Purpose of Rec Clubs
University of Manitoba Club programs are primarily intended to serve University of Manitoba students (alumni and staff may still take part on a predetermine participation ratio). Rec Clubs voluntarily organized by students, exist for the purpose of furthering a common interest in a physical activity through competition and participation. Rec Clubs are based on student interest and designed to enhance their University of Manitoba experience by creating an environment where students can unite in diverse groups to achieve common goals and objectives while encouraging healthy lifestyles. Rec Clubs provide valuable experiential learning through student involvement in fundraising, public relations, organization, administration, budgeting, scheduling and leadership development.

Background
A number of changes will occur to the Rec Club program beginning September 1, 2018. These changes will primarily focus on the financial operations and defining whom may participate in Rec Clubs. The length of the Rec Club season will also be amended so all Rec Clubs (with the exception of the competitive stream) have consistent facility time across clubs similar to other Recreation Services programs. Rec Club executives were presented the proposed changes at in-person meetings in late March. Student executives were asked to share the information with club members and provide feedback to Recreation Services by April 23, 2018. Based on the feedback received Recreation Services, made modifications and submitted an amended proposal to the student executives. Again, Recreation Services asked the Clubs to review with their Club and return any further feedback to us by Friday May 4, 2018. After this second round of feedback, Recreation Services considered the information on some of the items, which brings us to the following changes that will begin as of September 1, 2018.

Participation eligibility
- 65% student participation ratio
- 35% staff/alumni participation ratio

Reason for change
Upon review of Rec Club rosters, it was evident that student participation was very low among many Clubs and as such were all not meeting the mission of serving students. As a subsidized student program, it is imperative that the majority of participants be University of Manitoba students. Current University of Manitoba staff and alumni will be permitted to participate this year because some Rec Clubs expressed the valued University connection and relationship these members bring to the Rec Club experience. The prices for Staff/Alumni participation will no longer be subsidized so the price for these members will increase.

Note to Alumni: Alumni numbers must be presented at the time of registration. To acquire your Alumni number please contact Alumni Relations at 204-474-9946 or alumni@umanitoba.ca

Note to Staff: Staff ID cards must be presented at the time of registration.

Note re: ratio maximum: If the staff/alumni ratio is met and there is still room in the student participation category, the Rec Club may ask to increase the staff/alumni ratio, in this circumstance the request will be reviewed on a case by case basis. To determine if the ratio will be increased the Coordinator/Assistant Coordinator of Clubs would assess if the Club took part in student recruitment efforts, the date of the request, the number of students spaces
remaining at the time of the request and whether the overall participation numbers of the club can be increased at that time.

**Note re: Competitive Club eligibility:** An exception will be made for Competitive Clubs (tryout teams with minimum of 7 members), when not enough qualified members from the student/staff/alumni category can be found. In these circumstances, community members may be allowed to fill in the additional spots. Competitive Clubs should aim for a minimum of 75% student membership. Clubs will only be considered Competitive if they participate in 2 competitions/tournaments annually and there is opportunity to compete for recognized a national championship as well as events that lead to qualification for national championship.

**Pricing for staff/alumni**

- Clubs with 10 hours of facility time per week = $150/term for 12 weeks ($12.50/week or $1.25/hr to participate).
- Clubs with with 5 hours or less of facility time per week = $75/term for 12 weeks ($6.25/week or $1.25/hr to participate).

**Season length**

- **Fall term:**
  - 12 weeks
  - Begins the 3rd week of September (September 17, 2018)

- **Winter term:**
  - 12 weeks
  - Begins 3rd week of January (January 14, 2019)

- **Spring/Summer term:**
  - 19 weeks
  - Begins 1st week of May (May 6, 2019)

**Financial changes**

Cash management procedures at the University of Manitoba have undergone significant changes over recent years, and as such the Rec Club program must follow suit with these changes. Risk officials at the University have indicated that cash handling by student organizations poses a risk not only for the University, but more importantly for the student executive who deal with money intake and purchasing for each Rec Club. For this reason, Rec Clubs will no longer be permitted to have off campus bank accounts and money received by Clubs through fundraising events, sponsorship, member dues and other will be deposited to the Rec Club operating account.

The details for all financial management are well in progress and Recreation Services will be working with each Rec Club executive over the summer to have processes in place for the fall term. More details regarding financial processes will be updated in the Rec Club Operation Manual in the coming weeks.

We look forward to the 2018-19 Club year and appreciate your patience and teamwork as we navigate through these changes with the goal of making this a great experience.

Sincerely,

Kyla Ray and Matt Gerardy

Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator of Clubs