

A soccer team in red jerseys is huddled on a green field. In the background, a scoreboard shows 'HOME 0:00 GUEST 0' and '1 0'. Advertisements for 'GoTerriers.com/tickets', 'pepsi', and 'AQU' are visible. The scene is outdoors with trees and a building in the distance.

CLUB SPORTS

YEAR IN REVIEW

2022-2023





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SUMMARY

The Department of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (PERD) at Boston University leads the Club Sports program. The PERD management team, reporting to Auxiliary Services, also manages the Fitness & Recreation Center, credit bearing physical education classes, intramural sports and non-credit fitness, recreation, and wellness programming.

Club Sports at Boston University comprises 34 different women's, men's, and co-ed teams with approximately 1,200 student-athletes who compete regionally and nationally. Over the course of its more than 50-year history, the Club Sports program has produced tens of thousands of alumni who continue to support and cheer for their teams today. The fundamental way that Club Sports differ from varsity teams are the leadership roles and opportunities for student-athletes. The student-led nature of Club Sports, coupled with administrative team training and development allow the athletes to cultivate real-life skills in leadership and management that are transferable to work and life pursuits during and after college.

With guidance, mentorship, and oversight from the PERD management staff, each Club Sport elects officers to guide the team in the competitive direction desired by their teammates. While some Club Sports choose to be more recreational in nature, most elect to be highly competitive and build their schedules accordingly to compete in regional and national championships. In 2022-2023, 17 of 34 Club Sport teams advanced collectively and individually to their respective national tournaments, including Figure Skating which captured its fifth straight title and an Intercollegiate Skating record seventh in program history.

Club Sports has become a staple program at nearly every top college and university in America. The last estimate by the National Intramural and Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) placed Club Sports participation at over 2 million student-athletes nationwide, compared to less than 500,000 NCAA varsity athletes. Club Sports is increasingly a factor in the college selection process by many students, and their participation is often a critical part of their college experience.

“Club Sports has been one of the most important parts of my college years. Transitioning to college was so intimidating, but immediately after joining the Figure Skating Club, I was surrounded by a supportive and understanding community. Words can't describe how influential my teammates have been. Every day we encourage and push each other to be better athletes, students, friends, and people. I feel so lucky to have had this opportunity to keep skating and to do it with the best people ever! Club Sports creates the space for athletes to continue their sport, and try new ones, and make lifelong friends and memories.”

-Emily Fang (CAS '23)

FACTS, FIGURES, AND HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022-2023

Boston University has one of the largest and most comprehensive Club Sport programs in New England. Our teams continue to attract and retain a diverse mix of students who are interested in a wide range of sports from throughout the world.

- **TEAMS:** 34
- **ATHLETES:** 1,200
- **MILES DRIVEN:** 68,340
- **STATES VISITED:** 20
- **DOLLARS FUNDRAISED:** \$300,724
- **HOURS OF PRACTICE:** 7,165
- **NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES:** 17

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Club Sport teams continue to achieve competitive success on the regional and national level. Our athletes are regularly recognized for both their competitive skill as well as their leadership qualities. Some achievements and awards from this year include:

1. **FIGURE SKATING:** Won the US Figure Skating Intercollegiate National Championship for the fifth straight year. With seven National titles they are now the winningest team in Intercollegiate Skating.
2. **EQUESTRIAN:** Rider Elizabeth Nevins was the first athlete in school history to win the Cacchione Cup at the IHSA National Championships. She also finished in the 2nd and 3rd Place in Open Fence and Open Flat at Nationals.
3. **MEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** Won the NECVL Championship. Finished in 3rd Place at the NCVF Volleyball Championships Men's Division IAA only dropping three set the entire tournament.
4. **ROLLER HOCKEY:** Finished in 2nd Place at the ECHRA Regional Tournament. Made it to the Elite 8 at the NCRHA National Championships for the second straight year.
5. **WOMEN'S WATER POLO:** Won the CWPA New England Championship for the first time in team history. Placed 8th at the CWPA Women's National Collegiate Club Championships.
6. **SNOWBOARDING:** Women's side finished in 1st Place at the USCSA Eastern Regional Snowboard Championships while the Mens finished in 2nd. Secured their first bid in team history to the USCSA Collegiate Ski & Snowboarding National Championships.

COLLABORATIONS

The Club Sports program collaborates and interfaces with numerous other campus programs and departments throughout the year. Many people contribute to our success, and we strive to enhance the culture of the campus and surrounding community.

- **ATHLETICS:** Club Sports Spirit Night returned for the first time since 2020. This event was huge success with a program record 520 club athletes in attendance at the nationally televised January 23rd Men's Varsity Basketball game.
- **DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS:** The *#TerriersTogether* and Giving Day fundraising initiatives were once again a tremendous success for Club Sport teams, securing over 3,280 donations and more than \$180,350 combined. Club Sports has now finished 2nd in total donations behind only varsity athletics four of the last five years.
- **SARP:** Once every other year, each Club Sport team participates in the *Step Up Step In BU* (SUSIBU) program offered by the Sexual Assault Response & Prevention Center. Promoting awareness of SARP and their prevention programs helps to strengthen our campus community and promote leadership amongst our athletes.
- **STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE:** Every Welcome Week SAO provides our program the chance to take part in SPLASH, BU's annual student group fair. This is the biggest recruitment opportunity for all 34 of our Club Sports.
- **STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES:** The Athletic Training program provides prevention, evaluation and diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation for our athletes. The AT staff is extremely helpful and works tirelessly to accommodate the needs of our teams.



Ski Racing and Snowboarding teams representing at Club Sports Spirit Night.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Service is one of the founding principles of Boston University, and the BU Club Sports program is committed to carrying on the school's long history of contributing to the greater good of Boston and the surrounding communities. We urge all teams to participate in at least one community service effort per year as these efforts not only help others, but they work to build stronger bonds and shared experiences amongst teammates.

A total of 18 teams **accumulated over 800 hours of community service** this school year. Some of the highlights included:

- **TABLE TENNIS & BADMINTON:** Teamed up to clean the area behind Marsh Chapel and the BU Beach. They spent hours combing the area picking up trash and discarding it to brighten up this popular socializing spot on BU's campus.
- **M+W VOLLEYBALL:** Donate their time each year to the Paddy's 5k Road Race. They helped with blocking off roads and ensuring participants are running/walking in a safe environment. Also, they assist with cleaning up after the race and removing the setup.
- **SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING:** Offered their time to Community Servings in Jamaica Plain. Club members helped in the kitchen packing food boxes, dispensing food into containers, and organizing frozen food storages for chronically ill and immunocompromised people with special dietary needs.
- **EQUESTRIAN:** Traveled to Lexington to BINA Farm and helped to refurbish their sensory trail, an essential part of their therapeutic riding program. They were responsible for digging out the trail and trenches for mulch to be laid and clearing leaves from the winter season to make the trail usable in the spring.



Equestrian, BINA Farm



Volleyball, Paddy's 5k Race



S. Swim, Community Servings

ALUMNI OUTREACH

The desire of our alumni to stay connected to their teams remains high. In addition to helping teams financially through their generous donations, each year many alumni also find their way back to campus to meet and reconnect with each other and the current team.

Collectively, our club teams hosted **19 separate alumni events this year with an estimated 600 attendees**. Some of the noteworthy events included:

- **MEN'S RUGBY 50TH ANNIVERSARY:** Held their big 50th Anniversary Weekend which brought nearly 200 alumni spanning five decades back to campus. Events included a golf outing, Red Sox game, alumni game on Nickerson, and was capped off by a 50th Anniversary Reception & Hall of Fame Induction in the Burke Club Room in Agganis Arena.
- **WATER POLO AUSTIN BRASHEARS' MEMORIAL ALUMNI TOURNAMENT:** Both men's and women's clubs worked together to put on a memorial tournament for former Men's Water Polo athlete Austin Brashear who passed away in 2012. This event saw over 80 alumni return to campus to honor Austin's life. The teams collected donations from businesses in the Boston area to raffle off. When all was said and done, over \$2,430 was raised to add to the scholarship fund in Austin's name.
- **ROLLER HOCKEY 25TH ANNIVERSARY:** Celebrated their 25th year in existence with an Alumni Game held in FitRec on Saturday, April 1st. The game brought graduates from three different decades back to Boston. Many of these alumni helped contribute to the team's Nationals trip to California a few weeks later.



Men's Rugby 50th Anniversary Alumni Game held on Saturday, April 29th on Nickerson Field.

AWARDS

Each year our program highlights a select few student-athletes who have gone above and beyond in a specific aspect of their club responsibilities. The recipients of these awards were selected from **over 70 nominations submitted by Club Sport teammates and coaches**. Winners were honored at our Annual Club Sports Presidents' Dinner, and they now have their names etched onto a progressive plaque located on the second floor of the BU FitRec Center. We task our students with leaving their club better than they found it, and these represent some of our best and brightest. Our award winners from the 2022-2023 school year are as follows:

- **COMPETITIVE EXCELLENCE: Elizabeth Nevins, Equestrian**

This award is given to a student-athlete who achieves greatness on the field of play.

Elizabeth capped off her amazing Equestrian career at BU by winning the Cacchione Cup, which has been awarded to the top High Point Open Rider in the country. She also finished in the top 3 in Open Fence and Open Flat at Nationals. Elizabeth was a key contributor in the club finishing in 5th Place at the Zone 1 Championships.

- **COMPETITIVE EXCELLENCE: Raymon Chen, Men's Volleyball**

This award is given to a student-athlete who achieves greatness on the field of play.

Raymon was selected to the NCVF Collegiate Club Volleyball Championship Men's IAA All-Tournament 1st Team meaning he was the top outside hitter in the country. He was also selected to the NECVL Division 1 All-Championship Team and was a major factor in BU finishing in 1st Place.

- **LEADERSHIP: Emilee Redshaw, Gymnastics**

This award is given to the student-athlete that takes charge of their club and steers other towards excellence whether on or off the field.

As President of her club Emilee organized several successful fundraising initiatives, held countless social events, and was a major part in the Gymnastics Club having a record number of members. Emilee was said to have a "constant positive attitude towards the team and her teammates".



Elizabeth Nevins, EQ



Raymon Chen, MVBALL



Emilee Redshaw, GYM

AWARDS

- **ADVANCEMENT: *Ryan Christensen, Triathlon***

This award is given to the student-athlete that took their club to a higher level than expected.

In his first and only year as President, Ryan took the Triathlon Club to new heights. The club had its highest team participation in years for their social events, community service, and races. He was instrumental in planning and organizing the team's Try-A-Tri event which was held for the first time since 2019. Ryan was also a driving force in the club achieving a record number of donation on Giving Day bringing in over \$4,200 for the team.

- **TEAM OF THE YEAR: *Women's Water Polo***

This award is given to the club that exceeded our program's expectations and succeeded on and off the field.

2022-23 was a record-breaking year for Women's Water Polo as they won the CWPA New England Division for the first time in team history finishing a perfect 11-0 in the region. They secured a bid to the 2023 CWPA Women's National Collegiate Club Championships where they finished in 8th Place ending the season ranked #10 in the country. Outside of the pool, they gave back to the community by cleaning up a local park in South Boston and fundraised nearly \$11,000 for the club.



Ryan Christensen, TRI



2022-2023 Women's Water Polo

“Being a part of the Women's Water Polo Club has been a defining aspect of my college experience. I have always loved the sport, but it's the people who made it truly special. Looking back, I am forever grateful to my freshman self for having the courage to join the team and for the bonds that I have formed as a result.”

- Maria Shevchuk (ENG/CAS '23)

AWARDS

BARBARA PINCH DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

In March of 2019, our program honored former Figure Skating Coach Barbara Pinch by naming our Distinguished Service Award in her honor. Barbara worked at the University for over 35 years. In her time at Boston University, she started the skating program which included recreational PDP classes, the Learn to Skate Program, and the competitive skating clubs – both Figure and Synchronized Skating. She is also credited as the founder of the Intercollegiate Team Competition, which now has blossomed into over 140 colleges across the country. Current Figure Skating Coach Andrea Mohns-Brillaud said this of her, “Barb’s most important contribution to the University was her smile and welcoming personality. That brought her students and athletes together in a community that supported them and helped them to navigate college successfully.” Each year we honor an individual who provides significant contributions to the Club Sport program and service to the students at BU.

- **2023 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: *Andrea Mohns-Brillaud, Figure Skating***

A Boston University Alumni, Andrea Mohn-Brillaud has been a vital part of the Figure Skating program as coach for the last 15 years. She has had an immense impact on over a thousand skating student-athletes and has built a tight-knit and inclusive community within our skating program. During her tenure she has turned BU into an intercollegiate skating powerhouse leading the team to seven National Championships. Student-athletes come to Boston University specifically for coaching guided by Andrea and her staff. This past year our program was lucky enough to have Barb Pinch in attendance to witness Andrea receive her award.



Andrea received her award at our Annual Club Sports Presidents' Dinner on May 3rd.

AWARDS

SCARLET KEY HONOR SOCIETY

Inductees to the Scarlet Key Honor Society are those students in their senior year who have exhibited exceptional leadership among their peers during their years at Boston University. Selection for Scarlet Key is based on excellence in University student activities and organizations, commitment, involvement in the individual's School or College, and in scholarship. Each year our program nominates a select few student-athletes that take their leadership responsibilities in their club and go beyond our staff's expectations. In 2022, we nominated nine students and were fortunate to have three inducted.

- **2022 Scarlet Key Honor Society Inductee: *Aiden Cliff, Roller Hockey***
Aiden was a two-year President of the Roller Hockey Club overseeing the team's day-to-day operations and delegating tasks. Outside of the rink he spent his time as a Teaching Assistant in Questrom, a tutor, and an Ambassador for the Kilachand Honors College.
- **2022 Scarlet Key Honor Society Inductee: *Ward Alktaish, Men's Water Polo***
Ward was selected as the Men's Water Polo Treasurer as a sophomore and held that position for three years handling all the club's financial transactions. A double major, Ward also spent time conducting research focusing on inflammation response in human lungs.
- **2022 Scarlet Key Honor Society Inductee: *Sebastian Romani, Men's Water Polo***
Sebastian was a three-year Sports Information Director for the Men's Water Polo team responsible for marketing the club to campus and managing their social media channels. Out of the pool he spent time as a student worker for the Admissions Office at BU.



Aiden, Ward, & Sebastian are pictured here on Thursday, September 29th which was the night they were "tapped". This ceremony was the first step in being inducted into the Scarlet Key Honor Society.

TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **BADMINTON:** 2nd Place at the Fall 2022 Northern Collegiate Conference Tournament. 3rd Place at the Durabird Eastern Collegiate Division 1A Playoffs. Held scrimmages against MIT and Harvard throughout the year to advance skills and provide an opportunity to compete for all their athletes.
- **BASEBALL:** Defeated two top five nationally ranked teams (Penn St. and Syracuse) during their spring season. Brought back the team's annual Spring Break training trip to Florida. They held two successful alumni events that brought over 20 former athletes back to campus.
- **CRICKET:** They advanced to the semi-finals of regionals, earning a spot to the NCCA National Championships in Houston, TX. Held a 70% winning percentage. Hosted numerous scrimmages on Nickerson Field with Boston area throughout the school year.
- **CYCLING:** Finished in 11th Place at the ECCC Road Championships in NH. First-year rider Joe Wang was the highlight at Champs claiming 2nd Place in the Road Race Men's C/D Field. Had a team record 34 donations on Giving Day bringing in just under \$1,100 for the club.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **EQUESTRIAN:** Capped off a tremendous regular season where the team won seven out of their eight shows by sending their top rider, Lizzy Nevins, to IHSA Nationals where she became the first ever BU rider to win the Cacchione Cup – the most coveted individual event and honor.
- **FENCING:** Had numerous fencers place in the Top 20 at the NEIFC Tournament “The Big One”. Finished in 22nd Place for Combined Teams and 12th Place for Men’s Sabre at USCFA National Championship. Hosted an Alumni Tournament in FitRec with over 35 attendees.
- **FIGURE SKATING:** Won their 7th Collegiate National Championship – making BU the most decorated college team of all time. Hosted a successful holiday show and spring exhibition where non-competitive skaters get to feature their routines in front of a crowd.
- **GOLF:** Though the team did not achieve as much competitive success as they would have liked this year, they are returning all but one player and looking to capitalize on experienced leadership leading to a more cohesive and fun experience for all involved both on and off the course.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **GYMNASTICS:** Doubled their roster size from last year to over 50 gymnasts. Finished in 2nd Place at the Beantown Showdown hosted by Northeastern. Traveled to Memphis, TN for the NAIGC Nationals where first-year gymnasts Sabrina Wong qualified for the finals in bars. This made her a top 24 athlete in that discipline.
- **ICE HOCKEY (M):** ACHA New England Runner-Up in Regional Tournament. Traveled to Colorado to compete against three area schools for first time in program history. Hosted a successful Alumni Game at Walter Brown Arena for the first time since 2019.
- **ICE HOCKEY (W):** Women's hockey has continued to grow their program since the team's inception 7 years ago. They continue to be a model club on and off the ice, holding alumni events, participating in meaningful community service efforts and always being near the top of the Giving Day leaderboard.
- **ROLLER HOCKEY:** Ended the school year with a 18-7-2 record highlighted by a trip to the Elite 8 at the NCRHA National Championships in Irvine, CA. Finished in 2nd Place out of 12 teams in the ECHRA. Fundraised \$13,109 during the school and hosted their 2nd Annual Skate-A-Thon to engage donors.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **JIU-JITSU:** Participated in two new competitions during the school year and had numerous athletes claim medals at those competitions. Hosted their first ever competition on a Saturday in November bringing Brown, Harvard, and West Point to FitRec. Had a roster of over 50 committed athletes.
- **KENDO:** Attended tournaments at Harvard, Cornell, and Columbia finishing in the top 3 at all of them. Brought back BUKai a tournament held in FitRec for the first time since 2019 and took home 2nd Place in Teams. Had a club record for donors and donor dollars during Giving Day 2023.
- **KUNG FU:** Performed for multiple groups and clubs, both on and off campus. Attended their first competition in years in early November. Planned, organized, and ran B. MAD in the Dance Theater which was a demonstration and networking event for martial arts clubs across BU's campus.
- **RUGBY (M):** Celebrated their program's 50th Anniversary with nearly 200 alumni coming back to campus to celebrate, raising over \$200,000. The team won the Bentley 7s Tournament and competed in the Beast of the East tournament in Providence.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **RUGBY (W):** Finished in 3rd Place in the Rugby Northeast Conference in the fall and 4th in the division in the Spring. Qualified for the CRAA-USA Rugby D1 Women's 7s Championships in Dallas, TX for the first time since 2020.



- **SAILING:** Qualified for the ICSA Women's and Open Fleet Racing National Tournaments in Kings Point, NY. Traveled to St. Mary's for a training trip against a top 5 team in the country during Spring Break.



- **SHOTOKAN KARATE:** Participated in numerous seminars with highly ranked senseis. Held two promotions for their athletes to move up the ranks during the school year. Raised a club record \$2,426 from 35 donors during Giving Day 2023.



- **SKI RACING:** Experienced one of their most successful seasons with the Women's and Men's teams finishing 2nd and 5th respectively in the in the Thompson Division of the USCSA. Three women placed in the Top 15 overall in the Thompson Division.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **SNOWBOARDING:** Women's side finished in 1st Place at the USCSA Eastern Regional Snowboard Championships while the Mens finished in 2nd. Claimed 26 medals over the course of the season allowing them to secure their first ever bid to the USCSA National Championships in California.
- **SOCCER (M):** Finished their NIRSA Region 1 fall season with a record of 2-4-4. Had an above .500 regular season record during their NEPL spring schedule making it all the way to the quarterfinals. Held their first successful alumni game on Nickerson Field in April.
- **SOCCER (W):** Finished their NIRSA Region 1 season 4-4-2 which is one of their best seasons in program history. The team joined a spring league for the first time as it looks to continue their program growth. Raised \$1,836 during Giving Day 2023 which was a club record.
- **SQUASH:** Men's side ranked 39 out of 72 teams in the country and the Women's side ranked 36 out of 44. The Men ended the year as the 8th ranked club team and the Women 5th. Both sides play a majority of their schedule against varsity teams. The team will look to bolster their competitive side next year as five key athletes graduated.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **SYNCHRONIZED SKATING:** Made consistent progress throughout the season increasing their score at each competition. Conducted three successful fundraising initiatives. Hosted another successful Prospective Skater's Weekend where high schoolers get to experience what it's like to be a BU skater.
- **SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING:** Placed 14th overall at Nationals in Westmont, IL. Hosted the USA Artistic Swimming East Zone Regionals in BU's Aquatic Center in mid-February. Increased their Giving Day donor total from 2022 by over 200% bringing in \$3,155 for the club.
- **TABLE TENNIS:** Had three athletes qualify for the NCTTA Table Tennis Championships in Round Rock, TX for the second year in a row. Two male athletes made it out of the prelims to the Round of 48 at Nationals. Both their Co-Ed and Women's sides won 1st Place at the Fall and Spring Divisional Tournaments.
- **TRIATHLON:** Finished 3rd overall in the NECTC. Sent four athletes to Nationals in Lake Lanier, GA. Held their Try-A-Tri event for the first time since 2019 bringing over 40 people outside of the BU community to campus. Fundraised an impressive \$9,795 to help cover team costs of the course of the school year.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **ULTIMATE (M):** Finished the season ranked in the top 50 in the national rankings. Broke seed in USA Ultimate tournaments held in both St. Louis and Virginia. Co-hosted an Alumni Game with the Women's side which brought back over 40 athletes to Nickerson Field.
- **ULTIMATE (W):** The team continues to lead the way in alumni relations and fundraising. Had a successful Sectionals and qualified for Regionals at UMASS Amherst. The team was invited to and participated in the CENTEX tournament in Austin, Texas.
- **VOLLEYBALL (M):** Finished in 3rd Place in DIAA Gold Bracket at the NCVF National Championships in Kansas City, MO. Finished the regular season 8-1 and won the NECVL Championships. Hosted their Winter Invite Tournament for the first time in four years raising over \$4,000 for the club.
- **VOLLEYBALL (W):** Finished in either 1st or 2nd Place in four NWVCL Tournaments this year. Placed in 37th in at the NCVF Nationals in Kansas City, MO. Hosted their Alumni Tournament in late April which brought back 25 alumni to BU's campus. Added a total of six new athletes to their roster.



TEAM BY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **WATER POLO (M):** Finished 5th in the CWPA New England Region and hosted a Divisional Tournament for the first time since 2019. Placed 1st at the Wesleyan Spring Invitational in April going a perfect 4-0. Had a team record of 169 donors on Giving Day and won three university Challenges.
- **WATER POLO (W):** Won the CWPA New England Region for this first time in team history finishing regional play a perfect 11-0. Secured a bid to the CWPA Women's National Collegiate Club Championships in Los Angeles, CA and finished in 8th. Had a roster of over 40 committed athletes for their niche sport.



“When I first arrived on campus, I was overwhelmed by the size of the school and was unsure where I fit amongst all my peers. I knew that BU had a Women’s Ice Hockey Club, but I had no idea what to expect. My freshman year if you told me I would be President of the team for two years, I would have laughed in your face and said no way. My teammates believed in my ability to lead the team and supported me through all the ups and downs during my time as President. My best memories from college are memories that I have shared with my coaches and teammates. The late-night practices, early morning van rides, on ice victories, and off ice friendships are what I will take away from my time at BU and my time on this team. I have been playing hockey for 17+ years and I can undoubtedly say that I have had the most fun playing hockey during my four years at BU. I am excited to become a proud alumnus and see all the amazing stuff this team continues to achieve.”

- Sydney Bechtel (CAS '23)