

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS STUDENT-ATHLETE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the intention of the Department of Athletics to set high standards and achieve a level of behavior which reflects positively on the Department and the University. The Ohio State University Department of Athletics wants you to have a fulfilling and successful academic and athletic experience. We also want you to understand and respect the University community's expectations for your behavior.

As some of the University's most visible ambassadors, student-athletes at Ohio State are expected to uphold, at all times, high standards of integrity and behavior which will reflect positively upon themselves, their families, coaches, teammates, the Department of Athletics and The Ohio State University. This requires a commitment from each student-athlete. You are always representing the Department of Athletics and the University. You shall conduct yourself in a responsible and respectful manner at all times. In addition, you shall exhibit outstanding sportsmanship and shall encourage your teammates to do the same.

The Department of Athletics has established these standards of conduct for all student-athletes participating in intercollegiate athletic programs at Ohio State. These standards emphasize the importance and significance of sportsmanship, appropriate conduct, and the responsibilities that each student-athlete must accept when representing the University. The Student-Athlete Standards of Conduct are in addition to any specific team policies established by the head coach of each sport (if a team policy is more strict than these Standards, then the team policy shall control) and in addition to the University's Code of Student Conduct and other University policies. A complete list of all policies may be found in the Student-Athlete Handbook at <http://sasso.osu.edu/>. Student-athletes are bound by these Standards of Conduct when they initially enroll as a full time student or when they begin official practice at Ohio State – whichever occurs first.

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It is a privilege, not a right, to be a student-athlete at The Ohio State University. Misconduct may cause loss of privileges associated with membership on an intercollegiate athletic team and/or other sanctions as appropriate. If you participate in intercollegiate athletics at The Ohio State University, you agree to the following:

- 1) You shall abide by all local, state and federal laws.
- 2) You shall follow NCAA, Big Ten Conference, University and your individual team's policies, rules and regulations.
- 3) You shall follow all academic rules and procedures established by the University, the Student-Athlete Support Services Office and your coach(es).
- 4) You must consent to participate in the Department of Athletics mandatory drug testing program. A student-athlete will not be allowed to participate in any intercollegiate athletic team unless he/she fully participates in this drug testing program. When you complete your consent form, you will receive a copy of the department drug and alcohol program. This document contains information on testing procedures as well as procedures that are followed if you test positive.
- 5) On a team trip, or at any team related function, you are prohibited from consuming alcohol, using tobacco products or using or possessing illegal substances. This includes, but is not limited to, travel to and from an event, home games, team gatherings before or after games, and any time the team is together in an official capacity.
- 6) You must travel to and from away-from-home contests with the team unless prior permission is granted from the head coach.
- 7) If you are a student host during a prospect's official visit or interact with a prospect during his or her official visit, it is expected that you represent the University with dignity and class. If you are a student host, you will receive a copy of the student host instructions from your coach. This document outlines the role and responsibilities expected of you during the visit, with particular emphasis on acceptable and unacceptable entertainment of a prospect.
- 8) NCAA rules strictly prohibit members of the athletic department or student-athletes from engaging in gambling or sport wagering activities on college or professional sports. Be aware that the gambling industry is constantly seeking sources of information because operators use inside information to set the betting line or odds. It is possible that you may be approached and questioned about the condition or attitude of other team players. You may also be asked to alter the game in some manner and be offered favors or gifts for doing so. It is expected that as a student-athlete, you will not get involved in any manner in gambling activities (e.g., provide inside information, alter a game, place or solicit bets on a game, use the internet to place bets)
- 9) You shall not post or contribute any content to any social networking or other internet site(s) that reflects negatively (determined at the sole discretion of the University) on yourself, your team and/or teammates, your coach(es) or the Department of Athletics. The University may monitor such internet site(s) for the sole purpose of determining whether or not you have posted or contributed any content in violation of this section. If so, you will be required to remove the information immediately, and you may be subject to loss of privileges and other sanctions as appropriate. Additionally, you may not block or otherwise prevent coaches or athletic department staff members from viewing your site(s).

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- 10) You may not participate in any form of prohibited hazing or initiation. Any activity of this nature is strictly prohibited and allegations will be thoroughly investigated. If it is found that you violated the Department of Athletics' hazing policy, all involved student-athlete (s) will be subject to consequences set forth under that policy (including, but not limited to, suspension and dismissal from the team) and are also subject to the authority of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. Additionally, hazing is a criminal offense pursuant to R.C. Section 2903.31 and you may be subject to criminal penalties for engaging in this behavior.
- 11) If you are arrested, you will be immediately placed on suspension, the nature of which shall be determined in the sole discretion of the Department of Athletics, until the facts of the incident are reviewed by the Director of Athletics, the applicable Sport Administrator and/or the head coach (and other appropriate University personnel, as deemed necessary by the University).
- 12) If you are charged with a felony, you will not be permitted to represent Ohio State Athletics in competition until such time as the charge is resolved and all legal, NCAA, Big Ten Conference, University and athletic department conditions for reinstatement have been met, unless otherwise approved by the Director of Athletics.
- 13) If you are charged with a misdemeanor, all subsequent sanctions under this Student-Athlete Standards of Conduct will be handled by the Head Coach, the Sport Administrator for the sport, and the Director of Athletics. If misdemeanor charges result in a sentence which involves serving jail time, you will not be permitted to represent Ohio State Athletics in competition until that time has been served, unless otherwise approved by the Director of Athletics.
- 14) All arrests for any crime are reported to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and you may be subject to University action. If you are arrested for either a misdemeanor or felony that is considered an "offense of violence" (as defined in Ohio Rev. Code section 2901.01(A)(9)), you may be subject to additional discipline under state law. Section 3345.22(A) of the Ohio Rev. Code provides that a student of a state supported University who is arrested for any offense covered by Revised Code section 3345.23(D) shall be given a hearing to determine whether or not that individual shall be immediately suspended from the University. Be aware that you are subject to this provision and it will be enforced against you. If you are convicted of an offense of violence, you will be immediately dismissed from the University pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code section 3345.23.
- 15) You shall avoid any other behavior or conduct that is inconsistent with the Statement of Purpose or that otherwise reflects negatively (in the sole discretion of the University) on you, your team and/or teammates, your coach(es), the Department of Athletics or the University.

Failure to abide by this Student-Athlete Standards of Conduct will result in loss of privileges and other sanctions as appropriate, including but not limited to verbal or written reprimand, probation, loss of practice privileges, loss of competition privileges, suspension or dismissal from the program. Reduction, cancellation or non-renewal of athletic grant-in-aid may also be a consequence of a violation of this Student-Athlete Standards of Conduct. In addition, sanctions may also be imposed for a violation of team rules or a violation of the Code of Student Conduct or violation of other University policies, rules and regulations.

The Department of Athletics may take action before University disciplinary and/or other external authorities have concluded disposition of the alleged violation. You may appeal, in accordance with the Department of Athletics' student grievance procedure, the Department of Athletics' decision to impose consequences in accordance with this Student-Athlete Standards of Conduct.