

UKU Sanctioning FAQs

Below are some answers to questions about having your event sanctioned by UK Ultimate. If you have further queries, or wish to apply for sanctioning, please contact admin@ukultimate.com.

Why should I get my tournament sanctioned?

The largest reason to do so is that sanctioned tournaments are covered under the UKU insurance policy. By running a sanctioned event, you are effectively running it on behalf of UK Ultimate, and your organising committee is covered up to £10 million of liability under our policy.

What are the costs?

UK Ultimate does not charge you to have your event sanctioned. However, there are a number of duties you must fulfil as a sanctioned event, so you must ensure that you are in a position to do this.

- All players must be at least a 'basic' member of UKU (£5).
- You will be expected to perform some (minimal) checks on this – most likely just getting a roster from one or two teams at random.
- You must complete a risk assessment.
- You must have a first aid plan and report any serious incidents to UKU (injuries as listed below, but also e.g. all the cars getting broken into).

What help will I get?

We will provide all the documents you need – the 'proof of insurance letter', a template risk assessment, incident/injury forms etc. If you have questions about running events then of course our Events Coordinator will be happy to help answer them. Note that in general a sanctioned tournament does NOT mean that we'll take over all the scheduling and admin! But we are happy to give some advice.

Will requiring membership make some people reluctant to play?

Probably not. Mostly, people will see it as more legitimate, and will buy into it more, if they have to invest a small amount to do it, and they will understand that they benefit from their own liability insurance through membership. On the other hand, we do understand that this may be a worry for you if you are planning to sanction a very beginner-focussed league.

Completely new players are actually entitled to play up to three 'taster sessions' before purchasing membership while still being covered. If you commit to taking a proper register of names and ensuring that no-one plays more than three times without purchasing membership, then it is still possible for you to give new people the opportunity to try the sport without paying membership even if your league is sanctioned. Note, though, that it would be hard to argue that a 2 day tournament is a 'taster session' – this really only applies to leagues or weekly sessions.

What are my duties in full at a sanctioned event?

Printing

You must print out the various documents we send you:

- The insurance certificate
- Multiple copies of the incident form
- The generic risk assessment

Incidents

You must fill in a form for any serious incidents/injuries and send these forms to UKU. In particular this includes the following (or similar) situations:

- Someone is advised to go to hospital
- Head injury
- Dislocations and/or broken bones (excluding fingers)
- A spectator – someone not playing at the tournament – is involved in an incident
- There is a sense that the “injured” party feels someone else is “at fault”

If an incident requiring an incident report does occur then the TD should inform benji.heywood@ukultimate.com by email within 24 hours of the end of the event. In these cases, all report-forms should be sent within one week (by email to admin@ukultimate.com, or by post to Ben Heywood, 25 Findlay Douglas Court, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 8TP).

Insurance

You need to have the printed copy of the proof of insurance letter available at the event if anyone requires to see it. Note also that whatever happens at an event it is a condition of the insurance cover that you (and other people working on behalf of UKU) **do not accept blame or liability** for anything that occurs. This is a matter for the insurance company to determine.

Risk Assessment

You should read the guidance provided by the insurance company and then update the generic risk assessment with information specific to the event/venue. Once you are happy that you have addressed any issues, sign the risk assessment and keep it with you on the day.

Rosters/Membership

You should have a plan to check (a subset of) players regarding membership. The details of this will depend on your particular event or situation – you will work this out with UKU when we sanction your event.

Maintaining the image of the sport

At a sanctioned event, efforts must be made to avoid any offensive or discriminatory behaviour; for example, teams must adhere to the ‘offensive kit’ rules found here: <http://goo.gl/XLG8Ut>

In general, it is important to consider the image of the sport and of UK Ultimate when running a sanctioned tournament, both to passers-by and to the venues we use.

Providing a positive player experience

UK Ultimate obviously does not wish to sanction tournaments that don’t meet a reasonable standard. That standard will vary depending on the size, nature and aims of the event, but is likely to include things like lined fields, an appropriate playing surface, and off-pitch facilities suitable for the size of the event. We will discuss these things with you for each specific event.