



RHODES UNIVERSITY

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PROTOCOL: MEMBERSHIP OF SPORTS CLUBS FOR FINANCIAL AID STUDENTS

(Adopted: 16 Oct. 2008)

POLICY TO BE SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW AT SPORTS COUNCIL IN MARCH 2019

One of the barriers that prevent students from accessing sport and reaching their true potential is financial. In line with the objectives of the Rhodes University Sports Council's Transformation Policy to "make Rhodes sport better" and to ensure that sport is reasonably accessible to all students, the following protocol applies to students who are on financial aid.

1. This protocol applies only to students who qualify for financial aid from Rhodes University. The level of support provided in terms of this protocol will be determined by the level of financial aid the students qualifies for (i.e. full or partial aid)
2. All clubs will allow students on financial aid a full or partial rebate on Club registration fees. The full rebate applies to those financial aid students below the 50th percentile and the partial rebate to those financial aid students above the 50th percentile of the income range applicable to financial aid.
3. Rebates cover membership only, and exclude clothing, equipment and any charges payable for individual affiliation or training related to any external governing body. Where possible and/or feasible, a Club should make arrangements to provide equipment for students who would like to become members but have no equipment.
4. At registration, Clubs are required to provide all potential members with a clear outline of any additional costs. This includes information on the cost of equipment, and affiliation and training; and whether the club has any used equipment available for loan or for sale. Clubs are encouraged to give consideration to how they might be able to assist members in meeting such extra costs.
5. The Financial Aid office will ensure that all students on financial aid are fully informed of what they can expect before joining a sports club at the start of each year, and

Sports Administration will ensure that Club Committees are fully informed of their obligations in this regard.

6. After sign-up, the Financial Aid office will identify all students who qualify for discounted membership of sports clubs in this way, and will then inform Sports Admin of the overall number (not the names) of financial aid students who have signed up for each Sports Club. They shall observe strict confidentiality in passing this information on to Sports Administration.
7. By the end of February, each Sports Club will be informed of the total number of students on financial aid who have joined their Club, so that they can plan their budgets accordingly.
8. Rebates will apply to a maximum of two clubs per student on financial aid unless special authorization to sign up for more clubs is granted by the Financial Aid Office. The provision of two clubs excludes Health Suite membership, for which there may be a separate provision.
9. In the event of overall registration numbers of financial aid students exceeding 15% of total membership in any one Sports Club, Sports Admin can be approached to supplement funds where necessary, through its development fund.
10. Clubs should endeavour proactively to keep ALL members optimally involved in their activities.

It is proposed that this protocol be reviewed after ONE YEAR