

Proposed Change to Rule 11- Student Clubs and Societies

Rationale:

A significant number of clubs and societies (56%) have flagged that they will struggle to fill all committee positions next academic year, putting their recovery from coronavirus in jeopardy. These clubs and societies would otherwise be viable if not for the impact of coronavirus, so it is imperative that we do what we can to help them to recover.

We also need to be mindful that it is important to preserve the student led nature of our clubs, hence the limits imposed on the relaxation of the normal rules. However, the sabbatical team are of the opinion that a small, time limited relaxation of these rules will enable many groups to survive who otherwise would not do so, and this benefit to students outweighs any disbenefits in the current circumstances. We are also of the opinion that where a club or society would be viable if not for the impacts of coronavirus, it is preferable to streamline its restart process post pandemic to support opportunities for our students, avoiding the normal re-affiliation process.

Text:

Add to rule 11

4.4 As an alternative to derecognition, the relevant sabbatical officer may also use their discretion to implement reasonable alternative procedures in dealing with a group which has become unviable, but who would otherwise be viable if not for the coronavirus pandemic, in order to aid an expedited restart when restrictions allow.

6. Special amendment to committee eligibility for the 2021-22 academic year

6.1 In accordance with the articles of association, only full members of the union may hold club and society committee positions.

6.2 Where a committee position (apart from the President, Vice President and Treasurer) cannot be filled by a full member at a club or society AGM, the AGM may vote via a simple majority to create an equivalent 'associate committee position'.

6.3 An associate committee position will have the same remit as the original position but will not be able to vote in committee meetings and must operate under a scheme of delegated authority approved by the full members on the committee.

6.4 Associate members shall be eligible to run for and hold associate committee positions.

6.5 No more than two committee positions may be filled as associate positions at any one time.

- 6.6 An associate committee member may be removed from their position via a two-thirds supermajority vote of the remainder of committee, or via a full member nominating themselves for the position seconded by two other members triggering an EGM vote.
- 6.7 An associate committee member must not be a signatory to the club's bank account.
- 6.8 Cancel this amendment 01/07/2022