

# **NC STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT**

As an NC State student-athlete, I am an ambassador for my university, my hometown, my family, my team, and my fellow students. Because of the respect I have for myself and for them, I will:

- Be responsible for my own actions at all times.
- Act with the highest standards of integrity in all that I do.
- Participate fully in academic and athletic matters.
- Earn my college degree.
- Exhibit good sportsmanship no matter what circumstance I am in.
- Contribute to my community, especially to those less fortunate than myself.
- Remain an amateur, in fact and in spirit, for as long as I am an NC State student.
- Treat my body with respect and care.
- Lead, rather than follow-the behavior of others.
- Be a positive role model for my team members, fellow students, alumni, fans, and especially the school children that will follow in my footsteps.

## **Authorities Governing Ethical Conduct**

NC State has established a tradition of ethical conduct at all levels of University life. In accordance with this tradition, all student-athletes involved in the intercollegiate athletics program are expected to represent the University in an honorable manner at all times.

### **Standards of ethical conduct are established and enforced by:**

- **The NCAA**  
Student-athletes are subject to the rules and regulations of the NCAA governing unsportsmanlike behavior, non-therapeutic drug use, gambling, bribery, and other forms of misconduct.
- **The ACC**  
Student-athletes are subject to the rules and regulations of the ACC governing unsportsmanlike conduct.
- **NC State University**  
All student-athletes are subject to the Code of Student Conduct as outlined in the PRR ([http://www2.ncsu.edu/prr/student\\_services/student\\_conduct/POL445.00.1.htm](http://www2.ncsu.edu/prr/student_services/student_conduct/POL445.00.1.htm)). The Coordinator of Judicial Programs is responsible for administering the code.

Depending on the severity of an offense, a student admitting guilt and waiving the right to a hearing or being found guilty in a hearing of any form of nonacademic misconduct is subject to a range of sanctions, including but not limited to the following sanctions: oral reprimand, written reprimand, in-kind restitution, restriction of privileges, disciplinary probation, disciplinary eviction, interim suspension, suspension, or expulsion.

In addition to sanctions imposed pursuant to the University Student Conduct Code, the Athletics Department may impose additional sanctions related to participation in athletics activities.

- **NC State University Athletics Department**  
All student-athletes are subject to the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, which incorporates adherence to University policies applicable to all students, NCAA and ACC rules of conduct governing student athletes, and Athletics Department and team rules. Whenever violations of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct occur, the Athletics Department will review the misconduct and may apply sanctions as they relate to participation in athletics activities.

# Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

## 1. Overview

Membership on an NC State athletics team is considered a privilege, not a right. The acceptance of athletically related financial aid and participation as a member of an athletics' team carries with it definite academic and athletics responsibilities. To this end, the Athletics Department has adopted a standard of ethical conduct and behavioral expectations that may exceed those of non student-athletes. Student-athletes shall abide by these standards and expectations at all times.

In addition, student athletes shall also abide by the NC State University Code of Student Conduct, all other University policies and rules, and policies of the NCAA and the ACC.

The following is a compilation of many applicable NCAA, ACC, and University policies that address the responsibilities and expectations of student-athletes. This document is not intended to be comprehensive, but rather is designed to provide student-athletes with an overview of many of their obligations. For further information regarding the responsibilities of student-athletes, contact the Athletics Department.

## 2. Academic Responsibilities

A priority for the Athletics Department is to augment and support wholeheartedly every effort that will foster intellectual development and graduation for our student-athletes. While several levels of support exist at NC State, ultimately, responsibility for success rests upon the student's shoulders. As a result, each student-athlete is expected to:

- Set a primary goal of obtaining a degree.
- Seek assistance before and/or when academic difficulties occur from the instructor and ASPSA.
- Attend and be prepared for every class except for excused absences (see the University's Attendance Policy, found at:  
[http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/pols\\_regs/REG205.00.4.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/pols_regs/REG205.00.4.php)).

When attendance becomes an issue with the ASPSA, a meeting (called by the Director of the ASPSA) with the student-athlete, sport administrator, academic coordinator, and coach will take place. A plan will be identified by the ASPSA with reasonable expectations and the pending sanctions if the student-athlete is non-compliant (i.e., temporary or permanent suspension from team activities). A copy of the plan will be forwarded to the Director of Athletics and the Director of the Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes.

- Attend all study table, tutorial, and counseling sessions as scheduled. Study hall and tutors will be scheduled and made available by the ASPSA staff.
- Meet regularly with faculty advisor, sport administrator, and ASPSA staff as required (i.e., graduation plan, summer school, 5th year aid).
- Adhere to the University's policy regarding academic integrity (See the University's Code of Student Conduct at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student\\_services/student\\_discipline/POL11.35.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php))
- Maintain NCAA minimum course hours requirement each semester.
- Successful completion of six hours of academic credit per semester to be eligible for post-season participation.
- Make progress toward degree based on NCAA and University standards.
- Participate in diagnostic testing as requested by ASPSA or the Athletics Department.

### **3. Sportsmanship**

Our student-athletes are ambassadors of NC State and enjoy certain privileges of such status. They also bear the responsibility of behaving with dignity and sportsmanship. Student-athletes shall deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship during games and competition.

Behavior at all times must reflect the high standards of honor and dignity that should characterize participation in competitive intercollegiate sports. Student-athletes shall conduct themselves in a manner reflecting positively on the reputation of NC State both on and off the “field of play,” in pre-game and post-game comments to media, and when traveling to and from other institutions.

Our objective is for our student-athletes to always maintain an attitude of respect toward our opponents. As models of good sportsmanship, NC State student-athletes should look for ways to encourage and appreciate quality play and effort, regardless of whether it’s exhibited by a teammate or an opponent.

While intense and emotional game action and conduct are certainly a reasonable part of intercollegiate sports contests, the intent of our student-athletes should never be to demean the dignity and personhood of the opponent. To that end, our student-athletes are expressly prohibited by ACC rules and regulations from engaging in the following behavior at any NC State intercollegiate sporting events:

- Striking or physically abusing an official, opposing coach, player or spectator,
- Intentionally inciting participants or spectators to violent or abusive action,
- Using profanity, vulgarity, taunts, ridicules or making obscene gestures,
- Publicly criticizing any game official, conference personnel, a member institution or institutional personnel;
- Engaging in negative recruiting by making statements which are unduly derogatory of another institution or its personnel to a prospective student-athlete, parents, high school coach, or other person interested in the prospective student-athlete,
- Entering the competing area for an unsportsmanlike purpose, or
- Any other act of unsportsmanlike conduct not specifically prescribed

### **4. Gambling**

A student-athlete is not eligible to compete if he/she knowingly:

- Provides information to individuals involved in organized gambling activities concerning intercollegiate athletics competition,
- Solicits a bet on any intercollegiate team,
- Accepts a bet on any team representing the institution,
- Solicits or accepts a bet on any intercollegiate competition for any item (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) that has tangible value, or
- Participates in any gambling activity that involves intercollegiate or professional athletics, through a bookmaker, parlay card, or any other method employed by organized gambling.

### **5. Hazing**

Student-athletes are prohibited from engaging in any hazing activities. This is defined in the University Code of Conduct as any act that injures, degrades, harasses, or disgraces any person. Student-athletes who engage in such activities are subject to both Student Judicial Board action and applicable laws of the state of North Carolina (See NC General Statute § 14-35).

In addition, a criminal conviction for hazing or aiding and abetting others in the commission of this offense requires expulsion from the University.

For additional information regarding University policies on hazing, see the University's Code of Student Conduct ([http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student\\_services/student\\_discipline/POL11.35.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php)).

## **6. Agents and Amateurism**

Student-athletes are not eligible in a sport if he/she has ever:

- Used his/her athletic skill (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that sport,
- Accepted a promise of pay for competing in that sport even if such pay is to be received following completion of intercollegiate athletics participation,
- Agreed orally or in writing to a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics,
- Played on any professional athletics team as defined by NCAA Rule 12.02.4 in that sport,
- Received a salary, reimbursement of expenses or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization based upon athletics skill or participation except as permitted by NCAA rules and regulations
- Accepted money, transportation, or other benefits from an agent or agreed to have an agent market his/her athletic ability or reputation in that sport, or
- After becoming a student-athlete, accepted any pay for promoting a commercial product or service or allowed his/her name or picture to be used for promoting a commercial product or service.

## **7. Athletically Related Financial Aid**

Athletically related grants-in-aid are awarded for one-year periods, as outlined by NCAA policies. The Athletics Department makes recommendations to the University's Financial Aid Office regarding the renewal of athletics-related financial aid.

Failure to abide by the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct or team rules and regulations may be grounds for non-renewal of or reduction of athletics aid. In such circumstances, student-athletes have the right to appeal to the University Committee on Financial Aid. Summer school and fifth year financial aid will be considered for approval upon making a formal application.

The policies specified below are taken from the Student-Athlete Handbook and govern gradation (reduction), cancellation, or non-renewal of financial aid. The entire set of policies regarding changes in athletically related financial aid status is documented in PRR's

REG09.00.1 (<http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/athletics/REG09.00.1.php>) and  
REG09.00.2 (<http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/athletics/REG09.00.2.php>).

### **A. Types of Financial Aid Available to Student-Athletes**

- A full athletics grant-in-aid consisting of tuition and fees, room and board and required course related books.
- A partial athletics grant-in-aid consisting of a dollar value to be credited toward educational expenses.
- Need based non-athletics institutional aid.
- Pell Grants – A student-athlete may receive a Pell Grant that offers a maximum of \$4,050 per year.

- Student Loans -A student-athlete may obtain a loan available to all other students and administered on the same basis for all students. Coaches or the Compliance Office can provide further information.

## **B. Limits of Institutional Financial Aid**

- A student-athlete may not receive aid in excess of a full grant-in-aid or the cost of attendance (whichever applies). A Pell Grant is not included when determining if a student-athlete has exceeded the value of full grant-in-aid or the cost of attendance.
- Student-athletes on a partial grant-in-aid may only receive institutional financial aid if the total amount of aid from all sources does not exceed the value of a grant-in-aid.
- Student-athletes may receive a full Pell Grant (if they qualify) in addition to a full athletics grant-in-aid.
- Student-athletes may receive benefits or payments from the G.I. Bill of Rights, Military Reserve Training Programs, or some other Government entitlement programs.
- All student-athletes must notify the Athletics Department of any scholarship they receive from outside organizations and provide necessary documentation as requested.

## **C. Renewal/Non-renewal of Athletics Grant-In-Aid**

- Athletics Grants-In-Aid are awarded one academic year at a time. A grant may be renewed, reduced, or not renewed at the end of each academic year.
- Notification must be in writing and must be provided on or before July 1 for the upcoming academic year. Please note that aid renewal is not automatic; many factors must be taken into consideration in deciding whether or not to renew aid to athletes.

## **D. Gradation of Athletics Grant-In-Aid**

NC State may cancel, non-renew, or reduce any athlete's grant-in-aid during the period of the award if the student-athlete:

- Renders him/herself ineligible for athletics competition;
- Misrepresents him/herself or gives false information on his/her application or letter of intent;
- Voluntarily withdraws from his/her sport for personal reasons; and/or
- Engages in misconduct serious enough to warrant disciplinary action and cancellation of aid.

## **E. Summer School/Post-Eligibility Athletics Aid**

- NC State is committed to assisting qualified student-athletes in their educational pursuits and the realization of their ultimate goal of graduation. Therefore, the Athletics Department has allocated a limited amount of financial resources to permit some student-athletes the opportunity to continue their athletics-related financial aid within guidelines established by the NCAA.
- Summer school aid is not automatic. The appropriate coach and the Athletics Director will decide who is awarded aid and how much is to be given. Applications for summer school financial aid will be available in the spring semester prior to summer school.
- To qualify the student-athlete must:
  - Be progressing toward graduation;
  - Be in good academic standing with the University; and
  - Be willing to assume limited work responsibilities with the Athletics Department.
- To receive Post-Eligibility Athletics Aid, the student-athlete must complete an application during the spring semester of his/her fourth year

## **8. Medical Responsibilities**

Participation in athletics at NC State is contingent upon medical approval by the Athletics Team Physician and the Sports Medicine staff. Student-athletes are required to show evidence of proper medical insurance and provide a current medical history for the Sports Medicine staff and/or Team Physician. Student-athletes are also required to participate in all department-sponsored student enhancement seminars or functions, which may include but are not limited to, drug testing, alcohol and other drugs education, and nutrition. For further information regarding the University's policy on drug testing and education, visit the following URL on the University's PRR website, found at: <http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/athletics/POL09.00.2.php>.

In addition, student-athletes are expected to keep themselves in top physical condition and are responsible for continuing training programs prescribed by medical and coaching staffs.

## **9. Alcohol Policy**

The Athletics Department highly discourages alcohol consumption at all times by any student-athlete regardless of age. A person who engages in misconduct while intoxicated remains fully responsible for his/her actions and the resulting consequences. The consumption of alcohol and/or the results of such consumption should not compromise personal responsibility or accountability.

North Carolina state law sets the minimum age for the purchase, consumption, or possession of alcoholic beverages at 21 years of age. It is unlawful for any person to purchase, obtain, or attempt to obtain alcoholic beverages for anyone under 21, by means including but not limited to the usage of fraudulent or altered documentation. In addition to legal age requirements, student-athletes are subject to the University Alcohol Policy as stated on the University PRR website (See REG09.00.1 at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus\\_environ/health\\_safety\\_welfare/POL04.20.2.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus_environ/health_safety_welfare/POL04.20.2.php)).

Moreover, all student-athletes are prohibited from drinking alcoholic beverages whenever traveling and/or acting as official representatives of NC State and from consuming alcohol at any Athletics Department sponsored event (football, basketball game, etc.). Student-athlete hosts are also prohibited from providing potential student-athletes with alcoholic beverages.

Violations of the alcohol policy may subject student-athletes to sanctions by the University and/or Director of Athletics.

## **10. Residence Hall Responsibilities**

All student-athletes are required to abide by the regulations and policies of the residence halls and the Case Dining Hall. If a student-athlete voluntarily leaves an athletics team or is removed for disciplinary reasons, the student-athlete may be subject to reassignment through the University Housing Office if the student-athlete was assigned housing arranged by the Athletics Department previously reserved for student-athletes in good standing with their respective sport.

## **11. Travel Expectations**

When traveling as official representatives of NC State, student-athletes' actions should reflect favorably on the University, their team, and themselves. Student-athletes are expected to adhere to their particular team's dress code, nutritional needs, and curfew.

As previously stated, **all student-athletes are prohibited from drinking alcoholic beverages whenever traveling and/or acting as official representatives of NC State.**

## **12. NCAA Compliance Responsibilities**

Student-athletes are required to assist the Athletics Department administration by providing information to assist with certification of eligibility and NCAA compliance issues whenever such assistance is sought. Prospective or enrolled student athletes who refuse to furnish information relevant to an investigation of a possible violation of an NCAA regulation when requested to do so or who knowingly are involved in arranging for fraudulent academic credit or false transcripts or furnishing false or misleading information concerning involvement in or knowledge of matters relevant to a possible violation of an NCAA regulation are ineligible for further intercollegiate athletic competition.

In addition, student-athletes must participate in all mandatory educational programs. Information on automobile registration and summer employment is to be filed with the Compliance Office

## **13. NCAA and ACC Responsibilities**

All student-athletes are required to adhere to applicable NCAA rules and policies as addressed in the NCAA Student-Athlete Statement that is administered annually prior to certification. A student-athlete is not eligible to compete if he/she has shown dishonesty in evading or violating NCAA regulations.

All ACC rules and policies must also be followed explicitly.

## **14. Violations of Team Rules**

All student-athletes are subject to team rules developed by the coach or each team. These rules may be more restrictive than those established by the Athletics Department, University, Conference or NCAA. The Head Coach of each sport must present team rules to student athletes and their respective supervisors each fall. The head coach of each sport has authority to suspend any student-athlete on his/her team for violation of team rules, separate and apart from proceedings under the student-athlete code of conduct. A student-athlete may appeal that decision to the Athletics Director.

## **15. Violations of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct**

Any violation of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, reduction or revocation of athletic scholarship awards and suspension (temporary or permanent) from participation in athletics.

The Head Coach, subject to the review and approval of the Athletics Director, may bar a student-athlete from participating in team activities for violations of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct. This sanction may be imposed as soon as the Head Coach notifies the student-athlete of the violation, gives the student-athlete a chance to explain what happened, and determines that a sanction is justified after consideration of the student-athlete's statement. The Athletics Director reviews violations resulting in permanent dismissal.

The Athletics Director, at the request of the student-athlete, will conduct a hearing to review the nature of the violation and the subsequent dismissal from the team. The procedures for dealing with violations resulting in permanent dismissal are available upon request in the Athletics Director's office. In addition to the foregoing procedures, sanctions involving elimination or other changes in athletics-related financial aid during the period of the award shall be imposed pursuant to the relevant NCAA procedures, which are available from the Athletics Department. For further information, see the University policy on Non-Renewal or Reduction of Athletically Related Financial Aid located on the University's PRR website (<http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/homepage.php>).

#### **16. Violations of Local, State, or Federal Laws**

It is the policy of the Athletics Department that any student-athlete charged with a felony crime will be immediately suspended from athletics participation and will thereafter be eligible for reinstatement upon subsequent determination by the Athletics Director.

## **Acknowledgement of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct**

I have read, understand, and have received the foregoing North Carolina State Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, and I have been given the opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification. All my questions about the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct have been answered to my satisfaction.

I understand that agreement to and compliance with the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct is required for my participation in athletics at North Carolina State. Any violation of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct by me may result in disciplinary action against me, including, but not limited to, reduction or revocation of my athletic scholarship award and suspension (temporary or permanent) from participation in athletics.

My signature below, in addition to acknowledging the requirements of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, also is my consent for officials of North Carolina State, while acting within the scope of their employment, to communicate with my parent(s) or legal guardian(s) concerning matters of my health, academic status, Student-Athlete Code of Conduct violations, and my athletic participation and scholarship status.

Furthermore, I hereby authorize any team physician, psychologist, or any other health care professional to release to North Carolina State all records requested by a University official acting within the scope of his or her employment. I also hereby authorize any professor or party to release to North Carolina State University (including the Athletics Department and Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes) my progress in class or the results of any diagnostic tests of an educational and/or psychological nature.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-athlete Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-athlete Printed Name