

Minimum Club and Society Membership

Proposer: Max Askwith, Volleyball
Seconded: Martin Jopp, Finance Officer

Union notes:

- 1 The current number of members required in order to be a club or society is 20.
- 2 This changed from 30 in 2005/06.

Union believes:

- 1 The increase in the number of sports clubs has caused serious resource implications.
- 2 Value judgements are currently being made by University officials as to which clubs are more 'deserving' of time in University facilities.
- 3 Such decisions are inherently undemocratic.

Union resolves:

- 1 To increase the number of members required to form a club to 30 in order to be able to better protect allocation for clubs with genuine student support.
- 2 To mandate the Executive to lobby for increased time and space allocation to Union clubs from the University and Sportspark.
- 3 To leave the number of members required to become a society at 20.
- 4 To mandate the Executive to advertise the support available for those trying to set up a new club or society.

797	<u>RESOLUTION ON MINIMUM CLUB AND SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP</u>
Received:	A resolution from M Askwith and M Jopp (Finance Officer) (copy placed in the minute book)
Noted:	The Finance Officer noted that due to the resignation of the Sports Officer it was a difficult year for Clubs. He stated that there are now 57 clubs; with more clubs there is less money left per club which leads to less activities for members There are restrictions on the time at SportsPark and the Union has no control over the allocation of that time. Some clubs are allocated a lot of time because of the relationships they have developed with the SportsPark personnel. He argued that a vote for the resolution would be a vote for democracy and for taking control of the time allocation.

Resolved:	A procedural motion from A Blowers that the question not be put due to the lack of a Sports Officer was defeated.
Noted:	<p>In a speech from the floor, it was argued that the resolution jumbled together the issues of club membership and allocation of time in SportsPark, therefore an amendment to remove Union resolves 1 was moved.</p> <p>A Tomlinson, speaking for the amendment, noted that the raising of the required membership would penalise small groups of enthusiasts.</p> <p>R Boddington (Communications Officer), speaking against, argued that the clause was about accountability and the allocation of time by elected officials rather than unaccountable university staff.</p>
Resolved:	That the amendment fell
Noted:	It was argued from the floor that there is at present not enough time and space in SportsPark and therefore it was pointless lobbying for more. Therefore, an amendment was moved to delete Union resolves 2.
Resolved:	That the amendment fell.
Noted:	The Finance Officer made clear to Council that the proposal would not affect Clubs immediately; the new minimum would be introduced at the start of the next academic year.
Resolved:	To adopt the resolution.