Access to Sports Facilities, Priority Use and Reservation Policy

A. Community Access and Use of Sports Facilities

The University of Balamand, through its Office of Athletics, Wellness and Recreation (OAWR), encourages students, faculty, staff, alumni, UOB friends, and members of the surrounding community to benefit from its sports and recreational facilities. This initiative reflects the University's commitment to promoting health, physical activity, and well-being both within and beyond its campus community.
Selected sports facilities may be made available to local schools, sports clubs, community organizations, summer camps, alumni, and other external groups, subject to facility availability, safety requirements, and University regulations.

Available facilities include:

- Football field and athletics track
- Indoor sports courts, halls, and recreational spaces
- Outdoor basketball and tennis courts
- Fitness and wellness facilities
- Gymnastics Room
- Swimming Pool
- Multipurpose Indoor court

All requests for facility use must be submitted to the Office of Athletics, Wellness and Recreation, either by email or through the designated online reservation form. All requests are subject to review and approval by OAWR. The University regularly accommodates local schools, sports clubs, youth programs, summer camps, and community sporting activities as part of its commitment to supporting healthy lifestyles and community engagement.

Community Partners Using Facilities
The University of Balamand made its sports facilities available to several local schools, community sports clubs, youth camps, and recreational groups, providing opportunities for physical activity and community engagement across Northern Lebanon.

Examples of groups accommodated include:

- Fih and Kelhat community sports clubs.
- Lady of Balamand High School.
- Balamand School Summer Camp.
- Other local schools, clubs, and community groups.
- Lebanese Army- North Brigade
- Red Cross- North
- Civil Defense- North

The OAWR has accommodated such requests free of charge whenever possible, except when arrangements require opening or operating facilities outside regular hours, which may incur additional costs.

B. Reservation Policy

All reservation requests must be submitted to the Office of Athletics, Wellness and Recreation within the following timeframes:

- UOB students, faculty, and staff: At least 24 hours in advance.
- External individuals and groups: At least one week in advance.

Reservations are subject to facility availability and prior approval by OAWR. Submitting a request does not constitute confirmation of a reservation. Users may only access and use the facilities once approval has been granted.

Sports facilities may only be reserved for external groups during periods when they are not scheduled or required for University activities.

C. Closed Hours

Certain sports facilities may be temporarily closed or have restricted access during scheduled varsity competitions, University events, maintenance activities, or other official functions.

No one is permitted to enter or remain in the sports facilities' buildings between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., unless specifically authorized by the University.

D. Priority Use of Sports Facilities

The priority-use policy is established to ensure the proper scheduling and allocation of sports facilities and to avoid conflicts between University activities and external reservation requests.

All facility maintenance requirements and special University ceremonial functions shall take precedence over all other scheduled activities.

Subject to the decision of the Senior Director of Athletics, Wellness and Recreation, the following order of priority shall apply:

- University of Balamand special events or functions authorized by the President or the University's senior administration.
- Practical courses and scheduled classes of the Physical Education Department.
- Scheduled athletic competitions involving University of Balamand teams and other institutions of higher education.
- University of Balamand sponsored varsity athletic teams currently in training.
- Other scheduled University educational activities, including instruction, workshops, and related programs.
- Scheduled recreational activities and intramural events.
- Requests from external individuals, sports clubs, schools, community organizations, and other groups, subject to facility availability and OAWR approval.

The sports facilities shall not be reserved for birthday parties or private parties.

E. Users' Responsibilities and Conduct

All individuals and groups using the sports facilities are expected to comply with the rules and regulations established by the Office of Athletics, Wellness and Recreation, as well as generally accepted standards of conduct, behavior, and proper use of University property.

- Groups shall be responsible for the conduct of all their members and spectators and for ensuring their compliance with the University's rules and regulations. Release From Responsibility Form
- All users and group representatives must follow the instructions and requests of University staff members acting in their official capacities.
- Groups shall be held responsible for any costs resulting from vandalism, defacing of University property, malicious mischief, or any other damage caused by their participants or spectators during their activities.

F. Changes to Confirmed Reservations

Occasionally, unforeseen circumstances or changes in University programming may require the rescheduling or cancellation of a previously approved reservation. In such cases, a group may be required to relinquish its reserved facility in accordance with the established priority-use policy.

Such occurrences should be rare, and OAWR will make every reasonable effort to notify the affected group as early as possible and, whenever feasible, arrange an alternative date or time.