

## Appendix H: Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

### I. Introduction

This Student-Athlete Code of Conduct is designed to alert you, the student-athlete, to the behavior expected of you and to the potential consequences that your behavior may have on your status as a student-athlete. Please also refer to Appendix I (Statement of Student-Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities) for a more detailed description of your responsibilities as a student-athlete.

This Student-Athlete Code of Conduct highlights some of the policies that apply generally to University students and identifies some additional standards that are unique to student-athletes. First, all student-athletes are members of the University of Iowa's student body. You are a student first, and your participation in intercollegiate athletics derives from your status as a student. Accordingly, all University policies governing student conduct apply to you. Student-athletes violating any University policies are subject to discipline by the University. Any sanctions imposed against you under this Student-Athlete Code of Conduct shall be in addition to any actions taken or sanctions imposed by the University. Applicable University policies, rules, and regulations include but are not limited to:

- a. University of Iowa Operations Manual, [Section II \(Community Policies\)](#) and [Section IV \(Students\)](#), such as:
  - [Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct](#), including dating/domestic violence and stalking
  - [Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources](#)
  - [Anti-Harassment Policy](#)
  - [Anti-Violence Policy](#)
- b. University of Iowa Division of Student Life
  - [The Code of Student Life](#)
  - [Discipline of Registered Student Organizations](#)
  - [University of Iowa Housing and Dining policies](#)
  - [Academic Misconduct](#) (under the Division of Student Life policy or collegiate or departmental policies)
- c. The [Board of Regents](#), State of Iowa, polices and rules related to Students

In addition, your participation in the university's Intercollegiate Athletics program is governed by policies and procedures put into effect by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA); the Big Ten Conference (Big Ten), and the Board of Regents, State of Iowa. Your participation in the university's Intercollegiate Athletics program is also governed by all University of Iowa's Department of Athletics' rules and procedures as set forth in the [Student-Athlete Handbook](#), including the Department of Athletics' [Drug Testing Program](#), Recruiting, and Guidelines for Prospective Student-Athletes and their Student Hosts.

The Department of Athletics may take action under this Student-Athlete Code of Conduct regarding your participation in the university's Intercollegiate Athletics program and also regarding the awarding, renewal, and modification of a scholarship that you may now have. This Code of Conduct is intended to complement, not replace, university conduct rules and conduct rules that your sport team has adopted, including consequences for violating those rules.

## **II. Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct**

All forms of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct are prohibited under University policy. In accordance with regulatory requirements and institutional values, the University's Title IX Coordinator has primary responsibility for coordinating the University's efforts related to intake, investigation, resolution, and implementation of supportive measures to stop, remediate, and prevent sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation prohibited under the Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct. No employee is authorized to resolve reports or complaints without the involvement of the Title IX Coordinator.

A student may make a UI policy complaint about sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, dating/domestic violence, and/or stalking by contacting the Office of Institutional Equity Title IX and Gender Equity Unit at 319-335-0705 or online [here](#).

A student may also make a criminal complaint about sexual misconduct, dating/domestic violence, and/or stalking to the appropriate law enforcement authorities, which would be the UI Department of Public Safety (319-335-5022) in the case of misconduct that occurs on campus.

A student may need support when talking with law enforcement or University administrators. Students are entitled to be assisted by a certified victim advocate at every stage of the process and are encouraged to consult with the victim advocate and bring the victim advocate to meetings.

For more information consult the following websites/offices:

Office of Institutional Equity  
Website <https://diversity.iowa.edu/division/oie>  
<https://diversity.uiowa.edu/report/report-problem>  
Tel. 319-335-0705

## **III. Discrimination Based on Protected Class**

The university is committed to the principle of equal opportunity, and differences in treatment are prohibited when based on race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy (including childbirth and related conditions), disability, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, service in the U.S. military, sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preferences. The Office of Institutional Equity has primary responsibility to investigate formal and informal complaints of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on protected class. No employee is authorized to resolve such reports or complaints without the involvement of the Office of Institutional Equity.

A student may make a [formal or informal complaint](#) about discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation by contacting the Office of Institutional Equity, Equity Investigations Unit at 319-335-0705 or online [here](#).

For more information consult the following websites/offices:

Office of Institutional Equity  
Website <https://diversity.iowa.edu/division/oie>  
Tel. 319-335-0705

#### **IV. Drug and Alcohol Offenses**

It is the goal of the University of Iowa and the Athletics Department to maintain a drug-free environment in which competitive intercollegiate athletics programs are conducted. To that end, the Athletics Department has implemented a [drug testing program](#) that all student-athletes must follow. The UI Department of Athletics Drug Testing Program can be accessed via the [Student-Athlete Handbook](#), or via the [Resources page](#) on the [UI Student-Athlete Academic Services website](#). Appendix F (Substance Abuse Prevention Policy for Student-Athletes) of the UI Department of Athletics Drug Testing Program details consequences or actions for a student-athlete in violation of misdemeanor drug or alcohol offenses. Examples of offenses that fall under this category may include, but are not limited to, the following: Operating a Motor Vehicle While Impaired (first offense), Public Intoxication, and an illegal drug substance charge.

Please note, however, that the Athletics Department may impose greater sanctions on a student-athlete under this Student-Athlete Code of Conduct for any drug or alcohol offense which it determines requires more substantial sanctions (e.g., a drug or alcohol charge which constitutes a felony in any jurisdiction).

#### **V. Hazing**

Hazing by any member of the campus community is [strictly prohibited](#) at the University of Iowa. In addition to any action taken by the University, student-athletes who violate the prohibition against hazing are subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal, under the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct.

Hazing is defined as any intentional or reckless behavior, action or situation, occurring with or without consent that endangers or creates risk of injury, creates mental or physical discomfort, hinders student engagement, harasses, embarrasses and/or ridicules a person. This would include: assisting, approving (implicitly or explicitly), organizing, or otherwise participating in the previously described behaviors, for the purpose of initiation into, or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership or a leadership role in any student organization, fraternity, sorority, or team recognized by any other University sponsor or department.

#### **VI. Sportsmanship**

The Big Ten Conference expects all contests involving a member institution to be conducted without compromise to any fundamental element of sportsmanship. Such fundamental elements include integrity of the competition, civility toward all, and respect, particularly toward opponents and officials.

Student-athletes are expected to treat opponents and officials with respect. Public comments or public messaging made at any time, including comments or messages posted even temporarily via social media, are subject to review and punishable in accordance with the [Big Ten Sportsmanship Policy](#).

Student-athletes may also be subject to discipline by the Athletics Department under the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct for actions it deems contrary to the rules of sportsmanship.

## **VII. Sports Wagering**

You are expected to abide by [NCAA Bylaw 10.3](#), which prohibits student-athletes from knowingly participating in sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur, or professional athletics competition. This prohibition applies to any athletic practice or activity where student-athletes are competing or any competition in a sport in which the NCAA conducts championship competition, in bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.

Disciplinary action for violations of NCAA regulations concerning gambling can include ineligibility for further intercollegiate competition and/or non-renewal of athletically related financial aid.

## **VIII. Academic Misconduct**

Academic misconduct diminishes your education and the classroom experience for other students, undermining the UI mission of serving all students. It may also impact your eligibility to compete in intercollegiate athletics. Examples of student behaviors that constitute academic misconduct include the following: cheating on exams and quizzes, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration on assignments, assessments or other activities, willful misrepresentation, and facilitating academic misconduct of other students. Generative AI tools should not be used in the completion of assignments unless an instructor for a given course specifically authorizes their use.

Violations of the regulations for academic misbehavior are ordinarily handled within the department or college concerned. However, violations of this nature still constitute a violation of Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, and the Athletics Department may assign additional consequences.

## **IX. Policies on Misconduct for University of Iowa Student-Athletes**

### **A. Student-Athlete Code of Conduct Violations**

In addition, any one of the following acts of misconduct by a student-athlete may be considered a Code of Conduct violation:

- a. Student-athlete admits to, is convicted of, or pleads guilty or no contest to (including deferred judgments, suspended sentences, or circumstances where the court reserves the decision on whether to reduce the charge at a later time) a violation of a criminal law classified as a felony or misdemeanor;
- b. A violation of a term of probation or other condition imposed by a court in a criminal proceeding;
- c. A violation of Department of Athletics policy;
- d. A violation of University policies, rules or regulations, including: The University of Iowa's Code of Student Life, academic dishonesty in violation of University, college, school or department standards, or a violation of any University student conduct regulation;

- e. The student-athlete acknowledges responsibility to the Director of Athletics, or other appropriate university official, for having engaged in conduct that would constitute a Student-Athlete Code of Conduct violation;
- f. Willfully giving false information to a University official; or
- g. Failure to comply with any sanction(s) or treatment program imposed under the [University of Iowa Department of Athletics Drug Testing Program](#).

## **B. Interim Action**

The Director of Athletics, at their discretion, may take preliminary action to suspend a student-athlete from participation in practice or competition and/or access to Athletics Department services prior to a final determination as to whether a Student-Athlete Code of Conduct Violation has occurred. Notwithstanding this discretion, the Director of Athletics will take such action in a matter involving sexual harassment or sexual misconduct only following consultation with the TIX Coordinator and the Office of the General Counsel.

When the Director of Athletics takes preliminary action under this framework to suspend a student-athlete, they shall notify the student-athlete of the suspension and the procedures available to the student-athlete for review of the suspension.

## **C. Determination of a Violation**

A determination that a student-athlete has committed a violation of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct will be based on relevant and credible information including, but not limited to the following: a finding of responsibility by a University office (e.g., the Office of Student Accountability or Office of Institutional Equity) or a student-athlete's conviction of, or guilty plea or plea of no contest to (including deferred judgments, suspended sentences, or circumstances where the court reserves the decision on whether to reduce the charge at a later time) criminal or civil charges that would constitute a violation of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct.

In the absence of a conviction, guilty plea or a plea of no contest to criminal or civil charges that would constitute a violation of the Code of Conduct, the Athletics Department may still conclude that disciplinary action is appropriate in cases other than Title IX Sexual Harassment. In drawing such conclusions, the Athletics Department will evaluate all relevant and credible information available to it. Examples of relevant and credible information include, but are not limited to, the following with respect to the misconduct under consideration: arrest records, police reports, statements of law enforcement officers, University records, University investigation findings, third-party or witness statements, and admissions by the student-athlete.

## **D. Sanctions**

When it has been determined that a student-athlete has committed a violation of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, the Director of Athletics (or designee) shall determine the appropriate sanction and, in doing so, may consult with the student-athlete's Head Coach and assigned Sport Administrator. The Director of Athletics may also consult with the Faculty Athletic Representative, the Office of Student Accountability, and other university officials for recommendations regarding the appropriate sanction(s).

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the following: warning, reprimand, probation with or without conditions, requirements for restitution, conditions to encourage personal rehabilitation (e.g., counseling and community service), conditions related to satisfactory academic performance, suspension from practice, suspension from competition, suspension from access to Athletics Department services, revocation or modification of athletically related financial aid, and dismissal from the team or program.

Repeated or continued violations of this Student-Athlete Code of Conduct may result in more substantial sanctions. This policy recognizes that repeat violations may reflect adversely on the student-athlete's sport, Iowa Athletics, and the University.

#### **E. Appeal**

A student-athlete may appeal any sanction that suspends participation in practice, competition, and/or services provided by the Department of Athletics pursuant to the grievance process provided in Appendix E of the [Presidential Committee on Athletics](#) Manual. A student-athlete may also appeal a revocation or modification of athletically related financial aid in accordance with NCAA procedures and university procedures as outlined in the [Student-Athlete Handbook](#).