Club History

Late in 1995, several students from Northeastern laid the foundation for a Women’s Rugby Club. After performing all the administrative duties required, practices began in January of 1996. Although the team was still developing its skills, matches were scheduled for the spring. During the first season, the team suffered many losses. Despite this, the team worked hard to learn from their mistakes and vowed to enter their first season with the New England Rugby Football Union (NERFU) with pride and strength. The fall of 1996 proved to be successful for the club when, in 1997 they won the Beast of the East Division III. Since then, the Northeastern Lady Maddogs in 2005 won the Beast of the East Div II title and went on to take place third in the nation in Division II. As of Fall 2006 the Northeastern Lady Maddogs will be a Division I team.

Executive Board

The executive board was created to maintain the development and organization of the team. There are five members of the E-board, and together they are the backbone of the team. They include: two presidents (A president and a vice-president) that serve as the link between the team and Northeastern who are in charge of all necessary paperwork, meetings, and website/email, a treasurer in charge of managing the teams accounts, a fundraiser who is responsible for organizing fundraising events throughout the season, a match secretary in charge of setting up fields, match locations and times, and socials. The members of the E-board meet regularly both in and out of season to keep the club in existence. During each meeting, the E-board decides on how the team will be run for that season and where it is most appropriate to spend the club funds. Each E-board member has their own duties and is responsible to uphold them. The E-board also discusses and sets dues, and organizes team “events” ie: Pasta sinners and banquets. The most important role of the E-board is to make sure that EVERY player on the teams feels like a part of it.

Other officers

There are five other officers on the team that hold extremely important positions, but are not a part of the board. There is both a forwards and backs captain that is responsible for setting up and running team practices and making selections for game play, field/equipment secretary (responsible for doing or designating the duties of field set-up/break down, watching jerseys, checking the balls and making sure all the equipment is ready and at every game and practice), recruiting secretary(responsible for creating handouts, flyers, getting an activities period table, and organizing the team to recruit and hand out information), and an ombudsman (sits in on the selections meetings when the
players are chosen to play A and B-side) of the captains. The ombudsman does not have an input into the choices of selections but is allowed to forward information from the team concerning the teams’ opinions, as well as forwarding information back to the team as to why the selections are as they are. This person should be someone that everyone on the team feels comfortable going to, to speak with).

What is a Club Sport

The NU Club Sports Program “complements the intercollegiate athletics and intramural sports program”. Club sports were designed to allow students at Northeastern University the choice to participate in a team or individual sport that is not as demanding as intercollegiate athletics, but more competitive and organized than intramural sports. Some clubs are competitive, some are recreational, and others are instructional. Club sports are responsible for their own financing with very limited funding from Campus Recreation.

How do we get funds?

A club is responsible for supporting its own team. So how do we get money? Each season (there are 2 seasons per year a fall and spring season) every player on the team must pay dues. Unfortunately, due to the increasing prices of tournament fees and travel costs the dues are not enough money for the team. Therefore alternate fundraising events must take place which in the past have included, but not been limited to car washes, working Patriot games, sports events at Nickerson Field. Each player is required to work at minimum of three events per season. The duties that we perform include: ticket taking and ushering. Various other opportunities will arise throughout the season including selling T-shirts, candy, magazines, etc. Each player is expected to take an active role in these fundraising opportunities. If you do not pull your weight with fundraising you may find yourself paying more money out of pocket and this may affect the amount of games and tournaments we are able to enter as a team.

Van Certification

All players who are 21 should be certified to drive the vans that we use to get to our games. The school will only rent vans to us if we have players in record with them that are certified through NU. The requirements for certification are: obtain your driving record from your DMV, a merit rating from your insurance provider, and set up an appointment through NU to take the certification driving test.
ROOKIES VS. VETS

What is a rookie and what is a vet you might ask. Every new player who joins the team is dubbed a “rookie”. All players must play 2 seasons before they graduate to the title of “veteran”. The responsibility of a veteran is to guide, instruct, lead, and make all the rookies feel welcome on the team. As a rookie your primary responsibility is to respect the team as well as your vets, coaching staff, and Northeastern community. As a rookie, vets may ask you to perform team tasks. These requests should be completed in a timely manner. These duties would include but not be limited to washing team jerseys, bringing equipment to practices and matches, and cleaning out the vans. Just remember that everyone has been a rookie at one point in time and each member of the team needs to work together in order to have a successful team.

What is supplied on this team?

The team supplies the equipment, jerseys, and facilities. Everything else is paid for out of pocket by the players. Jackets, pants, sweatshirts, bags, and t-shirts are all purchased but the individual player (but is NOT a requirement to have).

What do I need to play?

All players need to have a mouth guard and cleats (either soccer of rugby cleats are acceptable). It is strongly recommended that you purchase rugby shorts (which are think and durable and should last you all five years) Other equipment you may with to have includes long socks and spandex.