

Statement of Student Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities

Preamble

Athletic participation in intercollegiate sports is a longstanding and valued component of the student experience at the University of Iowa. Participation in such programs by student athletes is governed by many policies, rules and procedures, such as those from the NCAA, the Big Ten Conference and the Iowa Athletics Department. Beyond conforming to those policies, rules and procedures, however, the University expects student athletes personally to demonstrate the core values that underlie them in their day-to-day lives.

This Statement of Rights and Responsibilities assures student athletes that the University recognizes that their primary objective is to undertake and complete a first-rate college education. It also reminds athletic participants of the University's expectations for excellence in the classroom, ethical sporting conduct on the playing field, and exemplary personal behavior. The Statement supplements, but does not replace team rules, and it does not alter the consequences for violating those team rules. The Statement also supplements the Athletics Department policies, rules and procedures set forth in the Student- Athlete Handbook.

I. Rights of Student Athletes at the University of Iowa

As a student athlete you enjoy all of the rights accorded any other university student. Your teammates, coaches, and Department of Athletics officials are expected to respect your rights as a student athlete. In particular:

Your academic endeavors will be respected and supported. You will receive reasonable and appropriate academic accommodations to meet your competition and training schedules. You will be provided with academic support as needed to help you reach your full potential as a student and to earn your degree.

Your practice and training time are limited in accordance with relevant NCAA rules, particularly the 20-Hour Rule. You may voluntarily elect to undertake additional practice or training sessions or to participate in other activities that are not directly team related. No one, however, has the authority to require you to perform extra practices, training or other team activities in violation of the NCAA rules or Department of Athletics policies.

If you suffer an athletically-related injury, you will receive medical treatment from a team physician and professional assistance from the training staff. If you become ill or suffer from a medical condition that is not athletically related, subject to insurance coverage, you may receive medications and rehabilitation to help you recover your health.

You should expect respectful treatment from your coaches at all times during your athletic career. Coaches must clearly communicate their expectations to you; coaches should maintain

open communication that enables you to communicate your concerns effectively to them; and coaches must avoid verbal communication or physical contact that is disrespectful, demeaning, or harmful.

You will compete in an environment that is *free from social coercion*, and that respects racial, ethnic, cultural, gender identity, sexual orientation, and religious differences. Your playing time will not depend on your participating in any social, religious, or other extraneous activity unrelated to your academic work and athletic performance.

You should expect *fair and even-handed treatment* from your coaches and officials in the Department of Athletics; and you will be accorded due process in disciplinary matters.

You should *report violations of NCAA rules and Department of Athletics policies* to appropriate officials without fear of retaliation against you by any person.

If you believe that one of your rights described above have been violated, *you should to take your concern* to an appropriate person or group. For example:

You may talk with your coach and/or your sport administrator;

You may talk with another administrator in the Department of Athletics including the Associate Athletics Director for Student Services and Compliance, the Senior Woman Athletics Administrator, and the Director of Athletics;

You may consult with the University Ombudsperson and the Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity;

You may consult with the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR); or

You may appeal to the Presidential Committee on Athletics (PCA), then to the University President through grievance procedures available to you in the Student Athlete Handbook; and

You may involve your parents or legal guardians, and the legal representative of your choice in any of these conversations, if that is your preference.

II. Responsibilities of Student Athletes

Your participation in intercollegiate sports is a privilege that carries many responsibilities, and high expectations concerning your academic commitment, your athletic performance and your personal behavior. These include the following:

You are first and foremost a university student. This means you are expected to study for and attend all classes, unless excused, turn in assignments on time, prepare thoroughly for examinations, and generally to *commit yourself to achieving a high level of academic success and to earning your degree.*

You represent the University in whatever you do and are expected to *conduct yourself in a lawful and responsible manner at all times.*

You are expected to *be a responsible member of your team*. This means maintaining a healthy lifestyle, attending all practices and training sessions, unless excused, and working conscientiously to perform in your sport to the very best of your athletic ability.

You are expected by your coaches and teammates to improve your athletic skills and to achieve and maintain the high level of mental and physical conditioning in your sport necessary for you to *compete successfully at the Big Ten championship level*.

You are expected to *be respectful* toward your team members, coaches, Department of Athletics' staff, and other members of the University community, officials, spectators, and the public generally.

You are expected to *exhibit ethical sporting conduct at all times* towards team members, competitors, coaches, officials, and spectators.

You are expected to obey all duly promulgated general university, collegiate, departmental rules, regulations and standards of conduct, and to *follow Department of Athletics policies and team rules*.

You are expected to *strictly obey rules governing alcohol and drug use*, including substances covered by the Substance Abuse Education and Testing Program.

You *must not engage in hazing, assault, physical or psychological intimidation* of others, or retaliate against persons who report such misconduct.

You *must not engage in sexual misconduct*, as defined by University and Department of Athletics Rules and Codes of Conduct. In addition to avoiding overt sexual misconduct:

Recognize that the use of alcohol impairs judgment and is often associated with sexual misconduct;

Avoid situations in which teammates, recruits, or any other person is placed in sexually uncomfortable or exploitative situations; and

Avoid situations in which sexual relations may be emotionally damaging or pose a risk to the health and well being of yourself or others.

You are expected to *follow the Social Networking Guidelines* set forth in the Department of Athletics Social Networking Policy.

PLEASE REVIEW YOUR STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK OR THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT WEB SITE FOR MORE DETAILED EXPLANATIONS OF THESE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.