By Bob Hauser

Subject to faculty approval, women students in the Class of 1979 will have the same requirement situation as the men. This recommendation has been made by the Committee on Coed Activities (COC) and is the result of a year-long study of the general Institute physical education requirement.

Currently, the requirement is eight units of athletic credit. This is given for intercollegiate competition (winter sports are worth four points; fall and spring sports are worth two points each term) or completion of courses offered by the Athletics Department (two points each).

All undergraduate women can meet the requirement by taking regular physical education courses, but availability of these courses has been limited by physical constraints. The expansion of accommodations is expected to result in a significant increase in the number of women participating in the athletic program.

Unfortunately, the COC decision has not effected a review of the Institute physical education requirement. An informal survey of MIT women produced a consensus that the requirement was fair and necessary, with the important qualification that it is only valid given the existence of a similar requirement for men. Most of those contacted questioned the necessity for the general requirement, and expressed a desire to see this subject brought up before the faculty in conjunction with the COC report at the May faculty meeting.