

THE IMPACT OF INTRAMURAL SPORTS AT FSC

BY JOSEPH STANZIANI

Whether a Mocs athlete or someone who hasn't picked up a basketball since middle school, the Florida Southern intramural sports program offers everyone a chance to play sports on a competitive, yet fun, level. This program not only provides a platform to create strong bonds but also proves to be an integral part of the campus community.

Intramural sports (IMs) on campus do not only cover the traditional sports like basketball and softball, but non-traditional sports like ping pong, flag football, pickleball and even bingo.

Teams from various clubs, departments, fraternities and sororities come together, giving everyone a chance to be represented on the field and court.

Emily Walker, Assistant Director of Wellness, commented on the effects intramural sports have on student life.

"I THINK THERE'S A CAMARADERIE ON CAMPUS THAT DEFINITELY COMES FROM PLAYING INTRAMURALS."

IMs impact student life on multiple levels, offering not only a fun and engaging way to exercise, but a chance to build

friendships and community.

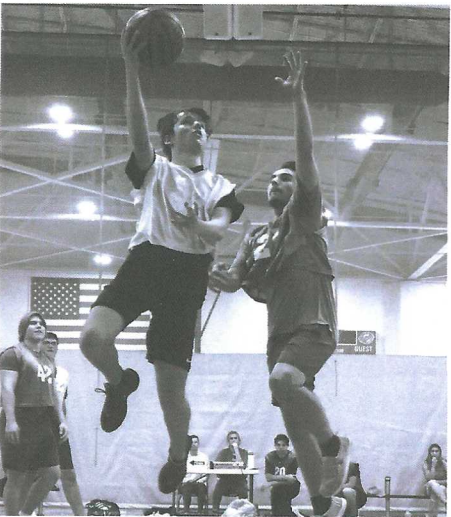
"I've seen people start as a freshman and kind of just throw together a team," says Walker. "And now they're a giant force in IMs and they have six teams for everything we do and they're, you know, best friends forever."

Building strong bonds is a fundamental aspect of intramural sports on campus, as the community and friendship around the program provide a strong cornerstone for a positive college experience.

"I learned about intramural sports and I was like, that sounds super fun, I wanna get involved with that," junior Jonah McCarthy said. "I had a group of friends from my residence hall who were interested so we all just started creating teams so we could all play together."

McCarthy further comments on the community his intramural sports team, "NBA Youngboy," saying how the group started with a few friends and has grown into a large group of people across multiple teams for different sports: "We're really competitive, but honestly they're all super close friends of mine, and we do things together outside of just IMs. We get dinner in the caf, or we go out and we hang out and go play mini golf or like things like that. So I think it's just kind of made a community of friends that I can have and people that I can get close to."

INTRAMURAL SPORTS NOT ONLY PROVIDE A GREAT COMMUNITY FOR STUDENTS LOOKING TO PLAY SPORTS, BUT THEY ALSO OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE FRIENDS AND BUILD BONDS THAT LAST LONG AFTER GRADUATION, MAKING THEM AN INTEGRAL PART OF STUDENT LIFE.



Photos courtesy of Diane Wideman