Health and Safety

The Law

Any organisation, group or individual who organises an activity has a duty to make sure that reasonably practicable steps are taken to ensure the safety and well-being of those involved and also those who might be affected by your activities.

Practically this means that as the leaders of student groups you must be able to show that you have taken reasonable steps in all the activities that you organise to protect the health and safety of others.

Responsibilities

As the committee of your student group you have taken on a level of responsibility for the actions of your group along with the events and activities that you run. It is important that you understand where your responsibilities lie and where you need to seek additional support to run your activities. It is also your responsibility to ensure that your group follows the safety guidelines and procedures set out by the Students’ Union.

This is a summary of responsibilities within student groups

- **Individual participants** are responsible for their own actions and for following the reasonable instructions of activity leaders and standards in that organisation.
- **Activity leaders** (teachers, instructors, coaches, student leaders) are responsible for the implementation of good health and safety practices during activities.
- **Club/Society Committees** are responsible for the dissemination of appropriate health and safety information, ensuring that the correct documentation is in place for all activities and the appointment of suitable activity leaders.
- **The Students’ Union Health and Safety Manager** is responsible for developing and monitoring systems and procedures that ensure that student activities are undertaken within the Students’ Union safety policy.

We are not expecting that every committee member is an expert in health and safety law and regulations, however we do expect that committee members take responsibility for their actions and activities and where they are unsure as to what they should be doing they ask a relevant member of staff in the Sports Department or Students’ Union.

Under 18s

There are a small number of students at the University of Nottingham who are under 18. We want to make sure that they are able to take part in our activities, but we want to ensure that they are safe when they are doing this. If you have a student who is under 18 as part of your club we may need to obtain parental consent for them to participate in your activities. Please ensure that you talk to the Student Activities Manager or Health and Safety Manager about this.

We do not allow under 18s to become associate members of the union.