SFSS Club Approval Terms of Reference

The “SFSS Club Approval Terms of Reference” outlines the rules that govern the approval of clubs at the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS).

Club proposals are reviewed and approved at the discretion of Member Services Club Coordinators and/or the SFSS Executive and Council. The rejection of a club proposal is final.

Club proposals will be approved on the basis that they are formed with the intention of bringing together SFU undergraduate and/or Fraser International College students who share a common interest specific to the mandate of the club.

Proposals will not be unreasonably denied, however clubs may be rejected based on various factors, including but not limited to:

1. The students who are forming the club are not currently enrolled SFU undergraduate students, or SFSS members in good standing - i.e. they are graduate students, non-SFU students, SFU departmental staff, FIC students without a letter of acceptance from SFU, and external community members.

2. The students who are forming the club were solicited by a third party organization to form the club, and are being overseen and governed by the third party organization.

3. The club does not have sufficient club executives (minimum 2) and sufficient club members (minimum 20).

4. There is a conflict of interest between the SFSS and any of the students forming the club, or any of the organizations with which the club is affiliated. (E.g. SFSS staff and Executives and Council Members may not form clubs during the course of their employment or terms in office).

5. The club proposal conflicts with or does not adhere to the SFSS By-Laws, SFSS Policies, SFSS Issues Policies, SFU Policies, and the SFSS Club Terms of Reference.

6. The SFSS insurance providers have declined the coverage of the proposed mandate or activities of the club.

7. The club proposes or focuses on an activity that is better covered or currently exists under an SFU department or SFU Recreation, as well as any activities or services that are covered under existing SFSS Departments or Programs.

8. The approval of the club may increase the risk of harassment, violence, or misconduct toward the club executives, membership, or event attendees based on its affiliations or connotations.

9. The club mandate explicitly incites hate or discriminatory practices, or the club is started out of malicious intent. Clubs cannot be started in protest of an existing club.
10. The club proposal includes illegal or questionable activities (e.g. gambling, street racing etc).

11. The club activities support or involve a for-profit business, or the club is a front for a for-profit business or external third party organization.

12. The club name includes profanity or any other offensive words.

13. The club mandate is too narrow to the point of being exclusionary and is not open and accessible to all SFU undergraduate students. The club cannot be focused on a specific project, event, course, or competition.

14. The club mandate cannot be sustained for more than 1 semester - i.e. it is created for a one-time event or project.

15. There is an existing active club with a similar mandate and an overlap in activities.

16. The club’s mandate is unclear or vague and is not supported by the proposed activities.

17. The club proposal is incomplete and the group did not provide sufficient information about the club.

18. The SFSS has exceeded the number of clubs it can support in a given area or category.

The SFSS reserves the right to modify or update these Terms of Reference without notice.