STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

A. Philosophy

1. Participation in the Central Connecticut State University Athletics program is considered a privilege, not a right. As a CCSU student-athlete, you represent the University and, as such, are expected to conduct yourself with honesty, pride, sportsmanship and integrity at all times.

B. Academic Conduct

The Athletics Program fully supports the academic mission of the University. Academic responsibility is considered the highest priority for student-athletes attending CCSU, therefore:

1. Student-athletes must comply with academic regulations as published in the current University catalog, eligibility policies established by the University Athletics Board, and the policies established by the Academic Counseling Center for Student-Athletes.

2. Student-athletes are to regularly attend all classes, natural science meetings, and meetings with academic advisor(s).

3. Student-athletes are to complete class assignments and course examinations as required.

4. Each student-athlete shall assume full responsibility for monitoring one's own satisfactory progress and academic achievement. This may include seeking assistance from individual professors, academic advisor(s), tutors or counseling services.

C. Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct is designed to ensure that all student-athletes conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the University's policies and the Athletics Program philosophy. Therefore, we expect each individual to conform to the following:

1. Student-athletes are responsible for their own behavior, which includes the setting and monitoring of appropriate goals of the Student Handbook: "What Should I Know About the презервл?"

The CCSU Student Handbook can be located at http://www.ccsu.edu/student-handbook.

2. Student-athletes must comply with the policies enumerated in the Student Handbook concerning:
   a. Conduct and Discipline.
   b. Academic Misconduct.
   c. Academic Misconduct.
   d. Supplemental Information on CCSU Alcohol and other Drug Policies.
   e. Policies and Regulations regarding Alcohol and Other Drugs.
   f. Administrative State of Action in case of Campus Disruption.

3. Student-athletes are subject to the rules and regulations established by the NCAA, Northeast Conference, Central Connecticut State University and/or coach of a specific team. The head coach is responsible for distributing specific team rules and potential sanctions to each team member. A copy of team rules will also be submitted to the Director of Athletics.

4. Further, it is the policy of the Athletics Program that the Director of Athletics has the authority to immediately suspend from athletic participation for a specific time period to be determined by the Director, any student-athlete charged with a crime or arrested for any reason. When possible, the Director of Athletics will discuss the matter with the head coach prior to taking action.

5. Student-Athletes may exercise their right to appeal to the Athletics Program Disciplinary Committee. The Committee, chaired by the Director of Athletics, will take into account:
   a. Sanctions recommended by the coach.
   b. Sanctions for like offenses recommended by the University Vice President Student Affairs. These sanctions might include, but are not limited to:
      o Disciplinary warning.
      o Disciplinary probation (restricted from competition and/or practice for a specified time period).

D. Athletics Program Discipline Committee

This committee will be composed of the Director of Athletics (chair), Chair of the Athletics Department, Associate Director of Athletics/Compliance, and one member at-large to be elected from the Athletics Program for a two-year term. The student-athlete and/or his/her representative(s) will have the right to appear before the Disciplinary Committee to present a statement.

Meetings will be called by the Chair as deemed necessary. The committee will gather all pertinent facts including, but not limited to, official reports, newspaper articles, eyewitness account, and student athlete response.

The committee will recommend action as described, but not limited to, item 3 above. All decisions of the Disciplinary Committee will be implemented immediately:

   a. Student-athletes have the right of appeal through standard University appeal policy.
   b. Until a successful appeal is made, all Disciplinary Committee decisions will be in effect.

E. Test of Student-Athlete Code of Conduct Agreement

I, (name), recognize and agree that participation in athletics at Central Connecticut State University is a privilege and, therefore, continued eligibility requires adherence to the Student Athlete Code of Conduct. I further recognize and agree that all student-athletes are subject to the policies, regulations and procedures of the NCAA, Northeast Conference and Institution and other appropriate governing bodies. Moreover, I understand that violations of the Central Connecticut State University Student-Athlete Code of Conduct may result in suspension of team membership and/or athletic grant-in-aid to be null and void.

While away from campus representing Central Connecticut State University, I understand that the use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs is prohibited. Alcohol and/or illegal drug use during that time in grounds for disciplinary action which might include dismissal from the team and suspension of Athletic Grant-In-Aid.

I hereby certify that I have read, understand and will meet the requirements of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct for as long as I am a student-athlete at Central Connecticut State University. Moreover, I have had the opportunity to ask questions and receive explanations for statements I did not understand.

Academic Fraud

Academic Fraud, as stated by the NCAA, Bylaws, occurs when there is knowing involvement in arranging for fraudulent academic credit or false transcripts for a prospective or enrolled student-athlete or any fraudulence in connection with entrance or placement examinations.

A student-athlete or athletic staff member who has committed an act of academic fraud is subject to institutional as well as NCAA penalties. The penalties for CCSU include, but are not limited to, termination from team, loss of athletic scholarship and or loss of eligibility.

Under NCAA rules, a student athlete who is found guilty of academic fraud may be required to attend a hearing.

NEC Sportmanship Principles

1. Participants in intercollegiate athletics should display proper respect and courtesy, and maintain civility toward opposing coaches and student-athletes, game officials, and spectators at all contests.

2. Coaches bear the responsibility of teaching the value of sportsmanship to their student-athletes. The use of foul or vulgar language is inconsistent with this responsibility, and is therefore strongly discouraged on the part of coaches and student-athletes alike.
There is no place in intercollegiate athletics for taunting, embarrassing or humiliating an opponent or game official. Student-athletes who do so should be disciplined by their head coach in a timely manner. Coaches who do so should be disciplined by their administration in a timely manner.

Representatives of NEC member institutions shall refrain from making any public criticism of other member institutions, their personnel, the Conference in general and its office staff, or any game officials.

Coaches and administrators shall make every effort to promote the Conference and its member institutions in a positive manner.

Coaches and student-athletes should exercise self-control with game officials during competition and shall refrain fromapproaching officials at the end of a period or at the end of a contest to address them in a disrespectful manner, complain about an officiating call, or express their displeasure with the game official's performance.

Coaches and student-athletes must understand that competing in intercollegiate athletics is a privilege, not a right. Their behavior and attitude toward opponents, game officials and members of the media should reflect positively upon the institution they represent.

Institutional administrators are responsible for ensuring that all parties involved in intercollegiate athletics - including student-athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, band members, cheerleaders and minions - are informed of the acceptable behaviors that are expected of them and are aware of the consequences when failing to abide by the acceptable code of conduct.

Coaches and student-athletes should be encouraged to live up to their own highest personal standard of sportsmanship, even when their opponents may not. Personal accountability and respect for one's own standards must come first.

The responsibility to demonstrate and develop good character and sportsmanship should never be subordinated to the desire to win. The true lessons and intrinsic value of sports are acquired through the competition and honorable pursuit of victory, rather than the outcome itself.

Team Rules

You have a responsibility as an excellent student-athlete to adhere to team rules as provided by the head coach and the Athletic Department (Student-Athlete Code of Conduct). These rules are important because they potentially affect your status as a student-athlete at CCSU.

The head coach is responsible for the total conduct of his/her team within the limits of authority defined by the University and Athletic Department policies as well as the rules and regulations of the NCAA and the Northeast Conference.

A written or verbal statement of the team rules which refer to player appearance, training, curfew, conduct, etc., should be given to each team member prior to the beginning of the season. A copy of team specific rules must be approved by the Director of Athletics.

Team Travel Conduct

Any student-athlete and/or student serving in an official capacity for Central Connecticut State University are representatives of Central Connecticut State University. As a representative of the University such students traveling individually or as a team group to an intercollegiate athletic contest shall agree to abide by the laws of the State of Connecticut, the local state government, University policies, Athletic Department policies, and team rules. Student-athletes and/or student serving in an official capacity for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics shall be responsible for acting in accordance with such laws, policies, and rules during the entire period of travel and competition.

Ethical Conduct – Sports Participation

You must compete with honesty and sportsmanship at all times so that you represent the honor and dignity of the sport [NCAA Bylaw 10.01.1].

You are not eligible to compete if you have been dishonest in evading or violating NCAA regulations [NCAA Bylaw 14.01.3.3].

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, DRUGS

Alcohol Policy

From CCSU Student Handbook:

- The legal use of alcohol is permitted only in designated areas on campus.
- Alcohol is not permitted in residence halls rooms or in offices.
- The illegal (underage) use of alcohol is not permitted in any building or on the grounds of the campus.
- The possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs (controlled substances) on the campus is strictly prohibited.
- Students who violate these policies may be subject to campus, civil, and possibly federal laws and disciplinary actions. Copies of state and federal penalties for possession and distribution of controlled substances are available from the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.
- The University has made a strong commitment to a campus environment that supports the development of a healthy lifestyle. The abuse of alcohol and other drugs is inappropriate behaviors and inconsistent with the goals of this University.
- The use of alcohol and other drugs leads to many health risks. It is important to be aware of these risks. The University Health Service has prepared free information on health risks associated with alcohol and drug use.
- The University extends a hand of support to our students through an informal and formal network of student services: the Student Assistance Program, Campus Ministry, Health Service, and the Counseling and Wellness Center.
- A final note to our students: The University is concerned about your health and welfare because you represent Connecticut’s current and future work force and leadership. We want you to be successful in the classroom and in the work force. We want you to have a healthy and productive life. Part of our contribution to that is to build a campus environment that supports and promotes good health. Our policies and services are funded on this principle.

All students attending CCSU are responsible to abide by the State of Connecticut criminal laws regarding alcohol possession and use.

The laws of the State of Connecticut set the minimum legal age of 21 years of age for the purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages. Those who are 21 years of age are prohibited from selling or providing alcoholic beverages to those under 21 years of age.

In addition to Connecticut State Laws and University-wide policies on alcohol, the Athletics Department is committed to a policy which specifically prohibits possession and/or drinking of alcoholic beverages by student-athletes any time or place they are in the charge of their coaching staff.

Consumption of alcohol by student-athletes of the legal drinking age is not encouraged or condoned by the Athletics Department. If legally of age, student-athletes who consume alcoholic beverages are expected to do so responsibly understanding the risks associated with alcohol use and abuse. However, regardless of the student-athlete’s age, excessive or abusive drinking at any time while enrolled in the University for academic or athletic purposes will be considered inappropriate and subject to disciplinary action.

Tobacco Policy

The use of tobacco or any tobacco-related products during practice or competition by any student-athlete, coach or game personnel is strictly prohibited (Bylaw 11.1.7).