death, because you have to live with defeat," are quotes which have appeared in the sports sections of newspapers across the country. Competition has reached an extremely intense level in many institutions.

Former Ohio State football coach Woody Hayes has said, "anyone who tells me, 'don't worry that you lost, you played a good game anyway, I just hate.'" Regrettably, such attitudes surface in UNC IM-Rec sports through a few individuals/teams and perhaps primarily so in basketball. Basketball is the most competitively intense sport of the IM-Rec program, the one in which IM-Rec officials and staff receive the most abuse and in which the most official protests are registered. Some individuals/teams have not been able to handle losing. Losing is what happens to the other team. Instead of admitting defeat and giving their opponents due credit, excuses are offered. Defeat is often attributed to some outside force. Sometimes excuses focus on facilities and playing conditions. Most of the time in IM basketball the excuses focus upon perceived inadequacies/incompetencies of the game officials. Perhaps predictably it seems that it is the same few individuals/teams who scream loudest and longest about "lousy" officials. It seems that some IM-Rec athletes feel they can start fights, use "gamesmanship" to distract and disrupt their opponents, throw temper tantrums, deliberately "rough-house" other players and curse the officials. If they perceive the official to be incompetent or in the name of competition. For some, such behavior is justified because, "he's a hell of a competitor, he wants to win." Such an attitude on the part of some, and it must be emphasized that the vast majority of IM-Rec participants create no such problems, has resulted in IM-Rec officials, supervisors, office staff and other participants being subjected to intolerable levels of abuse... particularly basketball officials.

IM-Rec basketball players should consider who their officials are and what they bring to the game in terms of experience and training. The IM-Rec Sports Program will employ approximately 150 sports officials, all UNC students, during the typical academic year. IM-Rec basketball officials will have attended four two-to-three hour clinics prior to the beginning of the season. These clinics, conducted by IM-Rec professional staff, focus upon the rules of the game, officiating mechanics and the use of "common sense" or tact. Follow-up clinics are normally held one-to-two weeks into the season to deal with immediate problems. IM-Rec professional staff and student supervisors constantly evaluate individual officials using a standard rating scale. Officials

exhibiting consistent and recurring poor mechanics, no "hustle," inadequate knowledge of the rules and lack of "common sense," are brought in for a conference. Appropriate follow-up is undertaken from this point. Some officials very quickly realize that "this is NOT for me!" and resign, while others are eliminated via the evaluation and follow-up system.

Regardless of the procedure described above, any given IM-Rec basketball game may have an officiating crew consisting of two highly competent veterans or two rather inexperienced and unsure "neophytes" ... or any possible combination between these two extremes.

The IM-Rec staff would like very much to be able to assign only highly competent, experienced officials to each and every game; however, this is impossible. Considering the number of basketball games played, approximately 1600 (that is correct, one-six-zero-zero), there are simply not enough experienced officials to cover even a majority of the contests, and we have no choice but to assign inexperienced officials to many games. They have no where else to go to gain experience and we could not provide officials for all games without them. By playoff time there are generally a sufficient number of experienced officials with good ratings to cover the playoff games. However, four clinics and even one season of officiating experience is insufficient to produce highly competent officials. Experience is absolutely for all, and certainly some need more time than others to mature as an official. During the maturing process, some tolerance by participants is a must. Keep in mind that IM-Rec basketball officials are human, they are students and are not ACC caliber officials... at least not yet. They certainly do not receive sufficient pay for what they must do and endure.

The IM-Rec Sports staff would prefer not to have to deal with or to impose penalties for unsportsmanlike behavior in any sport. Unfortunately, we have had to do so in the past with a number of individuals/teams... and we will continue to do so. **ABUSE OF IM-REC OFFICIALS STAFF AND/OR PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** Let me assure ALL participants that neither the intensity of competition nor the "desire-to-win" will be accepted as an excuse for disrespectful and unsportsmanlike behavior toward opponents, game officials or IM-Rec staff. **ANYONE** exhibiting such behavior will be dealt with swiftly and severely. Appropriate penalties, which can range from a verbal reprimand to permanent expulsion from participation in any IM-Rec Sports activity, will be imposed upon any individual and/or the IM-Rec staff. If the honor/campus code violations occur, subsequent penalties may also follow.

Most of the young men and women, all UNC students, serving as our sport officials take their responsibilities seriously and constantly strive to do their best

in all assigned games. The IM-Rec staff who recruit, train, assign and evaluate these officials are highly competent very dedicated and conscientious individuals. These hardworking students and staff represent some of the finest individuals I have ever known and they do NOT deserve the abuse they have received from some individuals/teams.

Having personally observed entire IM-Rec basketball games, to which were assigned our very best and most competent officials, who called the game consistently and fairly with no signs of partiality and also witnessing the accusations of incompetence and/or partiality during and following these games, I have no delusions that this message will end or even reduce the problems which have been addressed herein. I can promise swift, severe action for those individuals/teams who abuse other students and staff whatever their role in the contest may be.

I ask that all IM-Rec participants in all sports, but especially those currently in basketball, to consider their IM contests as something other than "life or death." Competition is not, in and of itself, wrong or bad. It can add "zest to life," yet it must be kept in perspective. Bill Russell, in his first season as head basketball coach at the Seattle NBA franchise, and after his team had lost eight of ten games early in the season, said, "if we lose every game the rest of the season, the world will go right on. I'll go right on living. I enjoy life, every phase of it." Surely if this philosophy can be applied to the pro sports world it can be applied to intramural sports. If our own student/athletes can compete in the pressure-packed ACC and for national honors with decorum and dignity, maintaining some perspective as to their relative importance and that of their sport in the world, then we expect no less from Carolina Intramural athletes.

Important dates

- Sat., Jan. 30—**BEAT THE PACK!!!**
- Sun., Jan. 31—Bowman Gray Pool CLOSED because of varsity meet.
- Wed., Feb. 3—**DEADLINE** for registering for the Lifetime Leisure Activities Program **backpacking and hiking** clinic, to be held Wed., Feb. 10, 6-9 p.m., 304 Woollen Gym. UNC/UMD basketball ticket distribution, 5 p.m.
- BEAT THE 'HOOS!!!**
- Thurs., Feb. 4—play begins in **faculty-staff** basketball.
- Fri., Feb. 5—**DEADLINE** for entering IM open **squash** tournament, **grail volleyball** tournament, **weekend racquetball** tournament and the second annual "Valentine's Day Couples Competition"
- Sat., Feb. 6—play begins in **weekend racquetball** tournament.
- Mon., Feb. 8—play begins in IM open **squash** tournament.
- Tues., Feb. 9—play begins in **Pro-Am handball** tournaments, Fetzer Gym.
- Wed., Feb. 10—**DEADLINE** for registering for Lifetime Leisure **fencing** clinic, to be held Wed., Feb. 17, 6-9 p.m. Lifetime Leisure **backpacking and hiking** clinic, 6-9 p.m., 304 Woollen Gym. **Pro-Am handball** tournaments continue in Fetzer. Bahamas sailing trip informational slide presentation, 7:30 p.m., 109 Fetzer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- IM BASKETBALL JERSEYS** there is still a limited number of reversible team jerseys that can be checked out through the IM-Rec office. Teams are urged to get team T-shirts made at the Student Stores.
- POOL CLOSED** Bowman Gray Pool will be closed for varsity swim meets, Tues., Feb. 16, Thurs., Feb. 18 and Wed., March 3.
- FETZER HANDBALL/RACQUETBALL COURTS** UNC's new handball/racquetball courts in Fetzer Gym are open. The SAME reservation policy used last semester is being used for both the Woollen and Fetzer courts. Call or come in at 7:30 p.m. Mon-Thurs. for play the following day or 4:30 p.m. Friday for play Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Squash reservations are taken at 7:15 p.m. (M-Th) and 4:15 p.m. (Fri). All 15 courts in Fetzer are available for reserve from 3:15-9:45 Mon-Thurs., noon-8:45 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Saturdays and 1-8:45 Sundays. In addition to the 15 Fetzer courts, the five courts in Woollen are available on a scheduled basis. Courts C, D and E are available Mon-Thurs., 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (reservation), 3-9 p.m. (first come basis), Fridays 8-11 a.m. (reservation), noon-8:45 p.m. (first come basis), Saturdays 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. (first come basis) and Sundays 1-8:45 p.m. (first come basis). Woollen courts F and G are available on a challenge basis at all gym operating times except when classes are

in session. Phone reservations can be made ONLY on the UNC Rec-Check Line, 962-1153.

"USE IT AND LOSE IT" IM-Rec's Fitness Class resumed its semester run this week. Class is free to students and faculty-staff members WITH FACILITY PRIVILEGE CARDS obtained from Bynum Hall. Class meets Mon., Wed. and Thurs., 5:30-7 p.m., 112 Fetzer. Contact class coordinator K. Franklin.

OFFICIALS referees will be needed for the **grail volleyball** tournament in February. Contact Asst. IM-Rec Director Rob Frye.

LIFETIME LEISURE ACTIVITIES PROGRAM clinics remaining are **backpacking and hiking, fencing, handball, self-defense, yoga for jogging, folk dance, bicycle maintenance, sailing, frisbee, tennis, cross country skiing, and social dance**. Next clinic is **backpacking and hiking**, Wed., Feb. 10.

IM-REC SPORTS/AQUATICS BAHAMAS SAILING TRIP Fri-Sun., May 15-22. These two programs in the Dept. of Physical Education are sponsoring this sailing excursion in conjunction with the International Field Studies (I.F.S.), a non-profit educational and scientific organization which assists educators with field study programs. Cost of trip is \$440, which includes round trip plane flight from Ft. Lauderdale to the Bahamas, all accommodations aboard I.F.S. sailboats for seven nights, food and insurance and instruction in sailing and related areas of interest. There will be an informational slide presentation Wed., Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m., 109 Fetzer Gym. **DEADLINE** for registering is March 24, 1982 with a \$100 deposit. Faculty coordinators are UNC Aquatics Director Marybell Avery, Dept. of Physical Education, and Bob Daland, Dept. of Political Science.

PRO-AM HANDBALL TOURNAMENTS UNC and the North Carolina Association of the U.S. Handball Association will host the Spaulding Professional Handball Tournament, a Pro Qualification Tournament and an Open Singles Tournament, Feb. 9-14 in Fetzer Gym. There will be a limited number of bleacher-seat tickets for sale, and a limited number of standing room spaces free for UNC students with IDs. Twelve of the nation's top pro handball players will participate in the Spaulding tourney. Contact Assoc. IM-Rec Director Marty Pomerantz.

IM BASKETBALL late entries will be accepted for 1982 IM basketball. Questions concerning late entries, the instant scheduling system or captains responsibilities should be directed to basketball coordinator, Asst. IM-Rec Director Janis Matson.

STAFF CHANGE Lainie Kooima has been named the asst. basketball coordinator. Kooima, one of the three graduate assistants in the IM-Rec program, replaces Beverly Jarrell, who has received a graduate assistantship in the School of Education's PHD program.

SPECIAL TEAM PRICES FOR INTRAMURAL SPORTS

•100% Cotton Russell® Athletic T-Shirts

- 24 shirts & up \$3.95 ea.
 - 12-24 shirts \$4.25 ea.
 - 6-12 shirts \$4.75 ea.
- regular \$6.00 value

(includes 2-inch lettering up to 12 letters)

There's More In Your



Come In & Price Our Shirts
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•100% Cotton Russell® Jerseys

with contrasting trim on neck and sleeves

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- 6-12 shirts \$8.00 ea.

(Includes 3 4-inch Greek letters
or up to 12 2-inch letters)

*For both items featured: Please allow one week for delivery. Additional charge for names (10¢ per letter), numbers (35¢ per 6" no., 75¢ per 10" no.)

STUDENT STORES



"ON CAMPUS"