**Athletic Union – Our Mission Statement**

*The Students’ Union and Athletic Union believes that sport plays a significant role in the student experience for a large proportion of the student population of Cardiff University. It plays a role in helping build social and support groups, keeps students active, and most importantly offers a valuable opportunity for individuals to develop themselves.*

*In supporting and facilitating sport at Cardiff University, the Athletic Union believes there are fundamental principles that underpin the current success and future of sporting provision.*

**Athletic Union Principles:**

* Sports clubs are run by students, for students.
  + Students are best placed to take leadership roles in providing student activity. It is this structure that maximises the opportunities for individuals to maximise their personal development opportunities.
* Sports clubs ‘belong’ to their members.
  + The membership of a sports club is the rightful owners of a sports club. It is those members who elect their leaders to manage their club on their behalf.
* Participative, competitive and performance sport are held in equal regard.
  + Sport means different things to different people. Competition is important to many students, but should not be the sole indicator of success.
* All recognised sports clubs shall be affiliated to the Athletic Union based on the agreed structure.
* All shall adhere to the procedures and guidelines laid down by the Athletic Union.

**We, as an Athletic Union, commit to the following:**

* Transparency and equality on all matters that are conducted for the students and their clubs.
  + These could vary from budget applications, to committee elections, all the way through to the tiering system.
* A direct line of communication, coupled with an open door policy.
  + All emails and messages to be responded within two working days, with an open door policy operating through all working hours (9 – 5, Mon – Fri).
* Sufficient and appropriate training will always be available to ALL members.
  + Most training will be conducted at the start of the year, however the open door policy will allow for students to always come in and ask where is appropriate.
  + Training will improve surrounding finance, with students finding this area the most confusing in recent years.
* As an AU, we will be pro-active with setting up meetings and engaging with our students.
  + This will ensure regular contact with clubs, also allowing the opportunity for the AU staff to offer mentoring opportunities for all committee members.
* Create appropriate Policies & Procedures to enable non-restrictive, cost-effective, quality activity.

**We, as Committee Members, commit to the following:**

* Adhere to and re-inforce the Policies & Procedures within our respective club.
* Instil a behaviour that is in line with those outlined by the Athletic Union, and create a culture that we a proud of.
* Attend all compulsory committee training sessions, and ask for additional guidance if required.
* To challenge the Athletic Union if the principles or commitments outlined above are not fulfilled.