



Byelaw 9

Student Groups Byelaw

1. Recognition of Student Groups

- 1.1. It is recognised by the Student Association that there are student-led projects that do not fall under the definition of a Society or Sports Club. It is important to AUSA that these activities are supported appropriately by the Students' Association.
- 1.2. Where appropriate, AUSA will classify these projects and initiatives 'AUSA Student Groups'.
- 1.3. Student Groups will remain autonomous from AUSA. This allows the Student Groups, such as media, or other, to be able to freely debate the effectiveness of the AUSA with independence, confidence, and impartiality.
- 1.4. AUSA Student Groups shall manage and maintain their own funds, and work to ensure their continued financial sustainability.
 - 1.4.1. Where appropriate and/or necessary, AUSA can support Student Groups to manage their funds, apply for funding and assist with fundraising.
 - 1.4.2. In the case of a Student Group receiving financial assistance from AUSA, AUSA and the relevant Student Group they will be required to publicly declare this to prevent conflict of interest.

2. Criteria to be defined as a Student Group by the AUSA

- 2.1. Must not meet the definition of a Sports Club or Society
 - 2.2. Be a student led group or initiative that has a 75% or more membership of University of Aberdeen students.
 - 2.3. There must be a clear and defined need by the group to remain autonomous from the AUSA but still have support given. This must be stated in the constitution of the Student Group.
 - 2.4. Student Groups must be in line with and uphold AUSA values and policies.
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- 2.5. Student Groups must provide an opportunity for development or service which adds to the experience of student members.

3. Support from AUSA to Student Groups

- 3.1. Student Groups must have an appropriate constitution that adheres to the safe space and inclusivity policies. AUSA recognises that the policy of the Student Groups may not be exactly the same as the AUSA policy but must illustrate that it is in the spirit of the AUSA policy and that there are no direct conflicts.
 - 3.1.1. It will be the responsibility of the student group to present any differing policy to AUSA and it will be at their discretion if it is appropriate.
- 3.2. Whenever possible, appropriate and feasible, AUSA will help Student Groups to obtain the space they need to meet their objectives as outlined in their constitution.
- 3.3. AUSA will make training resources that are available to Societies and Sports Clubs also available to the committees of Student Groups.
- 3.4. AUSA will make space available space at either the Sports or Societies Fayres during Freshers' Week.
- 3.5. AUSA will provide advertising space on platforms it uses for Student Groups.
- 3.6. Identified AUSA staff contact for advice and support to each Student Group.

4. Application to become a Group

- 4.1. Documents to be provided to AUSA in order to become an AUSA Student Group:
 - 4.1.1. Committee contacts
 - 4.1.2. Constitution
 - 4.1.3. Risk Assessment
- 4.2. The Sabbatical Officer will vote to approve or reject the application for an activity to become a Student Group, provided all relevant documents are deemed satisfactory.
 - 4.2.1. Any decision on Student Groups shall be reported to Student Council for full transparency.

5. Current Student Groups that are recognised at the time of this byelaws approval are listed on the AUSA website.