

# CLEMSON UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OF CONDUCT/DISCIPLINE POLICY

*Athletic Department Guiding Principle of Pride: "Our actions honor our University, its traditions, teams, performance, people, and each other".*

Participation in athletics is a privilege that carries a tremendous amount of responsibility for the student-athlete. As Clemson University's most visible ambassadors, student-athletes are expected to uphold high standards of integrity and behavior that will reflect well upon them, their families, coaches, teammates, the Athletic Department, and Clemson University. Student-athletes are expected to demonstrate exemplary behavior and performance as representatives of Clemson University, to respect the rights of others, and abide by all rules and regulations of Clemson University, the ACC, the NCAA, and the Clemson University Athletic Department (CUAD). Failure to comply with said rules may result in suspension, probation or dismissal from the team; non-renewal of athletic financial aid; or expulsion from the University. This policy covers student-athlete behavior on and off the field including that engaged in during social networking and in public media.

### STUDENT-ATHLETE MISCONDUCT

Student-athletes are held accountable by the same policies and procedures as other University students as outlined in the Clemson University Student Handbook. In addition they are held to the Clemson University Athletic Department Standard of Conduct and Discipline outlined here. The head coach of each sport also has his/her own set of team rules, and is responsible for enforcing these rules. The Clemson Athletic Department Administration will fully support appropriate disciplinary action taken by a coach in concurrence with the designated CUAD administrator<sup>1</sup>.

#### Reporting Personal Misconduct

The student-athlete has the responsibility to report any detainment by a law-enforcement agency; criminal charges filed by any agency; and other significant Code of Conduct violations to their coach immediately (within 24-hours of the incident). Student-athletes failing to comply with this expectation may be subject to greater consequences.

The coach, upon receiving a report of misconduct, is required to inform the designated CUAD administrator or the Director of Athletics immediately or within 12 hours after learning of the infraction.

---

<sup>1</sup> The CUAD administrator is designated by the director of athletics to handle the particular item.

## Sanctions for Misconduct

- A student-athlete will be suspended immediately from all athletic activity, if arrested for and / or charged with:
  - Any felony offense
  - Sports wagering, gambling, game fixing
  - Illegal possession of a weapon
  - Sexual assault

Upon adjudication, these cases will be referred to the Conduct Review Board (CRB) for review and documentation.

- A student-athlete arrested for and /or charged with a DUI will be withheld immediately from not less than the next 10% of their intercollegiate (championship segment) competitions. The head coach will recommend, within seven days, a course of action, and upon review by the designated CUAD administrator, administer further sanctions if warranted.
- For all other misdemeanor charges/convictions, the head coach will recommend, within seven days, a course of action, and upon concurrence of the designated CUAD administrator, administer sanctions.
- In addition to any sanctions that are listed above, a student-athlete who is arrested for and / or charged with a drug-related crime, whether for the use, possession, sale, purchase, distribution, or manufacture, or the attempt to do any of the foregoing, shall be subject to drug-testing pursuant to the Clemson University Athletic Department Use / Misuse Program.

## Clemson University Athletic Department Conduct Review Board (CRB)

- The CRB will be appointed by the Director of Athletics for the purpose of monitoring the implementation of the conduct policy, identify trends, and serve as a judicial board under specifically defined circumstances. Membership of the Board will comprise five members to be appointed by the Director of Athletics.
- The CRB will meet to review student-athlete cases associated with:
  - Review of a student-athlete's suspension after their arrest/charge has been adjudicated, to recommend a course of action to the Director of Athletics who can lift or modify, leave in place, extend, or make permanent the suspension or take other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate. The CRB may also be asked to review other discipline cases as requested by the Director of Athletics.
- In reviewing a case, the CRB will consider factors such as:
  - Nature of offense;
  - Involvement of drugs / alcohol;
  - Conduct in other areas of student-athlete responsibility (e.g. academics, institution, etc.);
  - Past behaviors / repeated misconduct / repeated association with acts of misconduct;
  - Multiple violations within a single act of misconduct;

- Student-athlete demeanor (to include self-disclosure of offense);
- Student-athlete cooperation during investigation.
- Sanctions will subsequently be imposed, and may include, but not be limited to:
  - Disciplinary warning;
  - Disciplinary probation;
  - Deferred suspension from athletic participation;
  - Suspension from practice and/or athletic activity for a pre-determined period of time;
  - Restriction upon the use of athletic facilities and services;
  - Appropriate restitution;
  - Community service;
  - Counseling / educational programs;
  - Permanent dismissal from the team (The Athletic Department will recommend that the student-athlete not have their grant-in-aid renewed for any succeeding academic year).

None of the sanctions imposed by the Athletic Department are meant to supersede the authority or proceedings assigned to other on-campus or off-campus entities.

The Director of Athletics will receive an annual report on all conduct activities, associated sanctions, and educational programs in place to support positive student-athlete behavior.

## APPEAL PROCESS

Student-athletes subject to sanctions as a result of violations to the Code of Conduct may, in writing, appeal the sanction with the Director of Athletics within five business days of the receipt of the decision. Failure to submit an appeal within the allotted time will render the original decision final.

An appeal is warranted based upon a claim of:

- a. An error so substantial that the student-athlete did not receive a fair review of their issue;
- b. The student-athlete has new information to support their case that was not immediately available at the time of the original review;
- c. The sanction was arbitrary or grossly disproportionate to the offense.

The student-athlete will schedule a meeting to present their case to the Director of Athletics / designated CUAD administrator. The student-athlete has the right to have an advisor/ representative (non-lawyer) present. Sanctions being appealed shall remain enforced while the appeal is under consideration. The decision of the Director of Athletics is final.

Enacted: May 22, 2013