

TIERING RECOGNITION SYSTEM

The Sports & Socs Tiering Recognition System is a brand-new initiative designed to encourage participation, engagement and development across our student groups. Student groups can work towards earning “**Shields**”, with each shield representing one of our six core values:



INCLUSIVITY



LEADERSHIP



AWARENESS



COMMUNITY



CONNECTED



DEMOCRATIC

The more Shields your group earns, the higher your **Tier** will be. Higher Tiers unlock exclusive perks and benefits for your members throughout the academic year. The perks and benefits available at each Tier will be shaped by our students groups during the year, ensuring they reflect what current students actually want and value.

WHY GET INVOLVED?

- Create more opportunities for students to participate
- Build stronger connections across the student community
- Make greater use of the Newport and Cardiff campuses
- Encourage students to engage with their democratic voice
- Develop a more active and vibrant campus experience
- Give committee members opportunities to develop their organisation, planning and leadership skills
- Increase the visibility of their student group and attract new members

Every student can work towards the Shields, regardless of whether they are based at Cardiff, Newport, Treforest, online or across multiple locations. The criteria are designed to be achievable by all groups, with recognition based on the effort, creativity and engagement of your committee.

For committee members, the Tiering system can act as a useful guide to develop activities and running a successful and engaging student group. It provides ideas and goals that can help you improve your activities, strengthen your committee, and ultimately create a better experience for your members.

SPORTS & SOCS **TIERING** RECOGNITION SYSTEM

Once your student group has earned enough Shields to achieve a Tier, this will be displayed on your student group page on the USWSU website.



Groups with a Platinum Tier will appear highest on the website, followed by Gold, Silver and Bronze. This gives groups that are actively engaging with their members and wider student community greater visibility.

Your tier will make it easier for current and prospective members to see which groups are actively involved in the community, operate effectively, encourage democratic participation and provide a great experience for their members.

Every Shield you earn will also be represented by a digital icon on your student group page. You will receive a physical certificate for your Tier, which can be displayed at events such as Freshers Fest, Open Days and recruitment events.

HOW LONG DO SHIELDS AND TIERS LAST?

Shields and Tiers are valid for **one year**.

You will need to apply and achieve the Shield before the date of expiry to retain it.

APPLYING FOR A SHIELD

To earn a Shield, your student group will need to submit an application demonstrating that you have met the relevant criteria. Your application should include evidence to support your submission. This could include:

- Risk assessments
- Event plans
- Photographs
- Advertisements
- Invitations
- Social media posts
- Other relevant documentation

Scan here to apply for a shield!



The more evidence you can provide, the easier it will be for the panel to assess your application.

Once submitted, your application will be passed to the Shield Application Panel. This is a new voluntary student role where current students will review applications and decide whether the evidence provided meets the requirements for the Shield.

You will then receive an email confirming the outcome of your application.

Happy achieving!
Amy, VP Activities