

August 2023

# Imperial Athletes Badges

## Guidance for Clubs

**Before you nominate your club for an IA badge, make sure you are:**

- An Imperial Athletes Sports Club.
- Have an up-to-date Club Development Plan and attended a meeting with the Sports Development Manager.
- Your members have bought their IA base membership and/or Club Membership, we will review your actuals against your target membership numbers.

## Guidance and Information


### Essential Criteria

- Your club will need to evidence that it is meeting the minimum criteria. If some of the items in the Essential Criteria are not applicable to your club, please detail this in your nomination form.

### Contributions to Award

- The Contributions to Award are not an exhaustive list of items, but we do expect your club to demonstrate at least two of these, we also consider other equivalent new ideas that has helped your club excel that area.
- Move imperial will review all nominations and will issue IA badges based on evidence submitted from the club. If deemed appropriate Move staff may ask the club for more evidence or information.
- Once a club has been awarded an IA Badge that eligibility runs for a 2-year period, in that time Sports Development Staff may complete spot checks to ensure standards are maintained.
- Clubs can apply to the Sport Development Fund to receive grant to help them achieve an IA Badge

**Essential and Contributing Criteria**

IA Badge	Essential Criteria	Contributions to Award
<p><b>Welcoming to Beginners</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Completed Club Development Plan and attended club development meeting.</li> <li>○ Run a stall at Welcome fair.</li> <li>○ Offer taster sessions.</li> <li>○ Inclusive and open to all students at Imperial</li> <li>○ The club welcomes beginners to sessions throughout the term.</li> <li>○ Sessions are structured and planned for beginners, led by club volunteers or a qualified/dedicated coach. The session may focus on having fun, learning a new skill, community, enjoyment.</li> <li>○ A clear and easy processes for beginners to sign up to.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Runs a buddy system pairing beginners/new members with more experienced players.</li> <li>○ The club has access to equipment for new players to borrow.</li> <li>○ There is a beginner guidebook for members.</li> <li>○ Sessions have clear capacity limits and are properly managed through waiting lists.</li> <li>○ Mixed ability teams or sessions to encourage skill development.</li> <li>○ Support Imperial leagues via entering of beginner team, co-running, or involved as an IL ambassador.</li> <li>○ Beginner training program to upskill new players.</li> <li>○ Run welcoming social events for all students to take part.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Female Participation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Completed Club Development Plan and attended club development meeting.</li> <li>○ Introduction information, what to expect, what to bring, who is leading the sessions and number of people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Travel safe/ Travel Together group, the option for participants to travel in groups or with another person.</li> <li>○ Reward scheme for attending a certain number of sessions.</li> <li>○ Sports buddy system, bring a female friend to the session.</li> </ul>



- Social media presence or online community group like Whatsapp for participants to engage with
- Engagement in This Girl Can campaign and awareness events.
- Open sessions advertised throughout the year to encourage female attendance at least one a term.

- Suitable venue with location easily accessible and timings of sessions.
- Working in partnerships with other clubs to deliver collaborative sessions.
- Making sessions sociable.
- Support national safety campaigns.
- Inclusive code of conduct.

### High Performance



- Completed Club Development Plan and attended club development meeting.
- Active scholars involved in Imperial Athletes Scholarship programme.
- Involvement with the Imperial Athletes performance programme.
- No walkovers.
- Attendance at Cup fixtures (if applicable).
- Attendance at BUCS individual events (if applicable).

- Appropriately qualified coaches for performance teams.
- Teams performing in BUCS leagues 1a or above.
- A clearly defined participation pathway in the club with evidenced participant progression.
- High attendance at S&C sessions if on performance program.
- A structured performance program/schedule of training and matches for higher ability members. Evidence of periodization of training and competitions.

## Environmental Sustainability



- Completed Club Development Plan and attended club development meeting
  - Recycling or donating unwanted sports kit and equipment to charity.
  - Going paperless.
  - Reducing plastic through schemes like introducing reusable club water bottles. Sourcing reusable items second hand or 'pre loved'.
  - Up to date club inventory to avoid purchasing unrequired kit/equipment.
  - Support transport sharing or opting to take public transport or forms of active travel to fixtures and training.
  - Supporting sustainable and ethical campaigns like Sport Local.
  - Taking a club audit of their carbon emissions and water usage to help inform changes.
- Club charity events that support carbon offset.
  - A club equipment sharing scheme, and /or utilizing a [Library of things](#)
  - Equipment repair scheme.
  - Club members participating in active travel to get to training and matches.
  - Supporting local organisations.
  - Engagement with sustainable organisations/ partnerships/ charities like litter picking, donating to food bank.
  - Sponsorship/ partnerships with ethical companies. Preferential if companies are rated in the top 20% in the [Ethical Consumers](#).