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### Additional Resources

- www.ncaa.org
- www.woosterathletics.com
- www.northcoast.org
- http://www.woosterathletics.com/information/help
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS &
SENIOR WOMAN ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Student-Athlete,

Welcome to the College of Wooster Athletic Department. Through your hard work and talent, you have earned the privilege to wear a College of Wooster uniform. You join a tradition of excellence at The College of Wooster and we hope that you add to that tradition in a meaningful way. Before you eagerly begin your experience this year, it is important that you take some time to review some valuable information. It is important to understand that as a student-athlete you represent, the College of Wooster, the Athletic Department, and your team at all times. At times the commitment to this amazing journey may be very challenging, but it is our hope that through your dedication it will be an essential component of what makes your entire experience at The College of Wooster worthwhile. As a student-athlete at Wooster, you are responsible for reading and abiding by the information in this handbook. We wish you all the best in the upcoming academic year and competitive season!

Go Scots,

Dr. Keith Beckett
Director of Athletics

Ashley Reid
Assistant Athletic Director/SWA
NCAA DIVISION III PHILOSOPHY

Colleges and Universities in NCAA Division III place highest priority on the overall quality of the educational experience and on the successful completion of all students' academic programs. They seek to establish and maintain an environment in which a student athlete's athletics activities are conducted as an integral part of the student athlete's educational experience. They also see to establish and maintain an environment that values cultural diversity and gender equality among their student-athletes and athletics staff.

To achieve this end, Division III institutions:

- Place special importance on the impact of athletics on the participants rather than on the spectators and place greater emphasis on the internal constituency (students, alumni, institutional personnel) than on the general public and its entertainment needs.
- Award no athletically related financial aid to any student.
- Encourage the development of sportsmanship and positive societal attitudes in all constituents, including student-athletes, coaches, administrative personnel and spectators.
- Encourage participation by maximizing the number and variety of athletic opportunities for their students.
- Assure that the actions of coaches and administrators exhibit fairness, openness, and honesty in their relationships with student-athletes.
- Assure that athletic participants are not treated differently from other members of the student body.
- Assure that athletic programs support the institutions' educational mission by financing, staffing, and controlling the programs through the same general procedures as other departments of the institution.
- Provide equitable athletic opportunities for males and females and give equal emphasis to men's and women's sports.
- Support ethnic and gender diversity for all constituents.
- Give primary emphasis to regional in-season competition and conference championships.
- Support student athletes in their efforts to reach high levels of athletic performance. Which may include opportunities for participation in national championships, by providing all teams with adequate facilities, competent coaching and appropriate competitive opportunities.

The purpose of the NCAA is to assist its members in developing the basis for consistent, equitable competition while minimizing infringement on the freedom of individual institutions to determine their own special objectives and programs. The above statement articulates principles that represent a commitment to Division III membership and shall
serve as a guide for the preparation of legislation by the division and for planning and implementation of programs by institutions and conferences.

**North Coast Athletic Conference Mission Statement**

The purpose of this conference is to provide for athletic competition among institutions that share similar academic aspirations and mutual trust. Recognizing the important contribution that such competition can make to the total educational experience, its members will strive for athletic excellence, for fair and equal opportunities for men and women, and for the development of a broad-based program. Because its members are bound together by their commitment to the primacy of the academic enterprise and by a conviction that athletics should be fully integrated into the educational program of each college, conference leadership is invested in the presidents of the member institutions.

**College of Wooster Mission Statement**

The College of Wooster is a community of independent minds, working together to prepare students to become leaders of character and influence in an interdependent global community. We engage motivated students in a rigorous and dynamic liberal education. Mentored by a faculty nationally recognized for excellence in teaching, Wooster graduates are creative and independent thinkers with exceptional abilities to ask important questions, research complex issues, solve problems, and communicate new knowledge and insight.

**Athletic Department Mission Statement**

Through the unique contribution of the programs of the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation, our mission is to provide the student-athletes of The College of Wooster the opportunity for growth and development in their intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual lives. Intercollegiate athletics are an integral part of Wooster’s educational program, and our principal goal is that they reflect the College’s values and contribute to the development of our student-athletes. Intercollegiate athletics at The College of Wooster provide students with the opportunity to participate in sports in an environment in which the student-athlete’s athletic participation is conducted as an integral part of the educational experience. The purpose of the intercollegiate athletic program is therefore no different than that of any academic program, i.e. to achieve the highest possible standard of excellence. For athletics, this means that the ultimate goal of each of the varsity sports (currently numbering 23, 11 for men and 12 for women) is to provide students with an opportunity to improve their physical and mental well-being through athletic participation.

Wooster as a member of the Division III of the NCAA, place highest priority on the “overall quality” of the educational experience and supporting student-athletes in their efforts to reach high levels of athletic performance and achievement. Wooster is concerned with the intellectual, social, emotional and physical development of its students, and thus we believe that our intercollegiate programs should foster such characteristics as self-discipline, physical conditioning, teamwork, inclusivity, respect for competitors, and pride in achievement.

Finally, as in all other activities, we wish to strive for excellence and would like our athletic programs to remain competitive within our conference and comparable academic institutions. Student-athletes, above all, are students and should place the obligations of the academic program
ahead of other commitments. It is this sense of the institution's priorities that the College expects
member of the Physical Education Department to encourage with the students in their athletic
programs.

**Athletic Department Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement**

The College of Wooster is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusivity of students,
faculty, and staff. We value differences in its many dimensions and believe that
intercollegiate and intramural athletics provide a welcoming and important environment
for participation by all. Wooster, in accordance with the NCAA and Title IX of the Civil
Rights Act, does not discriminate on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, religion, age,
sex, or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, martial or parental
status, or military/veteran status. Tolerance and inclusion are fundamental to a healthy
Wooster experience.

**Title IX**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sex
discrimination in education:

“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in,
be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program

The following behaviors/actions may fall under Title IX if the discrimination is based on
sex/gender:

- Sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment
- Sexual misconduct including sexual harassment and assault
- Stalking and intimate partner violence
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Retaliation
- Hazing
- Program inequity

Source:  [https://www.wooster.edu/offices/titleix/](https://www.wooster.edu/offices/titleix/)
The NCAA requires member institutions to have faculty representatives. These representatives operate with the following objectives:

- Provide advice and/or oversight in the following activities, especially as they impact the academic and personal well-being of student-athletes
- Promote a balance between academics, athletics and the social lives of student-athletes
- Provide advice to the chief executive officer that reflects the traditional values of the faculty and which is rooted in the academic ethic of the institution
- Represent the institution and its faculty in the relationship between the NCAA and the local campus
- Assist in determining recipients of conference and NCAA academic honors
- Hold discussions regarding NCAA violations that involve conference members and discuss how best to maintain high ethical standards of conduct among conference members
- Promote better understanding of NCAA regulations and how they affect conference members
- Provide feedback and insight into athletics department issues
STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Per NCAA legislation, all Division III member institutions are required to have a campus Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). In addition, each conference must have a conference SAAC.

Purpose of SAAC
- Generate a student-athlete voice within the College of Wooster
- Generate a student-athlete voice within the NCAC
- Review and respond to proposed NCAA legislation
- Support the campus and conference community through community outreach efforts, with a primary focus on the NCAA Division III SAAC and Special Olympics partnership.

Community Service and Accomplishments of Wooster SAAC (sample list)
- The Scotties, an all-athlete award ceremony
- Sponsor a weeklong series of events to recognize DIII Week.
- Sponsor "Black and Gold" games which highlights all programs
- Co-sponsor events for MLK Day of Celebration
- Recognized by NCAA as a national Diversity Spotlight recipient
- Collaborated with United Way of Wayne and Holmes County on the Snug-in-the-Bed initiative and multiple Special Olympics initiatives

Composition of the Wooster SAAC Committee
Two student-athletes are selected from each varsity team to take part in monthly meetings and serve as representatives to communicate with fellow student-athletes, coaches, and athletic administrators on issues to improve the student-athlete experience. If you are interested in serving on the Wooster SAAC, please contact your coach or Ashley Reid, Senior Woman Administrator.

2017-18 SAAC Officers

Titas Bera
President

Derek Schwarz
Vice President

Michaela Lawrence
Secretary

Emma Roderick
Treasurer
DEFINITION OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE

For the purposes of this manual, the term “student-athlete” or “scholar-athlete” will refer to all participants in the following varsity sports in the Department of Physical Education, Athletics, and Recreation at The College of Wooster who are full-time students.

College of Wooster fields 23 intercollegiate sports – 11 men's and 12 women's sports: Baseball, Men's/Women's Basketball, Men's/Women's Cross Country, Football, Field Hockey, Men's/Women's Golf, Men's/Women's Lacrosse, Men's/Women's Soccer, Softball, Men's/Women's Swimming and Diving, Men's/Women's Tennis, Men's/Women's Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field, and Women’s Volleyball

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to participate in organized practice sessions and/or intercollegiate competition, a student must be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies. Typically, full-time degree seeking students enroll in at least 4 one-credit courses (full-time status is 3 one-credit courses). If a student enrolled in 4 one-credit courses were to drop a course, he/she could still retain their eligibility- depending upon past academic performance and total credits collected toward graduation.

Good academic standing is a product of course loads and achieved grade in each course. Students remain eligible provided they are enrolled as full-time students and have not been restricted from athletic participation for insufficient academic achievement or disciplinary reasons by the Academic Standards Committee, Dean for Curriculum & Academic Engagement, Dean of Students, and Director of Physical Education, Athletics, and Recreation.

A student who does not meet the above criteria will be judged to making less than satisfactory progress towards graduation and may be asked to withdraw from the College.

A student may be eligible to participate while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program, provided it is the final semester of their baccalaureate program and the College certifies that the student is carrying the courses necessary to complete degree requirements.

Students are encouraged to speak with their coach or a member of the athletic administration before dropping a course so they may be fully informed as to what - if any - impact that the decision to drop may have on future intercollegiate athletic eligibility.
GENERAL POLICIES IN ATHLETICS

Academics:
• Student-athletes are required to maintain full-time academic status (a minimum of seven credit hours for the academic year) and make satisfactory progress in classes towards a degree.
• Student-athletes are required to notify their instructors in advance of a class absence due to an approved athletic contest. Student-athletes are prohibited from missing any class time due to practices.

Athletic Training Room:
• Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M
• Report all injuries to the training staff immediately after practice and/or game.
• Report for all treatment and appointments on time.
• Do not use equipment without permission. ASK FOR ASSISTANCE!
• NO athletic equipment should be brought into the training room. NO CLEATS!
• Proper dress is required.
• No cell phone and/or IPOD/MP3 use while completing rehab.
• Showers required before all post-practice treatments. ABSOLUTELY NO post practice whirlpools without showering.
• Please do not cut through the office when going from the training room to taping room.
• If you take ice bags to go, PLEASE empty ice in sink and/or outside. Discard bag in the receptacle.
• Please place all backpacks, etc. in storage cubes outside of training room.
• Please return all checked out items (crutches, coolers, etc.) as soon as no longer in use.

Equipment:
• Student-athletes are responsible for all college-issued athletic equipment and apparel and may be required to return it upon completion of the season, or upon demand from the coach and/or athletic department. Student-athletes who leave a program in poor standing (quitting, dismissal, etc.) will be required to return all equipment and apparel issued by the sport program. If the equipment or apparel is damaged or not available to be returned, the student-athlete will be billed for the full replacement cost.

Hazing:
Student-athletes are prohibited from participation in any type of athletic hazing, as defined by the college anti-hazing policy in the Scots Key.
**Hazing Defined by The College of Wooster:**

Any activity, whether or not the act is voluntarily agreed upon, created through a new member process or in conjunction with membership with a student club/organization, sports team, other group on campus, or new employment, that produces mental or physical distress, embarrassment, or harassment is prohibited, regardless of the intent or end result of the activity. The College will investigate hazing allegations whether they are reported to have occurred on campus or off-campus. The College will consider an activity to be hazing if the behavior exhibits and/or includes force, coercion, or restrictions on freedom of movement, speech, or the management of daily needs.

The Title IX Coordinator will be involved in the assessment of the complaint and will work in conjunction with the Division of Student Affairs to address concerns of hazing in cases where hazing may be a gender-based offense and/or has also violated the Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy. Under Ohio law, legal action may be taken against any participant in hazing or against anyone at the College who knew or who reasonably should have known of the hazing and did not make an attempt to prevent it. Those that engage in hazing activities, but attempt to provide false information to conceal prohibited activities, may also be charged. Every member of the campus community is required to report any incidents of hazing or suspicions of hazing that come to their attention. Reports may be filed with Security and Protective Services, the Director of Student Rights and Responsibilities, the Dean of Students Office, or the Director of Student Activities and Lowry Center.

Such acts of hazing may include, but are not limited to: forced or coerced use of alcohol or other drugs; creation of excessive fatigue; requiring new members to perform personal service to current members or their partners/friends; requiring new members to call current members, or their partners/friends, by a specific name or nickname or speak a specific phrase when addressing them; physical and psychological acts that embarrass or cause undue stress; restricted movement or assigned to stay in a space for extended period of time; wearing of public apparel or costumes that would not normally be worn; restriction or monitoring of individual member actions; engaging in public stunts; degrading or humiliating games and activities; missions, treasure hunts/scavenger hunts, “kidnapping” or any other activities which are not consistent with the educational mission of the College, or the regulations and policies of the College.

**Hazing Defined by the State of Ohio**

2903.31 Hazing

As used in this section, “Hazing” means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person.

No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another. No administrator, employee, or faculty member of any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or of any
other educational institution, public or private, shall recklessly permit the hazing of any person.

2307.44 Hazing civil Liability

Any person who is subjected to hazing, as defined in division (A) of section 2903.31 of the Revised Code, may commence a civil action for injury or damages, including mental and physical pain and suffering, that result from the hazing. The action may be brought against any participants in the hazing, any organization whose local or national directors, trustees, or officers authorized, requested, commanded, or tolerated the hazing, and any local or national director, trustee, or officer of the organization who authorized, requested, commanded, or tolerated the hazing. If the hazing involves students in a primary, secondary, or post-secondary school, university, college, or any other educational institution, an action may also be brought against any administrator, employee, or faculty member of the school, university, college, or other educational institution who knew or reasonably should have known of the hazing and who did not make reasonable attempts to prevent it and against the school, university, college, or other educational institution. If an administrator, employee, or faculty member is found liable in a civil action for hazing, then notwithstanding Chapter 2743. of the Revised Code, the school, university, college, or other educational institution that employed the administrator, employee, or faculty member may also be held liable.

The negligence or consent of the plaintiff or any assumption of the risk by the plaintiff is not a defense to an action brought pursuant to this section. In an action against a school, university, college, or other educational institution, it is an affirmative defense that the school, university, college, or other institution was actively enforcing a policy against hazing at the time the cause of action arose.

Hosting Prospective Student-Athletes:
- Student-athletes are prohibited from putting a prospective student-athlete at risk, including but not limited to the illegal use of alcohol or drugs, other violations of the student-athlete code of conduct, or situations that compromise the health, safety or welfare of the prospective student.

Social Media:
- Student-athletes are prohibited from making defaming statements about a teammate, team, the athletic department, other College of Wooster departments or staff member(s), or opposing team, to the media or on any private or public social media site.

Travel:
- Student-athletes are required to travel to and from athletic contests with the team in transportation provided by the College unless previous arrangements are made with the head coach. Student-athletes are additionally required to dress and behave in a respectful manner while traveling.
**NCAA BYLAW 2.4**  
**PRINCIPLES OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT**

Intercollegiate athletics should promote the character development of participants, enhance the integrity of higher education and promote civility in society. Toward these ends, student-athletes, coaches and all others associated with these athletics programs and events should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. These values should be manifest not only in athletics participation but also in the broad spectrum of activities affecting the athletics program.

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**COLLEGE OF WOOSTER SCOT'S KEY**

Students voluntarily enter into membership in the College of Wooster community, and in so doing, assume obligations of performance and behavior reasonably agreed upon by that community for the purpose of furthering its missions, objectives, processes, and functions. The link to the College of Wooster Scot’s Key is provided below. We encourage you to read this material. The Scot’s Key and College policies supersedes the athletic department handbook.

*College of Wooster Scot’s Key*  
[www.wooster.edu/_media/files/students/dean/scotskey.pdf](http://www.wooster.edu/_media/files/students/dean/scotskey.pdf)

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**COLLEGE OF WOOSTER STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT**

There are special responsibilities and expectations that accompany being a student-athlete and representing the College of Wooster. The Athletic Department places a high priority on respect and integrity in all athletic endeavors and expects all student-athletes to conduct themselves, both on and off campus, in a manner that positively reflects well on the College of Wooster and its athletic team.

Student-athletes are subject to the rules and regulations specified by each head coach for team membership. A head coach or the Director of Athletics may at any time reprimand a student-athlete, suspend the student-athlete from the team, or impose conditions of probation on the student-athlete’s continued participation on the team, if the head coach or Director of Athletics believes the student-athlete has engaged in misconduct.
THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER ATHLETIC SOCIAL ELIGIBILITY

The College of Wooster values healthy competition and expects its student-athletes to represent the College positively through responsible social behavior that aligns with our community’s mission, values, and principles. It is expected that the behavior of our student-athletes will instill pride in our college and athletic department as well as provide them with the optimal environment for success both as students and athletes.

All Fighting Scot student-athletes are additionally expected to abide by the rules and regulations of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) and College of Wooster (Scot’s Key). The following policies apply to all student-athletes:

**General Policies:**
- All student-athletes should report any drug, alcohol-related, and/or misconduct incidents or other serious forms of misbehavior to their coach(es) immediately regardless of the status of the season of competition.
- The Athletic Department may impose sanctions in additional to those imposed by the College, and/or local or state agency.
- Student-athletes are subject to the same policies and laws effecting any other student at The College of Wooster.
- Teams may have their own policies that may be stricter and carry heavier sanctions than those of the Athletics Department.
- Student-athletes with violations or sanctions may have their athletic eligibility, participation, and/or team membership with The College of Wooster restricted or suspended.

**Policies Specific to Alcohol and/or Drug Misuse:**
- Student-athletes are prohibited from the illegal use of alcohol or drugs, and may be subject to drug testing.
- Student-athletes are prohibited from using tobacco products during practice, travel or competition.
- Alcohol consumption is prohibited by a student-athlete host and/or their prospective student-athlete while on a recruiting visit.

**Athletic Department Sanctions**

The Athletic department in conjunction with and/or independent of College and/or team policies may impose separate sanctions. Each situation will be reviewed on a case by case basis.