



Passed 16-5-2  
on 12/5/17

## Executive Summary

### **A.R. 19: In Support of Establishing Gender Inclusive Standards in Intramural Sports**

A series of policies that currently govern IM Coed Softball and IM Coed 7 v. 7 Soccer treat their male and female participants with different standards. These double standards, which make it easier for women to score in the field of play, should ultimately be removed as they imply that women are athletically inferior to men. As a world class institution, we must remove barriers that reward people differently for the same work.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **1. Aren't these policies used to ensure that women get playing time?**

While these policies were supposed to ensure playing time for women, they neglect to account for how IM v. 7 Coed Soccer and IM Coed Softball already have gender quotas to ensure female participation. These policies, if anything, can make it even more difficult for females to participate, especially the two goal per shot policy in IM 7 v. 7 Coed Soccer, which encourages athletes to double or triple-team female participants to ensure that they cannot score--as each of their goals will count twice.

#### **2. How willing is the IM Sports Department to change their rule policies?**

Having talked with the Assistant Director of IM Sports, we have learned that IM Sports are willing to make changes based upon the needs and desires of the student body.



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## A.R. 19

### In Support of Establishing Gender Inclusive Standards in Intramural Sports

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**Sponsors:** REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN COPE (*College of Liberal Arts*)

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**WHEREAS,** Student Government serves as the official voice of students at the University of Texas at Austin; and,

**WHEREAS,** Student Government supports equal opportunity and gender equality; and,

**WHEREAS,** Student Government refuses to condone the gender inequalities applied to athletes participating in intramural (IM) sports, particularly softball and soccer; and,

**WHEREAS,** In IM coed softball, a woman alone can declare a “walk” without having to bat if a male teammate preceding her in batting order “walks;” and,

**WHEREAS,** The “IM Softball Rule Pamphlet” states: “Any time a male batter is walked, if there is a female following him in batting order, she has the option of hitting or taking an automatic walk, but she must declare her intention before entering the batter's box;”<sup>1</sup> and,

**WHEREAS,** In IM coed 7 vs. 7 soccer, women score two points per goal, while men only score one point per goal; and,

**WHEREAS,** The “IM Soccer Rule Pamphlet” states: “1) A goal by a male counts as 1 point. 2) A goal by a female counts as 2 points, including when a female goalkeeper scores. 3) Own goals by either gender are 1 point;”<sup>2</sup> and therefore,

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.utrecsports.org/public/upload/files/intramural/IM\\_Softball\\_Rules.pdf](https://www.utrecsports.org/public/upload/files/intramural/IM_Softball_Rules.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.utrecsports.org/public/upload/files/intramural/IM\\_Soccer\\_Rules\\_7v7.pdf](https://www.utrecsports.org/public/upload/files/intramural/IM_Soccer_Rules_7v7.pdf)



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**BE IT RESOLVED,** The University of Texas at Austin Student Government supports gender equality in IM sports by demanding the same rules apply to all participants, regardless of gender; and therefore,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That in IM softball no one—regardless of gender—should have the privilege to declare a “walk”; and therefore,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That in IM soccer, no one—regardless of gender—should have the ability to score two points for one goals; and therefore,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Daily Texan, the Office of the Dean of Students, UT RecSports, and the Office of the President.