

COMPLETE POLICY TITLE:

Student Event Risk Management Policy

Date of Update(s):August 18, 2014

Responsible Executive: Bob Hale

DISCLAIMER:

If there is a discrepancy between this policy and the written copy held by the policy owner, the written copy prevails.

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INTRODUCTION

- 1. This document is intended to assist in the planning and execution of responsible and safe events both on and off campus by any University Recognized Student Group, which supports the goals of St Francis Xavier University (further referred to as StFX).
- 2. This is a University policy document that is jointly supported and upheld by the StFX Student's Union. All student(s) and student groups organizing events on or off campus are responsible for adhering to this policy.

PURPOSE

- 3. All events have some degree of risk associated with them. The purpose of this policy is to outline requirements that will seek to minimize the level of risk for and to student events while also offer quality events. The process of risk assessment will also give rise to measures to mitigate risk for student events wherever possible.
- 4. This policy is intended to:
 - a. Outline the requirements for planning a student event;
 - b. Outline the appropriate procedures to follow in order to minimize risk for the student(s) or event participants and the University when organizing events;
 - c. Promote the health and safety of student(s) or event participants in the organization and execution of events on or off campus;
 - d. Define the responsibilities and risk management practices required to demonstrate due diligence in the planning of activities for student(s) and student groups;
 - e. To lessen the personal liability of any specific person through compliance with this policy and the terms herein.

SCOPE

5. This document applies to any event either on or off campus that is planned, sponsored or supported by any University Recognized Student Groups. Only University Recognized Student Groups are permitted to plan and organize events affiliated with StFX. All other events will be considered unsanctioned events and reports of these unsanctioned events will be referred to the Student Life Office for possible adjudication under the Community Code.

To ensure due diligence and obligations under the duty of care principle, the University requires the event planning and risk assessment process be completed for all events planned and organized under this policy. All other events are considered unsanctioned by the University.

LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

6. Persons, groups or organizations can be held responsible for incidents, damages or harm done during or after an event. In Canada, the duty of care is a commonly held standard. That is to say, organizers of events or activities have a duty to care for others where the potential risk is foreseeable.

StFX and the StFX Students' Union hold liability and property insurance policies. It is the responsibility of the Primary Event Organizers to confirm and arrange for appropriate insurance coverage is in place.

DEFINITIONS

7. When used in this policy:

"Event" means a scheduled activity which happens on or off campus that is sponsored or organized by a University Recognized Student Group or is intended for students.

"Event Planning" includes the steps that are taken by any event organizer to ensure a successful event that meets its intended outcomes. This includes but is not limited to room bookings, budgeting, promotion and following the risk assessment process.

"Guest" means an individual who is not a StFX student, staff or faculty who is visiting campus.

"Primary Event Organizer (PEO)" means the individual who has the responsibility to ensure that events are inclusive and safe for all participants.

"Risk" means the degree of probability that an attendee may suffer physical or emotional harm or injury. Risk also means the degree of probability that the reputation of St Francis Xavier University or the StFX Students' Union could be harmed.

"Risk Management" means the process of assessing exposure to risk and developing and implementing steps to minimize impact. Every event has a level of risk associated with it and most often is outside the ability and scope of student event planners to assess.

"Risk Management Committee" means the committee of senior representatives from both the University and the Students' Union. This body acts as the final approval network once all event planning has taken place. This group meets throughout the academic year and is responsible for revisions to this document. The composition shall comprise of:

- Director, Student Life
- Director, Ancillary Services
- Manager, Safety and Security
- Manager, Conferences and Events
- General Manager, Students' Union
- Vice President Activities and Events, Students' Union

Society Coordinator, Students' Union (non-voting) "University Administration" means all university staff and employees responsible for the development or execution of policies and procedures associated with the event planning and Risk Assessment process.

"University Recognized Student Groups" means

- a. Student groups that are ratified as a student society through the council of the St. Francis Xavier Students' Union are members of the Students' Union executive or subexecutive, or
- b. Student groups that are affiliated with any Student Life department (residence life staff, peer mentors, athletic clubs).

"Unsanctioned Event" means any event that does not adhere to this policy either on or off campus. Report of unsanctioned events will be referred to the Student Life Office for possible adjudication under the Community Code.

"Student" means a member of the University community upon admittance to an academic program and assumes the responsibilities to that program and the University. It further includes persons who are eligible to receive any of the rights and privileges afforded a person who is enrolled at the university, including, but not limited to, those individuals admitted to the University and attending orientation programs. Student status lasts until an individual graduates, withdraws, or is dismissed.

"Student Leader" means any executive member or identifiable spokesperson for any recognized student group.

"Visitor" means any person who is not a student who attends campus or any event as described in this policy

"Waiver" means a document to be signed by the participant(s) to acknowledge the inherent risk(s) associated with an event. Waivers must be completely filled out and must be specific to an event. Generic waivers will not be accepted.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary Event Organizer (PEO)

- 8. The PEO is responsible for meeting all the requirements in this policy and required by the Risk Management Committee including all requirements related to the planning and implementation of the Event.
- 9. The PEO is also responsible for:
 - a. Dealing appropriately and safely with any problems that might arise leading up to, during and following the Event;
 - b. Any breaches of this policy that may occur during the planning and implementation of the Event; and
 - c. Attending the event.
- 10. The PEO is responsible for setting up meetings with different stakeholders and abiding by the recommendations issued on the Risk Assessment Form.
- 11. The PEO acts as a liaison between all parties that are working to ensure a safe environment. They are required to follow all municipal, provincial and federal laws, Students' Union Employee Standards and University Policies.

The StFX Students' Union (The U)

12. The U is responsible for ensuring club and society policies are followed, that any executive or sub executives are made aware of their responsibilities under this policy. The Students' Union is also responsible for collaborating with University Administration on policy development, and all training associated with event planning and risk assessment.

StFX University Administration

13. StFX University Administration is responsible for developing policies and procedures related to Risk Assessment and the planning of student run events. The Administration is responsible for the training and implementation of this policy and providing a resource for student leaders planning events under this policy.

Risk Assessment Committee

- 14. The Risk Assessment Committee acts as the final approver once all event planning has taken place. This group meets throughout the academic year and is responsible for revisions to this document. The composition of this committee can be found in the Definitions section of this policy under "Risk Management Committee".
- 15. The Risk Assessment Committee shall make decisions based on unanimity. If the committee cannot come to a unanimous decision, the outcome shall be based on the decision of the majority. In the event that a majority cannot be reached, the Chair shall be the final vote.

University Recognized Student Group

16. The University Recognized Student Group is responsible for ensuring all student leaders receive appropriate training related to event planning through the Students' Union and risk assessment through the University Administration. The University Recognized Student Group is also responsible for identifying the PEO for each event, and ensuring adherence to this policy.

PROCEDURES

- 17. The Risk Management Process involves the following steps:
 - Step 1: Decide to have an event. Meet with direct supervisor concerning the details and begin the Risk Assessment Form process ().
 - Step 2: Plan the event. Execute all necessary processes as declared within this policy and on the Event Risk Assessment Form.
 - Step 3: Book meetings with each member of the approval network.

Step 4: Once all meetings have been completed, and the requirements for each level of approval met, the Primary Event Organizer can submit the Event Risk

Assessment Form for final review by the Risk Management Committee. Forms must be submitted at

least seven (7) business days prior to the event. Fridays **All forms are due two weeks prior to the event

Step 5: Upon approval by the Risk Management Committee, host the event.

Step 6: Upon the completion of any approved events, the PEO is required to complete a Post

Event Evaluation From (see Appendix ??) and submit it to the Risk Assessment Committee within five (5) days of the event occurring

18. No event shall take place unless the Risk Management process as set out in section 17 has been completed and approval granted.

SANCTIONS

- 19. Failure of the Primary Event Organizer and/or University Recognized Student Group to fulfill any of the requirements set out in this policy or by the Risk Assessment Committee is considered an offence under one or more of these policies:
 - a. The StFX Community Code
 - b. The StFX Students' Union By-laws and Policies
- 20. For information on the process for handling an alleged offence and possible sanctions, please refer to the specific policy or policies that apply the Community Code.
- 21. Possible sanctions for breaches by the Primary Event Organizer include but are not limited to: a. Educational sanctions:
 - b. Loss of student privileges;
 - c. Suspension from the University;
 - d. Expulsion from the University
- 22. Student leaders as individuals or University Recognized Students Groups could face further consequence from the Students' Union or University Administration which include but are not limited to loss of status as a recognized group, a ban from future event planning, or a ban from future events.
- 23. The Primary Event Organizer may be held personally liable for loss or damage due to an incident at an event.

TRAINING

24. All University Recognized Students Groups and any person acting as a PEO must receive appropriate risk assessment and event planning training.

RECORDS

25. All minutes from meetings, Risk Assessment Forms and other forms of documentation shall be stored in the Student Life Office as required by law.

APPENDIX A EVENT RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

(To be completed and submitted by the Friday, two weeks prior, to your event to the VP Activities and Event by 4pm, SUB 408)

All events must abide by and follow the St FX Community Code, Harassment Policy, Alcohol Policy, Hazing Policy, as well as the St FX Students' Union By-Laws and Policy Manual

PART I: RISK ASSESMENT

To be completed by Primary Event Organizer:

Please circle all that apply:				
Alcohol	No Alcohol	Prior to Event	At Event	
Travel	Within Nova Scotia	Within Canada	Outside of Canada	
Physical Activity	Physical Activity Walking, No activity Dancing, Skating Running, etc.			
Community Relations	Event on-campus	Event in Town of Antigonish	Event out of Town of Antigonish	
Food Risk	No Food/Sodexo Catered	Externally Catered	Prepared by Group	

PART II: PRIMARY EVENT ORGANIZER (PEO) INFO: MUST HAVE RISK ASSESSMENT TRAINING

Name:	Position :	
PEO Telephone # during the event:	Email:	
Name of Event:	Hosting Group:	
Event Date(s):	Start/End Time:	

Description of Event: (attach separate sheet if necessary) – Please detail: What, schedule of event, list of awards, etc.

PART III: GENERAL INFORMATION

Number of Persons Attending: _____

Will Guests be attending from	outside the sponsoring student group	? Yes No	If yes, check all that apply:

Other StFX Students	Faculty/Staff	Non StFX Students (Under 19)	Non StFX Students (19+)		Local Community	
StFX ID R	equired		Gove	rnment ID Required		
Is this event Off Ca	mpus? YES 🗌 NC	Venue and/	or Location of Ev	ent:		
Yes 🗌 No 🗌	No Does venue handle security? If Yes, please attach security plan.					
	If No, please	If No, please explain:				
Alcohol Involve	Alcohol Involved? YES 🔄 NO 🗌					
If yes check all that	apply:					
Prior to Event	At Eve	ent Dry Event License Obtained All guest 19+				
		•		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

PART IV: TO BE COMPLETED CONFERENCE SERVICES

The purpose of this section is to ensure Conference Services has met with each group and received your event booking.

	Confirmed	Not Required	Additional Comments
Security	X Patrol Full time		
Food	Sodexo External Group		
Facilities Booking			
Alcohol			

Conference Services Signature:

Date:

PART V: TRAVEL, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Travel Involved? YES NO

➡If NO, skip to Physical Activity section

		Within NS	Within Canad	a Outside Canada
	Air/Train			
Transportation	Personal Vehicle		N/A	N/A
Details	Rental Vehicle (no 15 passenger vehicles)			
	Rental Bus			
	Name of Rental Company:			
		Yes – Submitte	d with form	No
	Travel Waivers			
	List of attendees submitted			
	Emergency Response Plan			
Documentation	Bus Monitor			
	Proof of Insurance, Rental Agreement and ticket information attached			

Other

No Yes

Will intoxicated individuals be permitted to travel back with the group? Please include plan.

Physical Activity /Safety Risk Involved? YES NO If NO, skip to Community Relations

	Example	Dancing, skating, running, etc	Ice hockey, skiing, rock climbing, etc	Walking after dark, working with 'at risk' persons, etc
	Specify:			
Facilities &		Please list all equipment to be used for your event:		
Equipment	Specify:			
		Will approved waivers be adm	•	(See Part III – Waivers &
Documentation		Contracts)		
	Specify:			
Proof of First Aid Sub	mitted	Yes No		

** A photocopy of current first aid certificate is required for any event that involves physical activity, if StFX Security are not present**

Community Relations (On or Off Campus) Risk Involved?

YES NO

	Yes	No	N/A
Will there be amplified music/speeches?			
Will noise by-laws be adhered to? (if required please attach)			
If no, has a noise by-law exemption been approved? Please			
attach proof.			
Is event or activity being hosted in a residential			
neighborhood?			
Completed letter of notice to be sent to neighbors and			
surrounding businesses included?			
Are house speakers required?			

PART VI: RISK ASSESMENT FORM CHECKLIST

Before submitting the Risk Assessment Form to the Event Review Committee, please complete this checklist. For additional information about when waivers are required, please contact the ERC at <u>erc@stfx.ca</u>

All parts of the for	<u>m complete:</u>	Supplemental Documentation Included:
Part I	🖵 Part V	□ All Waivers attached (Travel, and/or Physical Activity)
Part II	🖵 Part VI	Insurance Documentation for Venue and/or Travel
Part III	Part VII	Rental Agreement Attached (Travel and/or Space)
Part IV		Proof of First Aid
		Copy of Certification (instructor)

All Waivers and Contracts can be found online at http://sites.stfx.ca/student_life/student_event_planning .

PART VII: PRIMARY EVENT ORGANIZER CONTRACT

Primary Event Organizer Contract – To be submitted with, completed, Risk Assessment Form

I, ______ hereby agree to act as the primary event organizer on
(print name)
______ on behalf of ______
(date) (student group)

for the event _____

I am fully aware that:

- 1) I will be responsible for organizing the event and may have personal liability related to the event.
- 2) I will ensure that the planning of the event complies with the student event risk management policy.
- 3) I will ensure that the event is run within these regulations.
- 4) I will ensure that the rules/procedures for the event are posted for all participants.
- 5) I will ensure that the waivers and/or a list of names of all event participants are collected appropriately
- 6) I will ensure that each volunteer involved in the event is aware of his or her responsibilities.
- 7) I am not to consume any alcohol the day of the activity/event until it ends and all of the participants and volunteers have safely dispersed.
- 8) I will, after consulting with the appropriate staff, agree to shut down or cancel an event if it is or becomes unsafe.

I agree to uphold all the requirements of the primary event organizer and agree to not consume any alcohol on the day of the event until the event ends and all the participants have safely dispersed.

Signature:_____

Witness:_____

Date: _____

Additional Resources:	Name	Email	Phone
Event Review Committee		erc@stfx.ca	
VP Activites and Events	Troy Mrazek	su_activ@stfx.ca_	902.867.2220
VP Internal	Hailey Vidler	su_internal@stfx.ca	902.867.5152
Conference Services		conference@stfx.ca	902.867.5245
Athletic Bookings	James Okner	jokner@stfx.ca	902.867.5312
Food Services	Kevin Fraser	kfraser@stfx.ca	902.867.2491
Residence Life Coordinator	Maureen McEwan	mmcewan@stfx.ca	902.867.3307
	Anson Lewis	alewis@stfx.ca	902.867.5034
	Matthew Girard	mgirard@stfx.ca	902.867.5332

PART VIII: EVENT SIGNATURE FORM – Please obtain signatures that correspond with your position

Residence Events signatures required:

	Name (printed)	Signature	Date
A) Primary Event Organizer			
B) VP Activities and Events			
C) VP Student Internal (House Council Only)			
D) Residence Life Coordinator (RLS and House Council)			

Non Residence Events signatures required:

	Name (printed)	Signature	Date
A) Primary Event Organizer			
B) VP Activities and Events			

* These groups include athletic clubs, peer mentors, groups recognized by the Student Life Office

FINAL APPROVAL:

Event Review Committee:			
Name		Date:	
	Title:		

APPENDIX B ST FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY, RISKS AND LIABILITY WAIVER **PARTICIPATORY SPORTING EVENT** BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, YOU WILL BE GIVING UP CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE **RIGHT TO SUE – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.**

Trip/Event/Location:

Date: _____ Organization: _____

Assumption of Risks and Responsibility

I REALIZE THAT PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC ENDEAVOURS ENTAILS THE RISK OF INJURY TO ME. SUCH RISKS MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT RESTRICTED TO SLIPS, FALL, PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE, EQUIPMENT OR FACILITIES, ABNORMAL CLIMATIC CONDITIONS OR ENDEAVOURS AT HIGH SPEED.

I freely and voluntarily accept and assume all such risks, dangers and hazards and the possibility of personal injury death, violence, property damage or loss, during all the time of this trip/event, resulting from travel arrangements, attendance at _____ (event) and any other related activities during this trip/event.

I accept my responsibility to abide by the laws of the country, to ensure that I have adequate medical coverage. protect personal possessions and obey all the rules set our for this trip/event.

Liability Waiver and Indemnification

In consideration of approval to participate in this trip/event, I and any personal representative, hold harmless, release and forever discharge St Francis Xavier University and the St Francis Xavier University Students' Union, their directors, officers, faculty, staff, students, volunteers, agents, trainees, or employees from any and all actions, caus of actions, including negligence, claims and demands for damages, loss or injury, resulting from or arising out of my participation in this trip/event.

I also indemnify and save harmless St Francis Xavier University and St Francis Xavier University Students' Union fu any and all actions, causes of actions, demands, expenses or losses whatsoever which they may bear as a result c my participation in this event, by reason of damage to any and all property and any and all personal injuries, includi death of others or myself.

Participant (print name):	_ Student number:
Address:	
Telephone: ()	
Signature of participant W	/itness as to Signature of Participant
Date:	
Please check the appropriate boxes and initial that	
1. Do you read and understand English?	Initials: Yes 🗍 No 🗍
2. Do you understand the purpose of this waiver?	Yes No No No
3. This event has inherent risks. Do you understand the	
4. Are you willing to assume these risks?	Yes I No I
	se discuss this waiver with the Primary Event Organizer
administering the waiver.	, ,

Appendix C ST FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY, RISKS AND LIABILITY WAIVER BUS TRIPS

BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, YOU WILL BE GIVING UP CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

Trip/Event/Location:

Date: _	C	Organization:	

Assumption of Risks and Responsibility

Yes 🗌	No 🗌	Alcohol may be consumed	during this trip/event
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Yes 🗌	No 🗌	I realize that there are potential risks inherent in my participation in
		this outing.

I freely and voluntarily accept and assume all such risks, dangers and hazards and the possibility of personal injury death, violence, property damage or loss, during all the time of this trip/event, resulting from activities during this trip/event.

I accept my responsibility to abide by the laws of the country, to ensure that I have adequate medical coverage, protect personal possessions and obey all the rules set out for this trip/event.

Liability Waiver and Indemnification

In consideration of approval to participate in this trip/event, I and any personal representative, hold harmless, release and forever discharge St Francis Xavier University and the St Francis Xavier University Students' Union, their directors, officers, faculty, staff, students, volunteers, agents, trainees, or employees from any and all actions, caus of actions, including negligence, claims and demands for damages, loss or injury, resulting from or arising out of my participation in this trip/event.

I also indemnify and save harmless St Francis Xavier University and St Francis Xavier University Students' Union fi any and all actions, causes of actions, demands, expenses or losses whatsoever which they may bear as a result c my participation in this event, by reason of damage to any and all property and any and all personal injuries, includi death of others or myself.

Participant (print name):	Student	t number:			
Address:					
Telephone: ()					
Signature of participant	Witness as t	o Signatu	e of Participa	nt	
Date:					
Please check the appropriate boxes and initial that you have read the following questions:					
1. Do you read and understand English?		Yes 🗌	No 🗌	Initials:	
2. Do you understand the purpose of this waiver?		Yes 🗌	No 🗌		
3. This event has inherent risks. Do you understand	these risks?	Yes ∐ Yes ∏			
4. Are you willing to assume these risks?			No		

If you have checked "no" to any of the above, please discuss this waiver with the Primary Event Organizer administering the waiver.

APPENDIX **D**

RELATED POLICIES

<u>Community Code of Conduct</u>-<u>http://sites.stfx.ca/student_life/student_conduct</u>

Discrimination and Harassment Policyhttp://sites.stfx.ca/equity/Policies

University Policy on Hazing and Initiation:

http://sites.stfx.ca/student_life/sites/sites.stfx.ca.student_life/files/Senate%20policy%20on%20hazing%20May %202011.pdf

<u>University Policy on Drugs:</u> <u>http://sites.stfx.ca/student_life/sites/sites.stfx.ca.student_life/files/Policy%20on%20Drugs.pdf</u>

University Alcohol Policy

http://sites.stfx.ca/student_life/sites/sites.stfx.ca.student_life/files/Alcohol%20Policy%20May%2020%202011_0 .pdf