

# Sustainable Society and Sport Club Guide:



A sustainable event is one that has been planned responsibly and when possible all efforts have been made to reduce negative environmental, social and financial impacts. There are a range of benefits for running a sustainable event such as saving money by consuming less, a positive reputation as a sustainable club or society, supporting small businesses and reducing your carbon footprint.

Typically one of the biggest environmental impacts of an event is food waste, to try help reduce this consider asking attendees to pre register so you know how many to order and cater for, and know what to do with leftover food, leftover food can be used the next day for lunches and dinners so offer this to those who attend.

- Consider creating a sustainability officer roles whose focus is on green initiatives.
- Organise a swap shop or for final year students to donate their social outfits to first years.
- Support or fundraise for local eco-green charities or social causes or reach out too local charities and organise a volunteering day outside.
- Consider providing plant based food alternatives to help reduce your carbon footprint!
- Consider car shares to attend training or public transport, or consider fundraising for charities that plant trees to offset carbon-emissions based on how many miles you've travelled.
- Taking part in the Carbon Literacy training the University offers! This is not just a great addition to your cv but improves your knowledge on carbon emissions.
- Consider your freebies or merch to be reusable products such as water bottles or tote bags (even better if these are undated so any spare can be used the following year!)

- Share decorations with other sports clubs and societies. Many themed decorations are one use, by sharing resources other societies can also benefit from the decorations and increase the life cycle.
- At training sessions and meet ups propose a ban on single used water bottles by providing refillable reusable bottles.
- Social Sustainability is also important, your club or society should be a welcoming environment for everyone, introduce a welfare or inclusion officer in the committee and ensure spaces are accessible and language is inclusive. Positive club culture is essential!
- For sports clubs consider making a Vinted account to sell old kit, funds could then be used added to the clubs bank account.
- Share your sustainability work with us at the SU! We love to hear about the work you do and celebrate your achievements.

Finally when organising events or socials, consider the Hierarchy of Waste which is a waste reduction diagram that encourages you to ask yourself the follow questions:



Can you **REFUSE** unnecessary waste such as single use plastic?

What steps can you take to **REDUCE** generating waste eg ordering less?

Can you **REUSE** existing resources?

Will you be able to **RECYCLE** any waste generated?

Can food waste generated be composted to **ROT**?

