Greetings from Recreational Sports,
As your membership coordinator, I am pleased to extend the following letter from our Director of Recreational Sports, Tom Kirch.
Be well,
Ali Casqueiro

Recreational Sports Community,

As we approach the closing of summer, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your membership with the Department of Recreational Sports, share with you successes we have had over the course of the year, and inform you of where Recreational Sports is headed.

**Points of Pride**

**Building Expansion Feasibility Study**
The Department answered the question about potential funding for building expansion by contracting with a program management firm, Brailsford and Dunlavey, to measure levels of support within the student body to increase student fees. Resultant data suggested that students were primarily satisfied with current facilities and services, and would not support such an expense at this time. The department will be pursuing options with student leadership fall term.

**Inclusive Programming**
Focusing on our branding element of “community”, the department increased intentionality around creating a welcoming and inclusive environment in buildings, programming, and practices. New programming welcomed to the department this past year that extended this theme included:
- “Learn to Play” series, inviting individuals not familiar with a sport to a clinic to learn the rules and meet new players
- Women’s-Only and Men’s-Only swimming at the Women’s Building
- Adaptive climbing – the development of adaptive climbing equipment and techniques for participants with mobility challenges to access the climbing walls.
- Wheelchair basketball – a new intramural league and tournament engaging individuals with mobility differences and able-bodied individuals.

**Transformative Learning Experiences**
Recreational Sports continues to inspire students and OSU community members to lead healthy lives. Over 20% of OSU faculty and staff and over 62% of OSU students used Recreational Sports facilities and services this year. We experienced an increase in usage of Dixon Recreation Center by 2.78% and in McAlexander Fieldhouse by 12.25%.

Recreational Sports continues to be a learning laboratory for Oregon State University students. This past year Recreational Sports awarded a total of 1,781 credit hours in PAC and EXSS classes. Recreational Sports worked with the OSU Division of Outreach and Engagement in the design and delivery of the 2014 Natural Resources Leadership Academy. Additionally, Recreational Sports worked in partnership with the departments of Philosophy, Fish and Wildlife, English and Biological and Population Health Sciences on the design of a Conservation Leadership Track.
In alignment with the Department’s mission to foster healthy living, Recreational Sports has worked in partnership with campus wellness partners to define a co-curricular experience for delivery in the Health and Well-Being Living Learning Center. This curriculum guides students from cognitive discovery, through goal setting and practice, to influencing others in the community. It is slated for its pilot delivery at McNary Residence Hall in fall 2014.

Looking Ahead

As we look ahead to the coming academic year, Recreational Sports is excited about the many opportunities we have to foster healthy living.

New Director of Recreational Sports

In January 2015, Leah Hall Dorothy will assume the position of Director of Recreational Sports. She will serve as only the third director since 1975 when the department was expanded to its present form. Leah comes to us from the University of Alberta where she has served as the Director of Campus Recreation since 2004. She has also served in leadership roles at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and the University of Michigan, Flint. She earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Toronto, her master’s at Western Illinois University, and her doctorate at University of Nebraska, Lincoln with research in professional preparation in recreational sports management.

Recreational Sports Fees

Membership fees and locker rental fees will remain the same for 2014-2015. Membership to Recreational Sports continues to be a benefit afforded to us largely due to OSU students continuing to invest in facilities and services of well-being.

After 7 years of sustained pricing, daily access and punch pass (10 & 20 visits) will increase slightly. Daily passes will increase from $6 to $7, and punch passes (10 & 20 visits) will increase by $10/$20, to $60 and $100, respectively. The 0-15 year old day pass rate will remain the same at $3 per child per day. The increased revenue from access passes will ensure Recreational Sports students and members receive excellent services and the continued use of premier facilities.

Beginning September 2, we are excited to offer a new Youth Climb Card. You will be able to purchase this prepaid card for youth, ages 0-15 years old, for only $25 for 10 visits and $40 for 20 visits.

Annual, 9-month and Fall Term memberships will be available for purchase/renewal beginning Tuesday, September 2 and Payroll Deduction will again be an option for Annual and 9-Month memberships and lockers, available to OSU employees. A friendly reminder to renew your membership early - Annual, 9-Month (purchased in winter), and Summer Term/Half-Term memberships and lockers will expire on September, 26, 2014.

Summer Shutdown 2014

In the coming weeks we are excited to devote our time and resources into improving our facilities. We are appreciative of your flexibility and support while we move through these improvements and repairs during Summer Shutdown 2014, beginning in Steven's Natatorium on August 11 and in Dixon Recreation Center on August 18. You will not have access to belongings in your locker during Summer Shutdown (beginning August 18). Please take with you any items you may need during the 2 weeks Dixon is closed. Stay connected with us via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram as we share daily progress of our work!
We will continue to be supported by the PEBB Exercise Rewards Program. This program, available to PEBB eligible members, allows individuals to receive a $15/month wellness reimbursement for visiting Recreational Sports at least 12 times a month. During Summer Shutdown 2014, you will still be able to log your visits to Recreational Sports for the purposes of the Exercise Rewards Program in the following manner:

- **McAlexander Fieldhouse** - We will continue to “swipe” your OSU ID card at McAlexander Fieldhouse.
- **Langton Pool** - Our Operations Staff will record your ID number at Langton if you choose to swim and we will manually update your visit report in our system for you.
- **Student Legacy Park/Tennis Complex** - If you use Student Legacy Park or the Tennis Complex to stay active during Summer Shutdown, please email Ali Casqueiro, Membership Coordinator, directly with your visit dates so that she can update your visit report in our system for you.

In closing, I thank you for all that you do to inspire wellness in your own communities and on behalf of the Department of Recreational Sports; it is an honor to serve you over these past 28 years.

**Take care and be well,**

**TK**

Thomas Kirch, Director
Department of Recreational Sports | Oregon State University
211 Dixon Recreation Center | Corvallis, OR, 97331
[OregonState.edu/RecSports](http://OregonState.edu/RecSports)
(voice) 541-737-6829
(fax) 541-737-6832

Be Well.
Be Orange.