### Important Telephone Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Athletics Department/Person</th>
<th>AREA CODE (706)</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Department</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>737-1626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Department Fax</td>
<td></td>
<td>729-2445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Athletics, <strong>Clint Bryant</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>737-1626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant to the Director, <strong>D. Michelle Braithwaite</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>667-4785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant AD for Sports Medicine, <strong>John Sullivan</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>731-7908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant AD for Student-athlete Services/SWA, <strong>Melissa Brocato</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>731-7916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Business Manager, <strong>Karen Herrington</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>731-7919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant AD for Compliance and Academic Services, <strong>Kay Allen</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>729-2450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Athletic Representative, <strong>Dr. David Hunt</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>667-4582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Relations Director, <strong>Taylor Lamb</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>731-7925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Assistant</td>
<td></td>
<td>737-1626</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Campus Departments</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office of Admissions</td>
<td>737-1524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Office</td>
<td>737-1767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Student Financial Aid</td>
<td>737-1524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRU Police</td>
<td>721-2914 or 721-2911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Life &amp; Engagement</td>
<td>737-1610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Records/Registrar</td>
<td>446-1430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Georgia Regents University **Jaguar Student-Athlete Handbook** is published annually by the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics, 1120 15th Street, CFH 214, Augusta, Georgia 30912. Revised 8/7/15.

### Nondiscrimination Policy

Georgia Regents University does not discriminate in the administration of any of its educational programs or activities or with respect to admissions or employment based on race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, disability, sex, age, or veteran’s status, and it operates both affirmative action and equal opportunity programs consistent with both federal and state requirements.

### Disclaimer

The provisions within the Jaguar Student-Athlete Handbook are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the student and Georgia Regents University. Georgia Regents University reserves the right to change any provision or requirement at any time within the student-athlete’s term of residence.
Please refer to the Jaguar Student-Athlete Handbook that is made available free to every student enrolled at Georgia Regents University. This handbook will give full explanations of rules, regulations and procedures for all students.

### Athletics Department Staff Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>Office Phone</th>
<th>E-Mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clint Bryant</td>
<td>737-1626</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cbrant1@gru.edu">cbrant1@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Athletics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Michelle Braithwaite</td>
<td>667-4785</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dbraithwaite@gru.edu">dbraithwaite@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant to the Director</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Herrington</td>
<td>731-7919</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kherrington@gru.edu">kherrington@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Business Manager</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Brocato</td>
<td>731-7916</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbrocato@gru.edu">mbrocato@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant AD/Student-athlete Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWA/Head Softball Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay M. Allen</td>
<td>729-2450</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kayallen@gru.edu">kayallen@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant AD/Compliance and Academic Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John L. Sullivan</td>
<td>731-7908</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jsullivan1@gru.edu">jsullivan1@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant AD/Sports Medicine, Head Athletic Trainer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Lamb</td>
<td>731-7925</td>
<td><a href="mailto:talamb@gru.edu">talamb@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Relations Director</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Head Coaches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Office Phone</th>
<th>E-Mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Quarles</td>
<td>667-4766</td>
<td><a href="mailto:squarles@gru.edu">squarles@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Volleyball Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Eller</td>
<td>731-7917</td>
<td><a href="mailto:seller@gru.edu">seller@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Baseball Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael McGrath</td>
<td>667-4349</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmcgrath@gru.edu">mmcgrath@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Tennis Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack O’Keefe</td>
<td>731-7992</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jokeefe@gru.edu">jokeefe@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Men’s Golf Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dip Metress</td>
<td>667-4765</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dmetress@gru.edu">dmetress@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Men’s Basketball Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Brocato</td>
<td>731-7916</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbrocato@gru.edu">mbrocato@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Softball Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nate Teymer</td>
<td>731-7915</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nteymer@gru.edu">nteymer@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Women’s Basketball Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Hegg</td>
<td>729-2079</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chegg@gru.edu">chegg@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Women’s Golf Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Ward</td>
<td>731-7914</td>
<td><a href="mailto:award4@gru.edu">award4@gru.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Cross Country/Track and Field Coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Georgia Regents University Mission Statement

Georgia Regents University is committed to providing leadership and excellence in teaching, discovery, clinical care, and service as a student-centered comprehensive research university and academic health center with a wide range of programs from learning assistance through postdoctoral studies. With origins in the founding of the Academy of Richmond County in 1783 and the creation of a separate Junior College of Augusta in 1925, its mission is predicated on the cultural, social, and economic value of a strong liberal arts education. This enlarges its students’ individual versatility, creative powers, cultural appreciation, knowledge of the world, respect for others, and professional expertise.

Georgia Regents University strives to be a national model of excellence for its quality of service to the second largest metropolitan area in Georgia. With a broad array of undergraduate programs and a select offering of graduate programs below the doctoral level, it functions as a metropolitan, non-residential university for the area.

Open to the voices of all its members, the University serves a population diverse in race, background, age, and preparation. It provides access not only to those who are fully ready for college but also to the under prepared who show potential and to those seeking the kind of academic challenge normally associated with elite, private institutions.

Emphasizing student-faculty contact, the University fosters intellectual growth through learning assistance, honors courses, and student research. It promotes electronic information technologies and links students with the world community of scholarship.

The University collaborates with the Medical College of Georgia, Paine College, Augusta Technical College, Fort Gordon and P-12 schools. It makes constant, programmatic use of local industries, agencies, and institutions as
laboratories for practical leaning experiences. In an area with a large healthcare industry, it provides undergraduate general education courses for the Medical College students, prepares students to enter programs at that institution, and educates others to work in the medical field. It is also the principal source of training for the area’s teachers and business leaders.

Georgia Regents University is acutely aware of its responsibility to a community where its graduates become teachers and artists, professionals and civic leaders. It seeks to serve: enriching its area culturally, improving economic and social conditions, and promoting personal and professional development. To these ends, the University cultivates intellectually vital faculty members who are excellent in teaching, active in research, generous in service, and committed to its mission. The University also strives to have its faculty, staff, curriculum, and programs reflect the increasing diversity of the population and world from which its students come.

Devoted to constant improvement, the University assesses its performance by evaluating its stewardship of resources, responsiveness to area needs, involvement with its community, the response of the public it serves, and, most importantly, the success of the students it educates.

The University shares with other senior units of the University System of Georgia the following characteristics:

- A supportive campus climate, necessary services, and leadership and development opportunities, all to educate the whole person and meet the needs of students, faculty and staff;

- Cultural, ethnic, racial, and gender diversity in the faculty, staff, and student body, supported by practice and programs that embody the ideals of an open, democratic, and global society;

- Technology to advance educational purposes, including instructional technology, student support services, and distance education;

- Collaborative relationships with other System institutions, state agencies, local schools and technical institutes, and business and industry, sharing physical, human, information, and other resources to expand and enhance programs and services available to the citizens of Georgia;

- A commitment to excellence and responsiveness within a scope of influence defined by the needs of an area of the state, and by particularly outstanding programs or distinctive characteristics that have a magnet effect throughout the region or state;

- A commitment to a teaching/learning environment, both inside and outside the classroom, that sustains instructional excellence, serves a diverse and university-prepared student body, promotes high levels of student achievement, offers academic assistance, and provides developmental studies programs for a limited student cohort;

- A high quality, general education program supporting a variety of disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and professional academic programming at the baccalaureate level, with selected master’s and educational
specialist degrees, and selected associate degree programs based on area need and/or inter-institutional collaborations;

- A commitment to public service, continuing education, technical assistance, and economic development activities that address the needs, improve the quality of life, and raise the educational level within the university’s scope of influence;

- A commitment to scholarly and creative work to enhance instructional effectiveness and to encourage faculty scholarly pursuits, and a commitment to applied research in selected areas of institutional strength and area need.

**Athletics Department Mission Statement**

The mission of Georgia Regents University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is to ensure that its athletic programs are operated in conformance with the overall institutional mission. We are committed to the highest standards of sportsmanship, teamwork, scholarship and citizenship.

Athletics serves the university’s mission of enhancing the quality of the student experience by developing school spirit, creating a sense of community, and supporting academic excellence and professional growth. Further, athletic programs contribute to the outreach mission of the university through entertainment and enrichment of both the university community and the Central Savannah River Area.

The Mission Statement of Georgia Regents University Athletics is based on a commitment to the following Core Principles:

- Academic Responsibility and Scholastic Achievement
- Student-athlete Growth and Development
- Safety and Welfare of Student-athletes
- Sense of Competitive Balance
- Fairness
- Sportsmanship
- Citizenship

Based on the mission statement and core principals, our objectives are to:

- Provide an equal opportunity for female and male student-athletes of good character and academic performance, to compete in organized intercollegiate athletics while pursuing a baccalaureate degree;
• Provide an opportunity for each student-athlete to grow as a total person by enabling involvement in more areas of student life and by providing the tools that will aid the student-athlete after graduation;

• Provide financial opportunity to diverse and deserving student-athletes of local, regional, national and international origins through scholarship assistance;

• Provide quality athletic facilities for student athletic participation, community utilization, and regional, national and international good will;

• Utilize intercollegiate athletics as a means to reach and draw together the university community, university alumni and individuals of the CSRA, and to provide a source of institutional pride to alumni, faculty, and students through athletic competitiveness and academic integrity; and

• Ensure that Georgia Regents University demands and functions with integrity, social responsibility, ethical standards, and strict adherence to the spirit and letter of all university, Peach Belt Conference and NCAA rules in the operation of the intercollegiate athletics program.

**Statement of Title IX Compliance**

Georgia Regents University and its athletics department are committed to the laws that govern Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (Title IX). We recognize that it is the principle of federal gender-equity legislation that applies to intercollegiate athletics programs. The statute provides that “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 education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Application of the statute to athletics has been detailed through regulation, through the intercollegiate athletics policy interpretation of the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR), and by decisions of the federal and state courts.

The Title IX regulation and policy interpretation require that (1) athletically-related financial assistance be allocated in proportion to the numbers of male and female students participating in intercollegiate athletics, (2) all other benefits, opportunities, and treatment afforded participants of each sex be equivalent, and (3) the interest and abilities of students be effectively accommodated to the extent necessary to provide equal athletics opportunity for members of both sexes. Departures from these requirements are permitted if justified by factors determined to be nondiscriminatory.

Title IX covers the following thirteen major athletics program components: athletic scholarships, accommodation of interest and abilities, equipment and supplies, scheduling of games and practice times, travel and per diem allowances, tutoring, coaching, locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities, medical and training facilities and services, housing and dining facilities and services, publicity, support services, and recruitment of student-athletes.

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1 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, P.L. 92-318, 92-318, 20 U.S.C section 1681 et seq.
The GRU Student-Athlete

Georgia Regents University student-athletes belong to a proud tradition—they have consistently demonstrated that competition at the intercollegiate level can be combined with a successful and rewarding educational experience. Within the last 11 years, GRU teams have combined for nine Peach Belt Conference titles, five PBC Tournament titles, 114 All-Conference performers, nine PBC Player of the Year awards, nine PBC Freshman of the Year awards, and nine PBC Coach of the Year awards. Add to that the NCAA Division I men’s golf team which has advanced to the NCAA national tournament 11 out of the last 15 years and the men’s and women’s tennis programs with a combined 12 NCAA postseason appearances, and it is easy to see how the whole community is very proud to be a part of GRU. This remarkable athletic success was earned while academic integrity remained uncompromised. In a recent NCAA publication, Georgia Regents University was ranked consistently in terms of graduation rates for their student-athletes. These achievements on the field and in the classroom are attributed to the philosophy shared by administrative staff, student-athletes, and coaches that our student-athletes are first and foremost students.

Each student-athlete has the responsibility to fulfill clear expectations. These expectations include:

- Understanding that earning a degree is the primary goal of the student.
- Meeting all academic responsibilities, including regular class attendance and the completion of all assignments in a timely manner.
- Complying with all rules and regulations of the NCAA, the Peach Belt Conference, and the university and understanding that it is each student’s responsibility to be knowledgeable of these rules.
- Meeting regularly with academic and/or faculty advisers.
- Striving to be involved as a full-fledged member of the university community and making a genuine effort to derive as much as possible out of the educational experience. This includes establishing open and mature relationships with faculty.
- Understanding the support resources that are available in the academic advising program of the university; assuming the responsibility to seek help when it is needed.
- Understanding that the assumption of personal responsibility is at the heart of the educational experience. All student-athletes should constantly be aware that they represent the university, the
athletic department, and their team. Upper-class student-athletes should consciously strive to serve as exemplary role models for new student-athletes.

- Making a complete commitment to academic integrity—it is absolutely essential that every student be thoroughly familiar with the student code of conduct and that all aspects of college life be conducted in accordance with the code.

**Athletics Governing Associations**

**National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA)**

The NCAA has three competitive divisions—Divisions I, II and III. Georgia Regents University is one of 1,089 member institutions in the NCAA. GRU is an NCAA Division II member institution, but holds multidivision classification status due to its sponsorship of both men’s and women’s golf at the Division I level. Thus, men's and women’s golf teams adhere to Division I regulations; all other sports adhere to Division II regulations.

**Purpose:** The two primary purposes of the NCAA are:

- To sponsor national championship competition.
- To promulgate and enforce rules and regulations governing the academic and athletic eligibility of student-athletes and the conduct of athletics programs.

**NCAA National Office:** P.O. Box 6222, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-6222

**Peach Belt Conference (PBC)**

The Peach Belt Conference begins its 27th full year as an all-sport conference this fall. The idea for the formation of an NCAA Division II conference was discussed in November 1988, in Greenville, S.C., with 11 schools represented at the meeting. Five of the colleges at that first meeting, along with two other schools, formed the new conference when USC Aiken hosted another meeting December 3, 1989. The seven charter members were Armstrong Atlantic State University, Columbus State University, Francis Marion University, Georgia College & State University, Lander University, USC Aiken and USC Spartanburg. The name Peach Belt Conference was adopted in January 1990.

**Georgia Regents University** applied and was accepted in November 1990, with the effective date of membership on July 1, 1991. With the addition of GRU, the Peach Belt Conference had four members each in Georgia and South Carolina. UNC Pembroke joined the Peach Belt Conference on July 1, 1992. Kennesaw State University became the tenth full member of the conference on July 1, 1994. Clayton College & State University and the University of North Florida officially became full members July 1, 1997. In 2005, Kennesaw State and North Florida departed for the Division I ranks followed by USC Upstate in 2007. The Conference welcomed in North Georgia College & State University in 2005 and Georgia Southwestern State University in 2006. In 2009-
10, the Peach Belt added Montevallo and Flagler. And in 2012-13, the league expanded once again with the addition of Young Harris College, giving the Peach Belt 14 members for the first time in its history.

The PBC conducts championships in 15 sports, seven for men and eight for women. Men's championships will be declared in baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, tennis, and track and field. Women's champions will include those in basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, track and field, and volleyball.

Commissioner's Office Mailing Address: P.O. Box 204290, Augusta, GA 30917-4290
Commissioner: Dave Brunk, (706) 860-8499

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), is a forum for student-athletes to have input on various issues involving athletic policies and practices, NCAA proposed legislation, concerns of their teammates, and issues raised during the year by the athletic director. Each member institution has a link to the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee through the Peach Belt Conference SAAC. The Peach Belt Conference draws a representative from each of its member schools. Within GRU, two student-athletes from each sport are selected to represent their teammates at scheduled meetings throughout the year. As SAAC representatives, GRU student-athletes have an active voice within the NCAA, PBC, and GRU legislative and administrative processes.

Advisory Councils

1. Georgia Regents University Senate Athletics Committee
2. Georgia Regents University Athletics Compliance Team
3. Georgia Regents University Scholarship Appeals Committee
4. Georgia Regents University Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

The Jaguar Club

The Jaguar Club supports student-athletes through the provision of funds for athletic grants-in-aid as part of Jaguar Athletics Giving Support (JAGS). One-hundred percent of JAGS funds provide scholarships that benefit all thirteen-sports within the Georgia Regents University athletics program.
Georgia Regents University Policies and Procedures

Student-athletes are subject to the same academic, financial, and non-academic rules and regulations as the regular student body. Student-athletes are encouraged to refer to the 2015-2016 Jaguar Student-Athlete Handbook for specific rights, policies, and procedures.

Key rules and regulations as they relate to the routine operations of the Department of Athletics including athletic facilities:

1. Confidentiality of Student Records: All records of students and former students of the university are protected under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1232g), and Rules of Education. Basically, this means:

Non-directory information will be shared only with the faculty and staff who have a legitimate need to know. Should you be a dependent, your parent(s) or guardian has access to the university's official records.

Directory information can be released without an athlete’s prior written consent (see the GRU Student Manual for exception).

- Name of Student
- Major field of study
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Dates of attendance
- Degrees and awards received
- Previous educational agency or institution attended (most recent)
- Heights and weights of athletic teams
- Names of parent or guardian
- Home addresses
- Telephone numbers
- Occupation

2. Change of Address: Student-athletes are expected to notify, within a reasonable time, the following individuals of a change of home (permanent) and local mailing addresses and phone numbers.

- Department of Athletics;
- Team coach; and
- Office of the Registrar

Consequences resulting from misdirected or non-received official university communications are the responsibility of the student-athlete.

3. Identification Cards: The JagCard is a student's official identification card and is available to all Georgia Regents University students who have paid student activity fees. The JagCard allows for entry to activities and events, provides building access, and serves as a form of payment at many locations on campus. The JagCard
must be carried by students at all times whenever they are on Georgia Regents University property. The JagCard Office is located in the Jaguar Student Activities Center, Room 236 (731-7080).

4. Vehicle Registration: All passenger cars, motorcycles, and trucks operated on Georgia Regents University property must be registered with the GRU Police Department. The department is located at Walton Way and 15th Street on the Health Sciences Campus. The office hours are 7:00am – 5:30pm, Monday through Friday.

**Code of Ethics for Athletes**

The purpose of intercollegiate athletics is to provide an opportunity for student-athletes to develop their potential as skilled athletes in an educational setting. Moreover, Georgia Regents University is a highly visible and successful NCAA and PBC intercollegiate athletic program.

*Student-athletes will be looked upon as a role model, particularly by young children, and it is important that personal conduct be above reproach at all times.*

Public exposure in the competitive arena and the media make student-athletes one of the most visible groups in the community. Student-athletes are often highlighted, placing one in a public position, which requires exemplary behavior.

GRU student-athletes are ultimately responsible for their own behavior. They are expected to obey laws, rules, and regulations of local law enforcement, and if violated, to be prepared for the penalties that may be imposed.

Behavior has a definite impact on the reputation of the athletics department and on the attitude that the community may take toward the athletics program.

Conduct will be closely scrutinized in the classroom, in competition, and while traveling.

Unethical conduct by a prospective or enrolled student-athlete may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Refusal to furnish information relevant to an investigation of a possible violation of an NCAA regulation when requested to do so by the NCAA or the individual’s institution;

- Knowing involvement in arranging for fraudulent academic credit or false transcripts for a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete;

- Knowing involvement in offering or providing a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete an improper inducement or extra benefit or improper financial aid;
• Knowingly furnishing the NCAA or the individual’s institution false or misleading information concerning the individual’s involvement in or knowledge of matters relevant to a possible violation of an NCAA regulation; or

• Receipt of benefits by an institutional staff member for facilitating or arranging a meeting between a student-athlete and an agent, financial advisor or a representative of an agent or advisor (e.g., “runner”).

Prospective or enrolled student-athletes found in violation shall be ineligible for further intercollegiate competition subject to appeal to the NCAA Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.

Social Networking Notice

Playing and competing for Georgia Regents University is a privilege, not a right. Student-athletes at GRU are held in high regard and are expected to serve as role models in the community. As leaders, we have the responsibility to portray our team, our University, and ourselves in a positive manner at all times.

In recent years, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, SnapChat, and other social networking sites have increased in popularity and are used by the majority of student-athletes at GRU. Student-athletes may not be aware that third parties such as the media, faculty, future employers, and NCAA officials can easily access their profiles and view personal information. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects their perception of the student, the athletic department, and the University. Moreover, such material may be detrimental to a student-athlete's future employment opportunities.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities include depictions or presentations of the following:

1. Posting photos, videos, comments, or posters showing the personal use of alcohol or tobacco (e.g. no holding cups, cans, shot glasses, etc); posting pictures, videos, or posters with alcohol or tobacco images in the background.

2. Posting photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.

3. Posting pictures, videos, comments, or posters that condone drug related activity. This includes, but is not limited to, images that portray the personal use of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

4. Posting photos, images, or comments that use the University name or log inappropriately (e.g. using Photoshop to create an image with the GRU logo for the "Three Point Club" or posting negative comments about the University name, values, or faculty/staff).

5. Using inappropriate or offensive language in all comments, videos, or other postings. This includes threats of violence and/or derogatory comments against race, gender, or sexual orientation.
If a student-athlete’s profile and its contents are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the above referenced behaviors, he/she may be subject to the following sanctions (1) a written warning, (2) a meeting with the Athletic Director and sport head coach, and (3) penalties as determined by the athletics department including suspension or termination from the athletic team. Other offensive behaviors may also be subject to discipline, so use appropriate judgment when posting on social media. The Athletics Department reserves the right to impose sanctions based on the severity of the infraction.

For your own safety, keep the following recommendations in mind as you participate in social networking websites:

1. Set your security settings so that only your friends can view your profile.

2. You should not post your email, permanent address, local address, telephone number(s), date of birth, or other personal information on social media sites as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, or identity theft.

3. Be aware of who you add as a friend or who is a follower of your account—many people are looking to take advantage of or seek connections with student-athletes. Note that you are responsible for monitoring your online reputation in instances of being targeted by others.

4. Consider how the behaviors listed above can be reflected in all social media applications.

If you ever doubt the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as that of the Athletics Department and the University. Remember to always present a positive image and do not act in a way that would embarrass yourself, your team, your family, or the University.

Questions regarding the content of a social media posting or to report violations of this Notice, please contact Athletic Media Relations Director, Taylor Lamb at talamb@gru.edu or at (706) 731-7925.

**Student-Athlete Responsibility**

Student-athletes are subject to additional NCAA, PBC, Georgia Regents University, Athletic Department, and team policies during their tenure at Georgia Regents University.

Student-athletes are responsible for acquainting themselves with the rules and regulations of each unit, and when concerns or questions arise, they are encouraged to take the initiative and get answers.

Georgia Regents University and the Department of Athletics will have orientation sessions to acquaint student-athletes with major policies and procedures during the fall and spring of each academic year.
Peach Belt Conference Code of Conduct

Each Peach Belt institution is responsible for creating an atmosphere that promotes good sportsmanship and a hospitable environment for visiting teams and spectators. Facility design, student body makeup, and many other factors influence the ambience on any given campus. Consequently, each institution should design the specifics of its own Code of Conduct incorporating the principles and guidelines of the Peach Belt Code of Conduct.

All hosts and guests of Peach Belt athletic events are expected to adhere to the following general principles:

- Respect the rights and dignity of all persons.
- Strive to insure the personal safety and well being of all persons.
- Refrain from conduct that adversely affects others.
- Act responsibly at all times.

In addition to the principles referred to above, athletic personnel, officials, fans, student-athletes, and student peer groups (i.e. bands, cheerleaders, dancers, mascots, etc.) are expected to observe the following guidelines:

ADMINISTRATORS: PBC administrators are expected to develop and promote the attitude that the treatment of visiting teams and fans will be in the manner that they would wish their teams and fans to be accorded. The host game manager should welcome the visiting coach and team and extend courtesies that they would expect to receive. The host athletic director should brief everyone from coaches and team members to concessionaires, pep band members, ushers, and cheerleaders that their roles should reflect a courteous demeanor at all times.

COACHES: Coaches are visible and influential representatives of the institution. As ambassadors for their institutions, coaches are expected to set a standard for others to follow in the areas of appropriate language and treatment of officials, players, and fans. Coaches have the greatest influence over their team members both on the bench and on the field of play. A team often reflects the attitude of the coach. PBC coaches should exert ongoing control over the conduct of their team members at all times. Coaches should be prepared to remove team members who show disrespect for their opponents even at the risk of losing a contest.

STUDENT-ATHLETES: PBC student-athletes must realize that they are visible representatives of their institutions. As such, it is important that they act in a responsible and respectable manner at all times when representing their institution. Profanity, inappropriate gestures, and negative statements or actions between opposing players, officials or fans, especially taunting and baiting, will not be tolerated.

OFFICIALS: Officials who are assigned to PBC athletic events must enforce the rules concerning sportsmanship and deal decisively with abuse of those rules. The only warning concerning abuse of sportsmanship rules should come immediately before the contest. During the contest, any abuses should be handled through the administration of penalties, not further warnings. Each official will be provided with the following written statement; “The Peach Belt Conference requires officials to enforce all rules regarding unsportsmanlike
conduct by coaches and players. Profanity, inappropriate gestures and negative statements or actions between opposing players, especially taunting and baiting, will not be tolerated. If such comments are heard or gestures seen, a penalty will be assessed immediately. If any coach protests the unsportsmanlike conduct penalties, he/she will be ejected from the contest immediately. There will be no warnings. All players and coaches have been advised of this."

**PBC COMMISSIONER:** The commissioner will enforce the unsportsmanlike conduct rules of the game and of the Conference. The commissioner will assess penalties for inappropriate behavior that is not detected or acted on by the officials. The commissioner may also impose penalties in addition to those imposed by the officials. These penalties may include but are not limited to:

- Private Reprimand
- Public Reprimand
- Game/Games Suspension

**FANS:** It is understood that occasionally fans may make negative comments about officials and opponents. However, individuals who use profanity or vulgar gestures or words, display a blatant disrespect for others, or orally abuse officials, opponents, or other fans will be ejected from the athletic event. Individuals who repeatedly exhibit a pattern of such conduct will be refused admission to athletic contests by the athletic director. Fans are also prohibited by NCAA rules from using artificial noisemakers and airhorns at athletic contests.

**SPIRIT GROUPS:** Like student-athletes, these groups are visible representatives of the institution. As such, high expectations are placed upon them for exemplary behavior. The role of any spirit group is to encourage and support the team, not to deride the guests. Consequently, members of spirit groups may not make negative comments about visiting players or fans during the course of the athletic contest. Specific standards of conduct for various spirit groups are listed in the following paragraphs.

- **Cheerleaders:** The cheerleaders should project a positive influence upon the spectators and participants in the contest. The positive influence can be manifested in the content of the cheers, the timing of the cheers, and the positioning of the squad during the game. In general, the content of the cheers should not contain language or gestures that are of questionable taste. The squad may not position themselves behind the goal in an attempt to affect play, including free throw shooting. Further, they should position themselves in front of their own crowd before the game, during time-outs, and at half time. Megaphones may only be used for voice amplification and not in any other manner.

- **Pep Bands:** The pep band may only play during time outs and intermissions. Any attempt to drown out opposing spirit groups or jeers from the band members will be construed to be an act of unsportsmanlike conduct. The athletics administration will ensure that positioning of the pep band will be a reasonable distance from the visiting team and spectators’ seating by placing the band in either a neutral area or an area contiguous to the home team spectators’ seating. In no instance will the pep band be allowed to sit behind the visiting team’s bench.
• **Student Pep Groups:** In general, student pep groups should follow the spirit of the guidelines set forth for cheerleaders and pep bands. The group should sit in their team’s spectator seating. In no instance will they be permitted to sit in the opposing team’s spectator seating or behind the opposing team’s bench. The content of their cheering should not be confrontational, profane, or otherwise in poor taste and judgment.

• **Mascots:** The role of the mascot is to help foster fan support for his/her team. Any gesturing or positioning should occur to serve that end—it should not impair the progress of the game or confront the opposing players or spectators in any negative manner. At no time should the mascot antagonize or enter the vicinity of the opposing team’s bench. Any good-natured humor involving officials should be limited to times when they are idle and there is no game action taking place. All gesturing and actions must be in good taste and suitable for family viewing.

• **Dance Teams:** Dance teams provide entertainment for the home and visiting fans, which must be in good taste and suitable for family viewing. Dance teams will not be permitted to sit in the opposing team’s spectator seating or behind the opposing team’s bench.

The PBC believes that an effort on the part of all conference members to create an atmosphere of sportsmanship will result in a healthier, more positive environment in which the student-athletes can compete.

**NCAA Rules and Regulations**

Each year prior to participation in intercollegiate athletics, a team meeting will be held where athletes will receive a copy of the "Summary of NCAA Regulations." Student-athletes will be required to do the following:

- Submit information relating to eligibility.
- Give written consent to disclose education records to an authorized representative.
- Give written permission to be tested for banned substances.

Failure to complete and sign the statement annually will result in ineligibility for participation in all intercollegiate competition.

**NCAA Academic Requirements**

If a student-athlete does not meet the following requirements, he or she will not be eligible to compete. These instructions are critical to your continued athletic participation. If you have questions about them, please ask your coach or contact Dr. David Hunt, Faculty Athletic Representative, at 667-4582 or Kay Allen, Assistant AD for Compliance and Academic Services in Christenberry Fieldhouse, 729-2450.
1. Freshman Student-Athlete Requirements

- It is imperative to do well (C or better) in all classes. Having to repeat a class means taking a class twice that will count only once. It may affect your NCAA academic eligibility.

- Development courses will count up to a maximum of 12 semester hours in Division II and up to a maximum of 6 semester hours in Division I. Any CPC deficiencies are included with the development courses. In order for development courses to count, these courses must be taken during the first year of college. For Division I, development courses do NOT count toward percent of degree requirements.

- Student-athletes who are undecided about a major should take classes that would be required in the core curriculum for any major. The Academic Advisement Center advises students who have earned less than 60 hours and assists them with selecting classes.

- The three hours in UNIV1000 may or may not count toward your 24 hours. They will count only if you have room for elective hours. Be aware that some majors, such as kinesiology, do not allow UNIV1000 as an elective. This course WILL count towards the hours needed for full-time enrollment (minimum 12 hours).

- As part of the Complete College Georgia Initiative, all students are encouraged to enroll in a minimum of 15 hours per term.

- You may NOT withdraw from a class without consulting your head coach first. In addition, you must get prior approval from the Athletic Director or Kay Allen, the Assistant AD for Compliance and Academic Services. If student-athletes withdraw and are enrolled less than full-time, they are immediately ineligible and may not practice or compete. Instructors may withdraw students at any time for non-attendance. Effective fall 2013, a student is permitted five (5) withdrawals after which a grade of “WF” will automatically be recorded on the student’s official transcript.

2. Returning/Transfer Student-Athlete Requirements

- Student-athletes must earn at least 24 semester hours toward their majors from fall to fall in order to compete the following year. Of these 24 hours, at least 18 must be earned during the fall and spring semesters (75%). The remaining 6 of the 24 hours may be counted from courses taken during summer (25%).

- During the fall and spring terms of enrollment, all student-athletes must earn six hours countable toward the next year’s 24 semester hour minimum in order to compete or travel the following academic term. These six hours MUST be countable toward the student’s declared major and grades must be sufficient to prevent the need to retake the course. Effective spring 2016, student-athletes must earn nine hours countable toward the next year’s 24 semester hour minimum in order to compete or travel the following academic term (Division II).
• There are minimum NCAA GPA requirements that must be met each fall in order to remain eligible. Student-athletes with a 2.00 GPA or better will have met all necessary GPA requirements and will be in good academic standing. **Effective for the 2015-16 certification cycle, all student-athletes must have an institutional GPA of 2.0 or higher to remain eligible.**

• If you are entering the third year of enrollment you **must** have declared a major which leads to a baccalaureate degree. The classes that you take must be in courses specifically required for that major. Student-athletes deciding to change their major must complete the Change of Major Form and submit to the Registrar’s Office. Unless the major is officially changed, any new courses taken towards this major **will not** count toward athletic eligibility.

• Some majors have few or no electives. Be sure the courses that you take are required. Majors with very few electives include Health and Physical Education, all Teacher Education majors, and all areas in Business. Always consult with your advisor and either Dr. David Hunt or Kay Allen prior to registration.

• Courses taken towards a minor can count **ONLY** if the major requires a minor. Many majors do not require a minor, so check with your advisor to be sure.

• Request a copy of the major checklist from Academic Advisement Center or your faculty advisor. This shows how your courses fit into the major requirements and which courses you need to take. Some coaches may require you to provide a copy of this form to them.

• Transfer student-athletes should make certain that they are not retaking a course in which they have already earned credit. In several cases a "D" may transfer into Georgia Regents University. **Be aware that a "D" in your major courses or for ENGL1101 or ENGL1102 will not transfer.** In addition, a two-hour activity Wellness class transfers into Georgia Regents University as a one-hour credit course.

• Student-athletes intending to enroll at another institution during the summer on a transient status must receive advance permission from the course department and the Registrar. To receive credit for transient coursework, student-athletes must have an official transcript sent to Georgia Regents University.

• Never withdraw from a class without consulting your head coach, Kay Allen, Dr. David Hunt, or the Athletic Director. If a withdrawal results in less than full-time enrollment, the student-athlete is immediately ineligible for practice and competition. Instructors may withdraw students at any time for non-attendance. Withdrawal forms must be signed by the Athletic Director or a designated representative. **Effective fall 2013, a student is permitted five (5) withdrawals after which a grade of “WF” will automatically be recorded on the student’s official transcript.**
Returning student-athletes must have a minimum 2.0 institutional GPA at the end of each academic year. Division I student-athletes must meet a minimum GPA requirement each semester after the first year of full-time enrollment. The grade point average will be calculated only on courses that have been taken at Georgia Regents University.

3. Freshman/Transfer-Required Academic Meetings

- All freshman and transfer students must meet with Kay Allen every two weeks throughout the academic year. Each meeting will consist of organization and time management strategies along with academic review and course assessments. Students must bring notebooks, syllabi, and all graded assignments to each meeting. All notes, grades, and comments from the meetings will be shared with the respective coach.

- Twice per semester, Kay Allen will receive student-athlete progress reports from professors through the GradesFirst system administered by Academic Advisement. While the progress reports are automatically emailed to the student, the reports will be shared with the respective head coach and discussed during the academic meetings. Any student-athlete marked as "At-Risk" will be required to discuss corrective action he/she plans to take to cure the deficiency.

### Institutional Academic Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Course</th>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Will Count Toward Graduation Credit?</th>
<th>Will Count Toward Athletic Eligibility (24 Hours/Yr)?</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Support</td>
<td>ENGL0090, 0099 MATH0097, 0099 READ 0099</td>
<td>No. Institutional credit only.</td>
<td>Possibly, see limitations below</td>
<td>Institutional credit only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Applies to students entering GRU prior to fall 2013.</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>No. Institutional credit only.</td>
<td>Possibly, see limitations below</td>
<td>Must be taken ASAP: by 30 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>UNIV1000 (3 hr)</td>
<td>Possibly, depends on major.</td>
<td>Possibly, depends on major.</td>
<td>Course may be used only as a free elective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellness Activity</td>
<td>WELL 1012, 1013, 1023</td>
<td>Yes, if required</td>
<td>Yes, if required</td>
<td>Maximum of 2 hours, extra hours will not count.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellness Health Class</td>
<td>WELL 1000 (2 hrs)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Counts as 2 hrs. Counts only once during first time taken.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Course</td>
<td>Examples</td>
<td>Will Count Toward Graduation Credit?</td>
<td>Will Count Toward Athletic Eligibility (24 Hours/Yr)?</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free Electives (Some majors do not have any free electives)</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Yes, only up to maximum in major</td>
<td>Yes, only up to maximum in major</td>
<td>Extra electives will not count toward eligibility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All major and minor courses</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Yes. Minor courses count only if minor is required.</td>
<td>Yes (if grade is acceptable)</td>
<td>Must declare major by start of third year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade of “I”</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>“I” must be completed to earn hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeated course work with “F” original grade</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Repeat will count if passed satisfactorily</td>
<td>Repeat will count if passed satisfactorily</td>
<td>Institutional GPA should go up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeated course work with initial passing grade</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Counts only once, usually the first time taken.</td>
<td>Counts only once during first time taken.</td>
<td>Retaking the course may improve GPA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Athletic Grant-In-Aid**

Athletic grant-in-aid awards are recommended by each coach, approved by the Athletic Director and issued by the Financial Aid office. **These awards are categorized as follows:**

1. Out-of-State Tuition  
2. In-State Tuition  
3. Rent  
4. Meals  
5. Books

**ALL FINANCIAL AID REFUNDS ARE PROCESSED BY THE GRU BUSINESS OFFICE.** These refunds will cover only the rent and meals portion of the grant-in-aid. They are made available in the manner chosen by the student—either through direct deposit into a student’s banking/checking account or by issuance of a paper check mailed to the student’s home address. Tuition and full book scholarships are directly applied through the business office.

Student-athletes who receive only a portion of tuition costs must be prepared to pay the remainder of these costs at registration. **NOTE:** Scholarship awards are specifically designated and cannot be transferred to cover any other costs. Pre-registration fees are to be paid on a date announced by the business office. Student-athletes will be dropped from classes if fees are not paid on time.
The Office of Financial Aid will notify student-athletes when awarded athletics aid. The student is required to login to his/her POUNCE account and accept the award before the aid will show on the student's account. Student-athletes should monitor their POUNCE accounts prior to arrival on campus to ensure all of their financial aid has been applied correctly. Inquiries regarding institutional financial aid should be addressed to the Office of Financial Aid. Inquiries regarding athletics aid should be addressed to the Athletics Business Manger in the Athletics Department.

**Full Book Scholarships**

Award of a full-book scholarship entitles a student-athlete to receive books for each regular academic term. Student-athletes receiving a book scholarship must show their class schedules and their valid JagCard to the GRU Bookstore employees in order to receive their books. This ensures that the student-athletes are only buying books listed for their classes and only for themselves. The bookstore then sends a bill to the Department of Athletics for receipt of funds. As regulated by the NCAA, at no time will this award cover the cost of supplies such as paper, pens, pencils, or souvenirs. At the conclusion of the semester, student-athletes must return all books to the Department of Athletics to return to the bookstore for book buyback costs.

There will be no charges to a student-athlete’s book scholarship after the end of the drop/add period. Any charges after this period will have to be approved by the Director of Athletics. It is mandatory that on the last exam day of the semester, the student-athlete returns all of the scholarship books to the Department of Athletics. If these books are not returned, a hold will be placed on the student's academic record, preventing the student-athlete from registering, receiving final grades, or receiving books for the next semester. A full-book scholarship student-athlete is not permitted to sell these books back to the bookstore. If attempted, the bookstore will notify the athletics office immediately and the student-athlete will be sanctioned accordingly.

*At any time that a book is lost, stolen, or not returned to the Athletic Department, the student-athlete will be required to pay for the book at the used book price. Any abuse of this program may jeopardize the student-athlete’s book scholarship.*

**Class Attendance**

Regular class attendance is expected. There will be times when athletic events will cause student-athletes to miss class, but these times will be rare. The athletics department will send a list of student-athletes to every academic department on campus notifying each professor of student-athletes who must miss class because of team travel. When this happens, the student-athlete must make arrangements ahead of time to make up the work missed.

Student-athletes are not to abuse this policy. It is possible for an instructor to withdraw a student from a class for excessive absences. If a withdrawal drops the student-athlete below 12 hours, the student-athlete is immediately ineligible for all further athletic participation during the term, effective on the date that the student is dropped. It is important to discuss any absences with the professor prior to the absence and to know the professor's attendance policy.
Team Rules

- Class absences should be limited to days that are missed due to athletic participation. Coaches are encouraged to promote active participation by student-athletes in class. *Each professor reserves the right to withdraw a student with absences in excess of 10% of the total required class sessions.*

- Alcohol consumption by minors is prohibited. Student-athletes should refrain from drinking any alcohol 24 hours prior to an athletic contest. At no time should an athlete consume alcohol when representing the University on a team trip.

- The use of tobacco products is prohibited per NCAA rules and regulations pertaining to practice and competition. The use of tobacco products is prohibited on any property owned by Georgia Regents University (including parking lots and University Village property).

- Drug activity (buying, selling, using) of any nature is strictly prohibited. Any violation will result in the implementation of the Athletic Departmental Drug Policy.

- It is recommended that each coach implement a study hall for student-athletes.

- Student-athletes are expected to be on time to all classes and Department of Athletics events.

- Acts of misconduct can lead to immediate suspension from the program. Student-athletes are expected to obey the laws, rules, and regulations of Georgia Regents University, the Peach Belt Conference and law enforcement.

- Profanity is strongly discouraged. Each team should have guidelines regarding profanity.

Student-athletes have a responsibility to adhere to team rules as provided by the head coach and the Department of Athletics. These rules are important and can affect the status of a student-athlete, i.e., suspension or dismissal from the team.

All decisions directly related to team performance (playing time, position, traveling squad, training, curfew, appearance, and conduct) are the responsibility of the head coach. Student-athletes who have not received a copy of the team rules should request a copy.

Right of Expression

A student-athlete has the right to express concerns when an individual or team feels he/she/they are being mistreated or placed in a dangerous situation by a coach, faculty/staff member, or any other University employee. These concerns should be expressed directly to the Athletic Director in the event a situation arises that cannot be resolved by affected individuals. The Athletic Director continues to maintain an open-door policy for all student-athletes. Any individual who needs a meeting to express concerns may schedule an appointment through the Department of Athletics.
**Athletic Director’s Honor Roll**

The Athletic Director’s Honor Roll consists of student-athletes who have a term GPA of 3.0 or higher. These student-athletes are recognized for their academic performance by placement of their name and team sport(s) on a bulletin board near the locker rooms and in various publications within the University and Department of Athletics. The honor roll is updated each fall and spring semester.

**Academic Advising Programs**

All student-athletes at Georgia Regents University are expected to confer regularly with the Academic Advisement Center, their academic deans, and faculty advisers. Listed below are available programs which all student-athletes are encouraged to pursue.

**Academic Advisement Center** – Located on the second floor of University Hall, Academic Advisement provides advisement and academic support services for pre-professional and first and second year undergraduate students.

**Math and computer science labs** – The Department of Math and Computer Science offers help at no charge for all students of Georgia Regents University. The hours of these labs are scheduled each semester. Please call the math and computer science department at 737-1672 for more information.

**Writing lab** – The Department of Languages and Literature maintains a Writing Lab that offers tutorial services to all students at no charge to help improve writing skills. Please call the Writing Lab at 737-1402 for more information.

**The Career Center** – The center provides assistance in job placement, career development and exploration to all currently enrolled students at Georgia Regents University. Please call the Career Center at 737-1604 for more information.

**The Counseling Center** – The center provides a variety of services to all students at no charge. The center offers individual, confidential assistance to students seeking self-direction in personal, vocational, and educational areas. Call the Counseling Center at 737-1471 for more information.

**Testing & Disability Services** – Provides a variety of services and accommodations to meet the needs of disability-related concerns. Call Testing and Disability Services at 737-1469 for more information.

**Tutoring Program** – Student-athletes should utilize the resources listed above if having difficulty in their classes. If these resources are not sufficient to meet the student’s needs, the Department of Athletics will set up group tutoring for student-athletes. Please notify either the head coach or Kay Allen if tutoring is needed.

**Office of Student Life & Engagement** – Provides information on the resources available to new students including arrival to campus, orientation, academic advisement, and course registration. In addition, the office oversees all on-campus activities for students throughout the academic year. Contact Office of Student Life & Engagement at 737-1610 for more information.
Study-Hall will be required if a student-athlete meets one or more of the following criteria: (a) freshmen student-athletes or (b) a continuing student-athlete with a GPA of 2.5 or lower. The Department of Athletics receives progress reports from professors twice per term. This information is shared with the student-athlete and head coach. The head coach may decide to require study hall at that time.

**Substance Abuse Policy and Drug Testing For GRU Student-Athletes**

Georgia Regents University and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics recognize the stressful nature of collegiate athletic participation. The use of controlled substances (narcotics, marijuana, stimulants, etc.), and the abuse of alcohol by student-athletes, will adversely affect their academic performance, athletic achievements and personal well-being. Student-athletes who abuse controlled substances put themselves, their teammates, and the program at risk.

For these reasons, Georgia Regents University Athletics does not tolerate substance abuse, the use of any substance banned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), underage drinking or the inappropriate use of alcohol. While participation in intercollegiate athletics at GRU is optional, student-athletes who refuse to consent to drug screening under this policy or refuse to participate in substance abuse prevention educational programs will not be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

The Department of Athletics is committed to enhancing the life of every student-athlete who comes to our campus and chooses to participate in our athletic program. Georgia Regents University Athletics believes that a strong substance abuse prevention education and a drug-screening program are essential in the protection of student-athletes from the harmful effects of drug and alcohol abuse. A copy of the *Georgia Regents University Alcohol and Other Drug Policy* can be found in the 2015-2016 Jaguar Student-Athlete Handbook or at [http://policy.gru.edu/4-1-3-drug-and-alcohol-policy/](http://policy.gru.edu/4-1-3-drug-and-alcohol-policy/)

**Alcohol**

Alcoholism is a progressive disorder that often leads to serious physical and psychological illnesses as well as unacceptable social behavior. Any student-athlete who chooses to consume alcohol will be held accountable for any alcohol related incident in which he/she is involved regardless of additional legal implications. If a student-athlete is involved in an alcohol related incident with legal implications under campus, state, or federal laws, he or she will be subjected to the same or similar sanctions as those for a positive drug test. If a student-athlete is involved in an obvious alcohol related incident that is without legal implications, the head coach, athletic director, and head athletic trainer will determine if the circumstances warrant counseling intervention and/or additional sanctions.

**Tobacco**

NCAA legislation prohibits the use of tobacco products by all athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, managers, and officials in all sports during practice and competition. In accordance with Policy 3.6.2 Tobacco-Free
Georgia Regents University also prohibits the use of tobacco products on any property owned, leased, or controlled by the university, Georgia Regents Medical Center, or Georgia Regents Medical Associates. Violators of this policy are subject to disciplinary sanctions by the head coach, Athletic Director, and in accordance with University policy.

Dietary Supplements

Some dietary supplements and "over-the-counter" (OTC) medications such as cold medications may contain substances banned by the NCAA which would be detected by screening procedures. If a banned substance is detected, even though it was ingested with a legal supplement or medication, the student-athlete will be in violation of the drug screening policy. In order to help avoid these types of situations, the NCAA has contracted with the Resource Exchange Center (REC) to provide student-athletes and coaches with accurate information regarding dietary supplements and "over-the-counter" (OTC) medications. The REC may be visited online at www.drugfreesport.com/rec.

Some weight reduction medications that are available over-the-counter have been linked to scores of deaths in the United States. Therefore, all student-athletes and coaches are advised to refrain from using dietary supplements without the consent and direction of a physician. Please ensure that any physician providing treatment outside of the Department of Athletics is aware that you are a student-athlete who is subject to drug screening. Prescribed supplements and medications may affect a drug screening sample.

Purpose and Goals

Georgia Regents University Athletics has established the following purpose and goals for the substance abuse prevention, education and drug-screening program:

1. Through informational team meetings and educational seminars, student-athletes will be informed about the NCAA drug testing procedures and will be made aware of the list of NCAA banned substances.

2. Through team meetings, meetings of all student-athletes, and educational seminars, student-athletes will be made aware of the Georgia Regents University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics substance abuse policies.

3. GRU Athletics will provide educational programs concerning the effects of substance abuse on athletic activities and the health and well being of student-athletes.

4. Through education, GRU Athletics will assist student-athletes to cope effectively with destructive behaviors and the stresses of academic-athletic life.

5. GRU Athletics will actively promote healthy lifestyles, which will help student-athletes succeed.

6. GRU Athletics will identify in confidence participants who may be abusing specific drugs.
7. GRU Athletics will encourage, and in some cases require, student-athletes to seek counseling and treatment for drug or alcohol problems.

8. GRU Athletics will promote a safe and healthy environment for all student-athletes engaging in intercollegiate athletics.

**Education**

During each academic year, the Department of Athletics will present at least one substance abuse prevention education seminar. All incoming student-athletes must participate in a substance abuse prevention seminar. Returning student-athletes will be required to participate in these seminars unless instructed otherwise. Georgia Regents University Athletics is committed to continually enhancing the educational component of the drug education program as well as other important areas and will seek to provide additional seminars concerning substance abuse prevention, healthy living, and academic enhancement. All educational seminars are mandatory for student-athletes as well as coaches. Coaches and staff may excuse themselves during parts of the presentation in order to permit a free dialogue between presenters and students.

**Drug Testing**

Drug testing will be conducted on a selective and random basis. The Department of Athletics reserves the right to hold unannounced tests. New student-athletes will be subject to testing during the entrance physical screening and at any time throughout the academic year. Continuing student-athletes may be subject to testing during new student entrance physical screening and at anytime throughout the academic year. Testing may include team testing, pre-season testing, or post-season/championship testing.

A student-athlete who (1) refuses to sign the notification form, (2) fails to arrive at the collection location at the designated time without justification, (3) fails to provide a urine specimen according to protocol, (4) leaves the collection station before providing a specimen according to protocol, or (5) attempts to alter the integrity or validity of the urine specimen and/or collection process immediately will be declared medically ineligible. Procedures and sanctions will be consistent with those of a positive test.

**Individualized Reasonable Suspicion Screening**

Any student-athlete may be subject to testing at any time when, in the judgment of the Director of Athletics, there is reasonable cause to suspect that the student is engaged in the use of any of the drugs prohibited by this policy. Individualized reasonable suspicion may be based on information from any source deemed reliable by the Director of Athletics. The content of the information may include, but is not limited to: (1) observed possession or use of substances that reasonably appears to be drugs of the type prohibited, (2) arrest or conviction for a criminal offense related to the possession, use, or trafficking of drugs prohibited, and/or (3) observed abnormal appearance, conduct or
behavior (including absence from academic duties, training or competition) reasonably interpretable as being caused by the use of drugs of the type prohibited.

Upon receipt of such information, the Director of Athletics shall confer with University legal and medical representatives in determining whether there is reasonable cause to suspect that the student-athlete is engaged in prohibited drug use. Individualized reasonable suspicion means that if the available facts were conveyed to a reasonable person unfamiliar with the student-athlete or the athletic program, that person would conclude there is a factual basis for determining that the student-athlete is using a prohibited drug.

If individualized reasonable suspicion is found to exist, the Director of Athletics will meet with the student-athlete. The student-athlete will have the opportunity to provide an explanation for his/her behavior. However, if the Director of Athletics determines that the explanation is not satisfactory, he will require the student-athlete to submit to a drug test.

**Self Help/Safe Harbor**

As a one-time opportunity, a student-athlete that has not tested positive prior to this occurrence, yet has knowingly ingested a banned substance, may seek confidential help from his/her head coach or the sports medicine staff prior to notification of a pending drug screening. At that time, the student-athlete must undergo a test to determine which substances are in the system and in what amounts. The athlete immediately will be deemed medically ineligible to participate for a period of 14-30 days to allow the substance(s) to evacuate the system. The medical staff will determine when a second drug test is to be performed as well as the need for a health assessment. While this occurrence will be considered as the student-athlete's first positive test, no other sanctions will be applied.

**Sanctions for Positive Test Results**

In the event that a sample tests positive at the laboratory, the lab will notify the Department of Athletics’s team physician for verification that the student is not permitted to use the banned substance (e.g. prescription on file). This notification will include the name of the person with the positive test and the substance category violated. The team physician will notify the lab of his/her findings. If the team physician confirms the positive test result, the lab will notify the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academic Services (Compliance); the lab report will include all results from the specific testing date. Compliance will notify the Director of Athletics and the sport head coach of any positive test results; Compliance will contact all student-athletes with negative test results.

At the time Compliance receives official notification from the lab of a positive test result, the following sanctions will be applied.

**First Offense**

The student-athlete will be notified of a positive test in a meeting with the Director of Athletics, Compliance, and the respective head coach. The parents of the student-athlete will be notified. The student-athlete will be considered medically ineligible and will not be permitted to participate in practice or competition for a period of time set by the Director of Athletics. The period of ineligibility begins on the day of the official notification
and lasts for a minimum period of 14 consecutive calendar days. The student-athlete must be retested with negative results prior to reinstatement. The Athletic Director will consider recommendations of the respective head coach, the recommendation of the Director of Counseling and any other relevant circumstances. After due consideration, the Director of Athletics has the options to discontinue scholarship assistance, extend the period of ineligibility up to a period of one year, require participation in an approved treatment or counseling program, undergo mandatory health assessments, or any combination thereof. In addition, once a student-athlete tests positive for a banned substance, random selection will no longer apply, and the student-athlete can expect to be selected for participation in drug testing more frequently than other student-athletes.

Second Offense

A student-athlete who is otherwise in good standing as a team member yet tests positive for a second time during his or her eligibility will be declared medically ineligible to participate for one calendar year beginning on the date of notification. Parents of the student-athlete will be notified. Scholarship assistance will terminate with the current semester of the positive test and will not be reinstated for one calendar year from the time of discontinuance.

In order to return to good standing and regain eligibility, the student-athlete must have a recent negative test, must undergo regular health assessments as conducted by the sports medicine staff, and provide proof of satisfactory participation in a pre-approved substance abuse counseling or treatment program. The treatment program must be approved by the Director of the Counseling Center at GRU; the University will not be responsible for any charges incurred as a result of such counseling. Any student-athlete that tests positive can expect to be selected for participation in drug testing more frequently than other student-athletes.

Third Offense

A student-athlete who tests positive for a third time during his or her eligibility will be immediately and permanently ineligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics at Georgia Regents University. This includes loss of all athletic-related financial aid.

Appeals Process

If a student feels that the results of the tests are in error, the student may request that the split part of the sample be retested at the same laboratory that performed the original test at the student’s expense. If the student-athlete feels that sanctions are unduly harsh or unfair due to unusual circumstances, the student may appeal in writing to the Vice President for Student Affairs within two weeks of the official notification of sanctions by the Director of Athletics. The Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs will render a final decision in writing. The student-athlete will remain ineligible during the appeal process.

Screening and Testing Procedures

The following procedures have been established to provide a safe and secure program for screening GRU student-athletes for substance abuse.
• Drug screening will be coordinated by the Georgia Regents University Department of Sports Medicine which will take the necessary steps to insure that specimen collection procedures are strictly followed.

• Notification of a pending drug test will be made to a student-athlete's coach, who will notify the respective student-athletes that they have been selected. The student-athletes must report to the testing site at the assigned time. Once notified, failure for any reason to report to the testing site at the prescribed time will be deemed a positive test. Procedures and sanctions will be consistent with those of a positive test.

• Student-athletes will be required to present a picture I.D. at the time of the screening.

• Urine specimens will be taken under direct observation in order to prevent specimen tampering and/or substitution. Any attempt to adulterate or manipulate the urine specimen will constitute a positive test.

• The specimen will be divided at the lab with a portion reserved for re-testing if the initial testing of the specimen is either positive or suspect, or if the student-athlete seeks to appeal the findings.

• The student-athletes must remain at the collection site until excused by the lab personnel.

• If the laboratory determines that any banned substances are present in the sample, the Department of Athletics team physician will be notified to confirm the results. The laboratory will send final results confidentially to the Department of Athletics team physician and Compliance. Compliance will notify the Director of Athletics and the sport head coach.

• The Director of Athletics will arrange a meeting with the student-athlete, the respective head coach, and Compliance. No other person will be notified unless the Director of Athletics deems such a notification is necessary to protect the student-athlete's health and interests.

Terms and Definitions

Student-Athlete: For the purposes of this policy, a student-athlete is any team member in any sport in which Georgia Regents University competes in NCAA sanctioned competitions. Student-athletes who are ineligible or have red-shirt status will also be subjected to drug testing.

Compliance: Student-athletes who refuse to participate in drug education and testing will not be eligible to practice or compete as a member of any team at Georgia Regents University. Student-athletes who have tested positive for banned substances and fail to comply with imposed sanctions will not be eligible to practice or compete as a member of any team at Georgia Regents University.

Regulations: This policy details the regulations and actions for the Georgia Regents University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics regarding substance abuse issues. Student-athletes at GRU are expected to be aware of and to follow any additional policies outlined by the NCAA and the University.

NCAA Policy: If a student-athlete is subjected to testing by the NCAA and the result is a positive test, the following will apply:

1. For banned drug classes other than "street drugs": the student-athlete loses one season of eligibility in all sports. Further, the student-athlete shall remain ineligible for all regular season and post-season competition during the time period ending one calendar year after the student-athlete's positive drug test, and until the student-athlete retests negative and eligibility restored by the NCAA. (NCAA Bylaw 18.4.1.5.1.)
2. For "street drugs": the student-athlete will be charged with the loss of competition during a minimum of 50% of a season of competition in all sports (i.e. 50% of all contests or dates of competition in the season following the positive test). The student-athlete remains ineligible until the penalty is fulfilled, the student retests negative, and eligibility is restored by the NCAA. (NCAA Bylaw 18.4.1.5.2)

**USG System:** Regulations of the University System of Georgia apply to all student-athletes at Georgia Regents University. Student-athletes will be held accountable for violations of the student code of conduct regarding substance abuse.

**Banned Substances:** Tests will be conducted for THC/marijuana, cocaine, opiates, PCP, amphetamines, anabolic steroids and barbiturates. In addition, the Department of Athletics reserves the right to test for any other drugs banned by the NCAA or agents to alter test outcomes. The student-athlete should consult the NCAA banned substance list when purchasing over the counter medications or when receiving a prescription from his or her private physician. The Department of Athletics team physician is familiar with this list and is a good source of information.

**Referral and Assessment:** Student-athletes who test positive for drug use will be encouraged, and in some cases may be required, to participate in a program that provides assessment and counseling. The Counseling Center is a resource that is available on campus to provide assessment and counseling at no cost to students. Upon student-athlete request, a list of other acceptable counseling programs will be provided. However, the student will be responsible for any and all charges incurred for services received from outside vendors. The student-athlete is also responsible for ensuring that a counseling program chosen is acceptable to the Director of Counseling Services at Georgia Regents University for the type of counseling required. The student-athlete must make arrangements to have information released to GRU officials regarding satisfactory attendance rates and the outcome of the program.

**Amendments:** Georgia Regents University and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics reserve the right to amend or change the Substance Abuse Policy, Education and Testing Program.

**NCAA Banned-Drug Classes 2015-2016**

The NCAA list of banned-drug classes is subject to change by the NCAA Executive Committee. Contact NCAA education services or www.ncaa.org/drugtesting for the current list. The term “related compounds” comprises substances that are included in the class by their pharmacological action and/or chemical structure. No substance belonging to the prohibited class may be used regardless of whether it is specifically listed as an example.

Many nutritional/dietary supplements contain NCAA banned substances. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not strictly regulate the supplement industry, therefore, purity and safety of nutritional dietary supplements cannot be guaranteed. Impure supplements may lead to a positive NCAA drug test. The use of supplements is at the student-athlete’s own risk. Student-athletes should contact the Resource Exchange Center (REC) for accurate information regarding dietary supplements and "over-the-counter" (OTC) medications. The REC may be viewed online at www.drugfreesport.com/rec.
Banned Drugs

The following is a list of banned-drug classes, with examples of substances under each class:

**Stimulants**
- methylenedioxymethamphetamine
- amiphenazole (MDMA, ecstasy)
- amphetamine methylphenidate
- bemigride nikethamide
- benzphetamine octopamine
- bromantan pemoline
- caffeine (guarana) pentetrazol
- chlorphentermine phendimetrazine
- cocaine phenmetrazine
- cropropamide phentermine
- crothetamide phenylpropanolamine (ppa)
- diethylpropion picrotoxine
- dimethylamphetamine pipradol
- doxapram prolintane
- ephedrine (ephedra, strychnine ma huang) synephrine (citrus aurantium, ethamivan zhi shi, bitter orange)

Ethylamphetamine and related compounds
- fencamfamine

The following stimulants are not banned:
- methamphetamine phenylephrine
- pseudoephedrine

**Anabolic Agents**

**Anabolic steroids**
- androstenediol methyltestosterone
- androstenedione nandrolone
- boldenone norandrostenediol
- clostebol norandrostenedione
- dehydrochlormethyl- norethandrolone
- testosterone oxandrolone
- dehydroepiandro- oxymesterone
- sterone (DHEA) oxymetholone
- dihydrotestosterone stanozolol
- (DHT) testosterone 2
- dromostanolone tetrahydrogestrinone (THG)
- epitrenbolone trenbolone
- fluoxymesterone and related compounds
- gestrinone
- mesterolone other anabolic agents
- methandienone clenbuterol
Diuretics and other Urine Manipulators
acetazolamide hydrochlorothiazide
bendroflumethiazide hydroflumethiazide
benzthiazide methyclothiazide
bumetanide metolazone
chlorothiazide polythiazide
chlorthalidone probenecid
ethacrynic acid spironolactone (canrenone)
finasteride probenecid
flumethiazide triamterene
furosemide trichlormethiazide and related compounds

Street Drugs
heroin tetrahydrocannabinol
marijuana3 (THC)3

Peptide Hormones and Analogues
corticotrophin (ACTH)
growth hormone (hGH, somatotrophin)
human chorionic gonadotrophin (hCG)
insulin like growth factor (IGF-1)
luteinizing hormone (LH)
*All the respective releasing factors of the abovementioned substances also are banned.
erythropoietin (EPO) sermorelin
darbepoetin

Anti-Estrogens
anastrozole
cloniphene
tamoxifen and related compounds

Definitions of positive depends on the following
• For caffeine—if the concentration in urine exceeds 15 micrograms/ml.
• For testosterone – an adverse analytical finding (positive result) based on any reliable analytical method (e.g., IRMS, GCMS, CIR) which shows that the testosterone is of exogenous origin, or if the ratio of the total concentration of testosterone to that of epitestosterone in the urine is greater than 6:1, unless there is evidence that this ratio is due to a physiological or pathological condition.
• For marijuana and THC—if the concentration in the urine of THC metabolite exceeds 15 nanograms/ml.
2015-2016 Drug-Testing Exceptions Procedures

(Medical exceptions)

The NCAA list of banned-drug classes (NCAA Bylaw 31.2.3.2) is composed of substances that are generally reported to be performance enhancing and/or potentially harmful to the health and safety of the student-athlete.

The NCAA recognizes that some banned substances are used for legitimate medical purposes. Accordingly, the NCAA allows exceptions to be made for those student-athletes with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for regular use of such a drug. Exceptions may be granted for substances included in the following classes of banned drugs: anabolic agents, stimulants, beta blockers, diuretics, anti-estrogens, beta-2 agonists, and peptide hormones. (Bylaw 31.2.3.3)

Procedures for Exceptions

1. Alternative non-banned medications for the treatment of various conditions exist and should be considered before an exception is pursued.

2. For the use of an anabolic agent or peptide hormone, the institution must seek approval by the NCAA before the student-athlete is allowed to participate in competition while taking these medications. The institution should submit to the NCAA the Medical Exception Pre-Approval reporting form along with medical documentation from the prescribing physician supporting the diagnosis and treatment.

3. For the use of a medication in the classes of stimulant, diuretic, anti-estrogen, beta blocker or beta-2 agonist, the institution should maintain documentation in the student-athlete’s medical record on campus. The documentation should contain information as to the diagnosis, medical history, and dosage information. Note: To request a medical exception for a positive test involving stimulant medication to treat ADHD, the NCAA requires the documentation be accompanied by the NCAA Medical Exception Documentation Reporting Form to Support ADHD and Treatment With Banned Stimulant Medication.

4. The institution may request an exception at the time of notification of the positive drug test by submitting documentation to The National Center For Drug Free Sport. If the institution fails to provide medical documentation to Drug Free Sport before the "B" sample is reported as positive to the institution, the student-athlete will be withheld from competition until such time that the documentation is received, reviewed, and the medical exception granted.

5. Requests for exceptions will be reviewed by the chair of the drug-testing and drug-education subcommittee and the physicians of the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

6. The NCAA will inform the director of athletics regarding the outcome of the exception request. In the event that the exception is not granted, the institution may appeal the action according to Section 8.0 of the drug-testing protocol.

Sources:
Sports Medicine Program

The sports medicine staff works in a cooperative effort with health-care providers and student-athletes to provide quality health care throughout the academic year. The athletic training staff will provide student-athletes with the basic health care needs and direct them to the appropriate team physician when referral is necessary.

1. Athletic Department's Responsibility

The NCAA rules state that the Department of Athletics is responsible for medical services administered to student-athletes who are injured in a practice or game that was under the Georgia Regents University coaches' supervision.

The word "injury" applies only to those ailments that are caused by the participation in a supervised practice or a game. Because ailments such as bronchitis, tonsillitis, or influenza are not a result of athletics participation, the Department of Athletics cannot be responsible for costs associated with their remediation.

The Department of Athletics is permitted to administer medical aid during the student-athlete's competitive season and out-of-season practice, but only for those ailments that are sports-related and occur in a supervised practice or during designated contests.

2. Health Insurance

ALL student-athletes are required to show proof of a primary insurance plan that meets minimum University requirements. The sports medicine staff or GRU Student Health can assist you in finding a suitable insurance carrier. The Department of Athletics health insurance is an "excess" policy. This means that athletics insurance combines with a student-athlete's personal insurance to cover the student-athlete. In the event of an athletic injury that requires medical intervention, benefits for bills incurred will be applied first through the student's or parent's personal policy followed by the athletics insurance policy. This should not affect personal insurance premiums.

3. Medical Bills

The following is an account of normal procedures to be followed in the event that medical bills are incurred as a result of athletic participation:

- If the athletic trainer decides that medical referral is indicated due to an athletic injury, an appointment will be made for the student-athlete with the appropriate physician or healthcare provider. The student-athlete will take a referral sheet from the athletic trainer authorizing treatment, as well as the athlete's personal insurance information. Normally, the physician's office staff will use that information to file bills directly with the student's/parent's insurance company unless requested otherwise.
If the athletic trainer decides that medical referral is indicated due to a non-athletic injury or illness, an appointment will be made for the student-athlete with the appropriate physician or healthcare provider at the student’s request and will NOT be covered by athletic insurance.

After the insurance company reviews the charges (usually 4-6 weeks), they will send to the policyholder an "Explanation of Benefits" (E.O.B.) which details specific amounts that are covered and for which they have issued payments.

When the E.O.B. is received by the policyholder, a copy should be taken to the athletic trainer as soon as possible. The athletic trainer will file claims related to athletic participation with Georgia Regents University athletics insurance, which will normally cover all of the "excess," including any deductible.

Other important points to remember:

Insurance bills for an athletic injury are not paid automatically, and cooperation on everyone's part is necessary in order to minimize confusion and have all bills paid in a timely manner. If any bills have not been paid within two months of the injury, the student or parent should check with his/her insurance company to make sure all necessary documents have been submitted and that payment is being considered. Bills submitted for payment by athletics insurance more than fifty-two weeks after the date of injury will not be considered for payment and will become the full responsibility of the student-athlete and/or parents.

Georgia Regents University athletics insurance covers ONLY athletic injuries received while participating on behalf of GRU. Any injury or illness outside of supervised athletic participation (e.g., colds, gynecological problems, injury from intramurals, etc.) will be the responsibility of the individual student-athlete as required by NCAA regulation. Proof of personal insurance is mandatory and lack of personal insurance will preclude participation.

Only charges for medical services that have been pre-approved by the head athletic trainer will be submitted for payment by the Department of Athletics.

Additionally, the Department of Athletics recommends that parents explain to student-athletes the mechanisms of the student's primary insurance coverage as well as when and how the coverage should be invoked. With the proliferation of “managed care” insurance systems it is impossible for one person to become familiar with the nuances of all types, brands and levels of coverage. GRU does not accept that responsibility.

4. Physical Examination

All athletes must have an approved physical examination rendered by a licensed M.D. prior to any athletic participation at Georgia Regents University. The orthopedic portion of the examination must be rendered by the Georgia Regents University team physician. All potential athletes will be provided an opportunity for a complete physical examination, performed by the medical staff at no charge; however, this must be completed at the assigned date and time. Otherwise a charge for the examination will be incurred and will be the responsibility of the student-athlete. Should the pre-participation examination reveal a need for medical
history, tests, x-rays, treatments or therapy in order to clear a student-athlete for participation, Georgia Regents University cannot be responsible for any charges incurred.

If for any reason there is a question regarding physical qualifications for competition, the Department of Athletics team physician will be charged with making the final decision as to when, or if, a prospective student-athlete is physically suitable for participation.

The following medical forms must be on file with the medical staff prior to physical examination or participation:

**Pre-entrance Medical History.** All first-year student-athletes including walk-ons and transfer students must submit this form prior to physical examination.

**Student-Athlete Interim Medical History.** All returning student-athletes must submit this form annually prior to participation.

**Medical Insurance and Emergency Contact Information.** This information must be submitted initially prior to participation and must be updated annually.

**Health Information Portability and Accountability Act form (HIPAA).** Form must be signed annually by the student-athlete or parent if the student-athlete is under 18 years of age.

**Sickle Cell Solubility Test (SST) Results.** Prior test results must be on file, the student-athlete must have a test completed at the time of the physical, or the student-athlete (and his/her parent or legal guardian if under 18 years of age) must sign a written release if the choice is made not to be tested.

It is the responsibility of the each student-athlete to obtain these forms and to return them to the athletic training staff. This information is maintained in the Department of Athletics and cannot be released without written authorization from the student-athlete or parent/guardian. The only exception is that insurance information will be released to healthcare providers so that claims can be filed directly.

5. Training Room

The training room is located in the Christenberry Fieldhouse adjacent to all dressing rooms. The purpose of the training room and its staff is to provide for the prevention, care, treatment and rehabilitation of athletically-related injuries for all student-athletes. All training room rules and procedures are formulated to serve student-athletes in the best possible manner, while allowing them to receive the best care available. Outlined are general guidelines to be followed in the event injuries occur. Specific procedures regarding training room usage will be posted in the training room. Training room usage is a privilege that can be revoked if all procedures are not followed. For that reason, the Department of Athletics encourages you to ask questions so that you are clear on the important role that the training staff plays in your athletic career at GRU.
6. Injury Reporting Procedures

- If a student-athlete receives any injury (dental injuries included) as a result of participation in a supervised practice or contest, it should be reported immediately to the athletics training staff so that a thorough evaluation can be made. Some injuries may be unnoticed until after training room hours. If this happens, you should report the injury to the training staff as early as possible the following day. Early intervention into the injury process can yield an early return, while the opposite can also be true. Medical bills incurred for athletic injuries that have not been reported in a timely manner will become the responsibility of the student-athlete.

- The athletic training staff maintains and documents reports regarding illnesses, injuries, evaluations and progress notes for each student-athlete. The athletic training staff makes decisions regarding activity restrictions and communicates those restrictions to coaches and players daily.

7. Emergency Treatment

In the event of sudden or unexpected illness or injury, take the following steps:

Call the training room 731-7908. If no answer, call your coach. If no answer and your condition is severe, report to the emergency room at the Georgia Regents Medical Center. Tell them that you are a Georgia Regents University student-athlete and that you wish to be treated by the Sports Medicine physician on call.

NOTE: Georgia Regents University athletics insurance covers athletic injuries ONLY!!

8. Injury

The athletic training staff, in conjunction with the Department of Athletics team physician, is responsible for judgments regarding the amount and type of participation in which an athlete may engage. All medical referrals and other treatments must be coordinated and approved in advance by the athletic training staff. Only the athletic training staff is authorized to arrange the necessary appointments with consulting physicians. Although a student-athlete may be injured, practice sessions must be attended unless released by both the coach and head trainer.

9. Treatment & Rehabilitation Programs

All treatment and rehabilitation activities will be supervised by the athletic training staff and Department of Athletics team physician. In order for a student-athlete to return from an injury as quickly and safely as possible, it is necessary that they receive treatment two to four times daily. The training staff will provide regular information to the coaching staff regarding the progress of student-athletes and compliance with treatment and rehabilitation regimens. Coaches and trainers generally view missed appointments, tardiness, or non-compliance with treatment regimens in an unfavorable manner.

Coaches will be notified each time a student-athlete is late or absent from treatment or rehabilitation sessions.
10. Eyeglass and Contact Lenses

All athletic eyeglasses must be safety glasses with shatterproof lenses and frames. Replacement of lost lenses and glasses will be furnished by the Department of Athletics only if:

- They are prescription lenses or glasses necessary for competition.
- They are lost or damaged during a practice or game.
- The loss is reported to the training staff during the practice or game period in which the loss or damage occurred. In sports that are not covered directly by athletic trainers, the student-athlete must report the loss to the coach who should report the loss to the training staff at that time.

11. Mouthpieces and Dental Injuries

Georgia Regents University athletic insurance covers only injuries to sound natural teeth. For that reason student-athletes of all team sports (particularly contact sports) are encouraged to wear molded mouthpieces for practices and games. Molded mouthpieces will prevent almost all dental injuries as well dramatically decrease the likelihood of concussion head injuries. Student-athletes that wish to have a mouthpiece molded for them should contact the training staff prior to participation.

12. Medical Second-Opinion Policy (Medical Referral Policy)

The sports medicine staff realizes the importance of a student-athlete feeling comfortable when dealing with a health care specialist. If the student-athlete, spouse, or parent feels that a second opinion is in order, or if an insurance company dictates that a second opinion be sought, the head athletic trainer will arrange an appointment with a second physician as soon as possible. Bills incurred for examination by the second physician will be handled in the same manner as charges from the Department of Athletics team physician. Should the student-athlete or family prefer to seek medical care from other specialists, the following guidelines will govern.

Georgia Regents University will not be compelled to:

- Assume financial responsibility for any charges incurred;
- Render any follow-up medical care;
- Allow the student-athlete to participate until the following conditions have been met:

  1. Receive a detailed written report from the attending healthcare provider that releases the student-athlete to participate.
  2. The student-athlete has passed a pre-participation physical examination by the Department of Athletics team physician and athletics training staff; and
  3. The student-athlete has demonstrated full skills and other physical capabilities necessary for full participation in the particular sport as approved by the athletics training staff.
13. Jewelry Policy

Due to jewelry’s makeup of hard material and often needle-sharp edges, it can be a source of serious injuries not only for the person wearing the jewelry, but also other teammates and participants. Further, given the possible location of jewelry (i.e., eye brows, ears, nipples, etc) the possibility of a minor injury becomes more serious. For that reason, student-athletes are not permitted to wear any jewelry in team sports during practices or games. Because tape will loosen once it is wet with sweat, taping over jewelry is inadequate and therefore not permissible. If a student-athlete is observed to be wearing jewelry by a member of the training staff, the student-athlete will be required to remove the jewelry. More than one request to remove jewelry will be brought to the attention of the head coach and possibly the Athletic Director. Coaches are encouraged to assist the training staff in minimizing injuries by assisting in the enforcement of these rules.


The following are some things that all student-athletes can do to prevent needless injuries or illnesses from occurring.

- Remove all dentures during practice and games.
- Student-athletes will not be permitted to wear any jewelry while participating in team sports, practices or games.
- After practices and contests, wash all scrapes and cuts thoroughly with soap and water.
- For minor aches and pains or for previously unnoticed injuries use only ice and elevation. Do not use any form of wet or dry heat.
- Do not use any medications or preparations for decreasing the symptoms associated with any injury or illness other than those prescribed by a doctor or dispensed by a trainer for that particular condition. Self-medication or medicine swapping is not condoned and is strongly discouraged.
- Remove all foreign substances other than mouthpieces from your mouth during practices or games. The use of tobacco is prohibited during any athletic participation (practice, games and travel) by the NCAA, Peach Belt Conference, and by Georgia Regents University.
- Utilize a sound stretching regimen before and after any athletic participation. If you need a program tailored to your sport or activity, request one from the training staff.
- Take time to re-hydrate your body often during physical stress in warm weather. Wearing articles of clothing designed to induce sweating in warm weather can be fatal. That activity will not be permitted during practices or games.
- Take time to dry-off and cover exposed body parts during cold weather.
THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT THE TRAINING ROOM: TRAINING ROOM EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Do not **under any circumstance** remove **anything** from the training room without the consent of the training staff. To do so may result in disciplinary action. Our purpose is to aid in the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation or injuries to our athletes. We cannot accomplish this if our equipment is scattered and our supplies are lost.

Please remember that our equipment is expensive, fragile, and can sometimes be hazardous to anyone not trained to use it properly. Do **not** try to treat an injury yourself.

The athletic trainers are a part of the athletic staff dedicated to caring for athletes and their injuries. Treat them with the same respect that you would any staff-member.

**BE ON TIME**

If you are required to be in the training room for treatment or taping, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with the training staff if the time is not announced. Athletes that do not show up at the appointed times may be denied treatment at the discretion of the training staff.

1. Report every injury. If you need anything taped or bandaged, let a trainer do it. Do not help yourself to tape and supplies.

2. The training room will open each weekday morning at 9:00 AM and each afternoon at 1:00 pm. If you need to be taped and/or treated in the morning, attempt to make arrangements with the head trainer so that a staff trainer will be there to meet you. If you need treatment in the afternoon prior to practice you should be in the training room at least **one hour before practice**.

3. Do not bring food or drinks to the training room. A clean environment is vital to the services provided.

4. Wait your turn. Do not cut line in front of your teammates or argue about who was first. This will not be tolerated. You may be dismissed from the training room.

5. If you have a good reason for being in the training room pertaining to injury or treatment, be there. Otherwise, the dressing room is where you should be. We love each of you but we have no time for romance!

6. No cleats or dirty gear will be permitted in the training room. Shower immediately after practice and report to the training room for treatment with gym shorts and a shirt. Coats, books, shoes, etc. should be left outside the training room.

7. Do not dress or undress in the training room since we have shy trainers of both genders working.

8. Removing materials from the training room without the permission of the training staff will result in your dismissal from the training room.
9. **DANGER!** – No athlete is to operate training room equipment unless specifically instructed to do so by a member of the training staff. DO NOT EVEN TOUCH!!!

10. The use of profanity is not a compliment to you. Do not use profanity in the training room.

11. The use of tobacco products is prohibited by the GRU, the PBC and the NCAA at all practices and games and on all GRU property.

12. Boisterous behavior or “horseplay” will not be tolerated.

13. Stay out of the Trainer’s office and storeroom unless you are told to enter. If you need to enter a trainer’s office, please knock on the door and you will be given permission to enter at the proper time.

14. Remember, we try to operate the training room in an efficient professional manner. We respectfully request that you assist us by adhering to these rules and otherwise conduct yourself in a mature, respectable manner.

### Wellness Programs

During the academic year several programs are presented by the University, the Department of Athletics and the Counseling and Testing Center provide programming that promotes positive growth and development for students. In addition, campus organizations sponsor events addressing issues of drug and alcohol awareness. All student-athletes are mandated to attend at least two Department of Athletics sponsored events.

1. **CHAMPS/Life Skills Program** - The mission of the NCAA is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the campus educational program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body. With this in mind, the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program was created to support the student development initiatives of its member institutions and to enhance the quality of the student-athlete experience within the university setting.

**In the process of achieving this mission, the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program will:**

- Support efforts of every student-athlete to achieve intellectual development and graduate from college.
- Use athletics as preparation for success in life.
- Meet the changing needs of student-athletes.
- Promote respect for diversity among student-athletes.
- Enhance interpersonal relationships in the lives of student-athletes.
- Assist student-athletes in building positive self-esteem.
- Enable student-athletes to make meaningful contributions to their communities.
- Promote ownership by student-athletes of their academic, athletic, personal and social responsibilities.
• Enhance partnerships between the NCAA, member institutions and their communities for the purpose of education.
• Encourage the development of leadership skills.

Participating institutions in the CHAMPS/Life Skills Programs are provided with instructional materials and supplemental resources, which support a student-athlete’s development in five areas: academics, athletics, personal development, career development and community service.

FRESH Start – As part of our CHAMPS/Life Skills Program, FRESH Start is a series of seminars whose purpose is to prepare new incoming freshman student-athletes for college life. Some of the topics covered are time management, conflict resolution and diversity training, stress management, nutrition, and study skills.

Career Series – GRU is committed to student-athletes success outside the sports arena. In an effort to prepare our student-athletes for job placement upon graduation, the Department of Athletics sponsors a series of seminars for upper classmen that address topics such as resume writing, interviewing skills, internships, and etiquette.

2. Student-Athlete Advisory Committee - The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is a forum for student-athletes to have input on various issues involving athletic policies and practices, NCAA proposed legislation, concerns of their teammates, and issues raised during the year by the Director of Athletics. Each member institution has a link to the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee through the Peach Belt Conference SAAC. The Peach Belt Conference draws a representative from each of its member schools. Within GRU, a student-athlete is selected from each of the thirteen sports to represent his/her team at scheduled meetings throughout the academic year. This enables GRU student-athletes to have an active voice within the NCAA, PBC, and GRU legislative and administrative processes.

**NCAA Rules and Regulations**

Agents

Should a student-athlete or parent be contacted by an agent, the student-athlete or parent should instruct the agent to contact the Department of Athletics to arrange for a special counseling panel in which advising may take place. Under no circumstances can a student-athlete enter into an agreement with an agent (either orally or in writing) to represent him/her in future sport negotiations. If a student-athlete with remaining eligibility does enter into an agreement with an agent, the student-athlete forfeits remaining eligibility in all NCAA sports (not just the sport for which an agreement was arranged).

Athletic Awards

Awards received during the academic year shall be received in accordance with NCAA Bylaw 16.1. Generally, permissible awards include those provided by Georgia Regents University, the Peach Belt
Conference, the NCAA, or any other approved agency. There are limits to the number and value of such awards.

GRU student-athletes must be cognizant of the limits on awards provided during individual athletics participation in an outside, amateur athletics event (not representing GRU) or when competing on a team during the summer. For example, when a student-athlete competes in an event while not enrolled as a regular student during the academic year, the award must conform to the regulations of the recognized amateur organization(s) associated with the event.

Note: At no time may a student-athlete receive any of the following:
1. Cash or cash equivalent (e.g. gift card).
2. Country club or sports club membership.
3. Transfer of the non-permissible awards, i.e. cannot turn the certificate over to a friend, parent, etc. or have the award be donated to another person/organization on the student-athlete's behalf.

The ONLY thing a student-athlete may receive is a trophy or medal.

**Athletic Equipment**

Athletic equipment will be issued by the respective coaches at the start of the playing season. At the end of the playing season, the student-athlete will be asked to do one of the following:

- Return the equipment;
- Purchase the equipment at normal street value; or
- The equipment will be issued for use during the summer if the coach decides that the equipment will be used by the team the next season. Should the equipment or apparel not be used next season, it must be returned or purchased.

**Athletic Transportation**

Each student-athlete is required to travel with his/her team to and from all activities. Prior written permission must be obtained from the Athletic Director for any exceptions to this policy. This process is necessary because of legal and liability issues designed to protect the student-athlete and GRU.

The transportation mode for GRU athletic teams is either bus or van. It is prohibited for a student-athlete to drive any vehicle that transports team members. Also **TOBACCO, ILLEGAL DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL PRODUCTS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN BUSES OR VANS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE**. This rule applies to coaches, staff, graduate assistants, student assistants and trainers as well.

**Countable Athletically Related Activities**

Countable athletically related activities include any required activity with an athletics purpose, involving student-athletes and at the direction of, or supervised by, any member or members of an institution’s
coaching staff (including strength and conditioning coaches) and must be counted within the weekly and daily limitations set by the NCAA. Administrative duties such as academic meetings and compliance meetings are not considered countable athletically related activities.

In your season, you are allowed to practice only 20 hours a week for a maximum 4 hours a day. Competitions count within your practice limits, but each competition is counted as three hours no matter how long the competition actually occurs. You are required to have one day off, which can be a travel day as long as no countable athletically related activities occur. Outside of your playing season during the academic year, you are limited to eight hours of countable activities per week and are required to have two days off. Only two of the eight hours can be team activity/skill instruction specific to your sport.

If you have questions about practice limitations and what is considered to be countable athletically related activities, please see the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academic Services.

Complimentary Tickets

Georgia Regents University may provide up to four (4) tickets to a student-athlete, but only in the sport in which the individual participates. These tickets may be for either "home" or "away" games. Away games will be dependent upon availability. The student-athlete must see the Athletics Business Manager and identify the individuals to whom the tickets will be issued. The recipients of the tickets must sign for the tickets. Be aware that these tickets cannot be sold by anyone. Any sale of complimentary tickets is a violation of NCAA rules.

Note: A partial qualifier or a non-qualifier may receive admission to all of the institution's regular season home intercollegiate athletic contests in the first academic year of residence.

Hosting a Prospective Student-Athlete

1. The student host must be enrolled in the member institution being visited by the prospect.
2. The student host must be a "Qualifier" or "Partial Qualifier" out of high school. Nonqualifiers may not serve as a student host during the first academic year in residence.
3. The student-host may be provided complimentary meals but must be accompanying the prospective student-athlete during the meal(s).
4. The student-host may receive a complimentary admission to a campus athletic event, but may only use it if accompanying the prospective student-athlete to the event.
5. The student-host will be issued a maximum of $30 dollars to entertain the prospect. The student host may not give the prospective student-athlete this money or use the money to purchase souvenirs such as T-shirts or other institutional mementos for the prospective student-athlete or the student host.
6. The student-host may not travel with the prospective student-athlete outside of a 30-mile radius of the institution's main campus.

Gambling

The NCAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering. Sports wagering has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and the
intercollegiate athletics community. Sports wagering demeans the competition and competitors alike by a message that is contrary to the purposes and meaning of "sport." Sports competition should be appreciated for the inherent benefits related to participation of student-athletes, coaches and institutions in fair contests, not the amount of money wagered on the outcome of the competition.

For these reasons, the NCAA membership adopted NCAA Bylaw 10.3 prohibiting athletics department staff members and student-athletes from engaging in gambling activities as they relate to intercollegiate or professional sporting events.

NCAA Bylaw 10.3 stipulates that athletics department staff, Institutional staff that have responsibilities within or over the athletics department, conference office staff, and student-athletes shall not knowingly:

- Participate in sports wagering activities or provide information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur, or professional athletics competition;

The NCAA defines gambling on sports as putting something at risk in return for the opportunity to win something. This includes paying an entry fee or wager to win a prize or money at the conclusion of the event.

Georgia Regents University takes gambling activities very seriously and with such activities expressly prohibited. Individuals participating in any form of legal and illegal sports wagering will be sanctioned in accordance with NCAA regulations.

**Facility Regulations**

Separate issues apply to facility regulations depending on whether it is during the academic year or outside of the academic year.

- Outside of the academic year, student-athletes are required to pay the established rate at Forest Hills Golf Club and Newman Tennis Center.

- All students possessing a valid JagCard are allowed to use the Georgia Regents University Christenberry Fieldhouse (CFH) during the hours of operation. These hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Please check with your coach regarding weight room hours. Those not possessing a valid JagCard will not be admitted.

Any team use of CFH outside the normal hours of operation will be scheduled by the head coach.
Financial Aid

Athletic Scholarships - On or before July 1st of each year, all student-athletes who received institutional athletics aid during the previous academic year will receive a letter from the Office of Financial Aid stating the status of their scholarship, i.e., renewal, non-renewal, or revision to the original grant-in-aid.

Reduction or Cancellation of Financial Aid During Period: Any reduction or cancellation of an Athletic Grant-In-Aid during the award period is permissible only if such action is taken in accordance with NCAA regulations by the regular financial aid authorities and the student-athlete has been provided written notice of an opportunity for a hearing.

Georgia Regents University may not decrease a student-athlete's financial aid from the time the student-athlete signs the financial aid award letter until the conclusion of the period set forth in the financial aid agreement, except when the recipient:

- Fraudulently misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent or financial aid agreement;
- Engages in serious misconduct warranting substantial disciplinary penalty as determined by Georgia Regents University’s regular student disciplinary authority; or
- Voluntarily withdraws from a sport at any time for personal reasons.

Financial aid may not be decreased or canceled during the award period on the basis of athletic ability, performance, or contribution to the team’s success; due to injury that prevents the recipient from participating in athletics; or for any other athletics reason.

Renewal of Financial Aid: The renewal of institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletic ability shall be made on or before July 1 prior to the academic year in which it is to be effective. Georgia Regents University shall promptly notify in writing each student-athlete who received an award the previous academic year and who has eligibility remaining in the sport in which financial aid was awarded the previous academic year whether the grant has been renewed, reduced, or not renewed for the ensuing academic year. Notification of financial aid renewals, reductions, and non-renewals must come from the Office of Financial Aid and not from the athletic department.

ATHLETICS HEARING GUIDELINES

Policy
It is the policy of the Office of Financial Aid to notify the student in writing of the opportunity for a hearing if a decision has been made to reduce or cancel athletics aid during the period of the award. The same opportunity is available for students whose athletics aid is reduced or not renewed for the upcoming academic year. A student who wishes to appeal the reduction, cancellation or non-renewal of his or her athletics aid
may request an In-Person Hearing before the Financial Aid Appeals Committee by submitting a written appeal to the Office of Financial Aid that includes:

- Student’s name, student ID number, year in school, sport;
- Type and amount of previous athletics aid;
- Reasons for believing that the decision was unfair, including names of institutional staff members (e.g. coach, financial aid officer) with whom the student has discussed the aid; and
- Copies of any relevant documents that supports the student’s position.

The student should submit these materials to the Office of Financial Aid within 14 consecutive calendar days after receiving notification that the athletics aid is being reduced or cancelled.

**Attendees/Participants:**
- Student requesting the hearing (hereafter referred to as the “student”)
- Student’s advocate (if applicable)
- Representative from the GRU Department of Athletics (hereafter referred to as “athletic representative”)
- Financial Aid Appeals committee Members (hereafter referred to as the “committee”)

**Procedures:**
1. The date, time, location and purpose are stated by the chairperson of the committee.
2. All attendees/participants are introduced.
3. The student and athletic representative will have the opportunity to submit any written documentation for the committee’s review and consideration.
4. The student and athletic representative will be allowed to present an opening statement not to exceed 10 minutes.
5. The committee reserves their right to ask questions at any point during the deliberation.
6. The student and athletic representative will be allowed to present a closing statement not to exceed 10 minutes.
7. If an advocate is in attendance and wishes to make a statement, he/she may do so only during the closing remarks segment of the hearing. The statement should not exceed 10 minutes.
8. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the committee will meet to discuss the evidence presented during the hearing and to render its decision.
9. The student and athletic representative will be notified, in writing, of the committee’s decision within 15 days of the hearing.
10. The decision of the committee is final and may not be appealed.
11. An athlete who fails to appear after proper written notice will be deemed to have waived his or her right to a hearing.
The process of applying for financial aid may seem complicated, but the Financial Aid staff will work with each student to help complete the process. All financial aid programs are under one of these four categories: grants, loans, scholarships and employment opportunities. The annual financial aid application deadlines for each term are as follows: Fall Semester – April 1; Spring Semester – October 1; and Summer Semester – March 1. You are expected to submit all required applications and support documents prior to the published financial aid application deadline for the chosen enrollment term. Failure to do so may result in incurring your own educational expenses until your financial aid can be processed.

The Office of Financial Aid is located in Fanning Hall on the Summerville campus and can be reached at (706) 737-1431.

Financial Aid from Outside Sources

Any type of outside grant or scholarship received MUST be:

- Reported to the respective head coach and the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academic Services. It is imperative! Failure to do so could jeopardize the team's eligibility as well as the student-athlete's eligibility.
- Reported to the Director of Financial Aid at Georgia Regents University.

NOTE: A student-athlete may receive financial aid from anyone upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent, i.e., parents and legal guardians.

Aid After Eligibility Exhausted - The Sherrill Classic Order Physical Education Scholarship “SCOPE Scholarship” was established to give student-athletes who have exhausted their eligibility and maintained high academic standards a chance to finish their education. In order for a student-athlete to be considered for an award of this scholarship, the following criteria must apply to recipients of these funds:

- Adjusted GPA must be 2.0 or above.
- Applicant must be 18 semester hours or less away from graduation.
- Applicant must be a student-athlete who has exhausted his or her eligibility.
- Applicant must have received athletic aid.

After a student-athlete determines that he/she does meet the above criteria, the student shall submit to the athletics department the SCOPE Scholarship Application and all supporting documentation. The athletics department must receive the completed application by the following date for the scholarship, if awarded, to take effect:

- Fall Semester – August 1
- Spring Semester – November 1
- Summer Semester – May 1
The SCOPE scholarship may cover a portion of In-State tuition, fees, and books on a semester-to-semester basis. The student-athlete must resubmit an application for the second semester if aid is needed. The number of scholarships and the amount of each award will be determined by the allocated funds available and by the total number of applications received. Each applicant will be evaluated on character, financial need, and athletic/academic achievements during his/her college career. Recipients of the scholarship will be notified in writing two weeks before the semester begins.

**Loans and Pell Grants** - Several loans and grants could be available. Check with the Office of Financial Aid for more information. **NOTE:** Due to early deadlines of loans and grants, it is recommended to apply as early as possible.

**Residency – In-State/Out-of-State**

A person’s legal residence is his or her dwelling place. It is the place where he or she is generally understood to reside with the intent of remaining there indefinitely and returning there when absent. Reference the [2015-16 Georgia Regents University Undergraduate Catalog](#) for a complete explanation and rules regarding In-State and Out of State Residency.

Should you apply for a residency status change to "In-State" and GRU officially informs you of this change, **it is your responsibility to notify the Athletics Business Manager.**

**NOTE:** The Department of Athletics does not control residency; the rules and regulations are set forth by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents. Questions should be addressed to the Office of Admissions, (706) 737-1632.

**Student- Athlete Employment**

Earnings from a student-athlete's on- or off-campus employment that occurs at any time is exempt and is not counted in determining a student-athlete's cost of attendance or in the institution's financial limitations, provided:

- The student-athlete's compensation does not include remuneration ("payment" or "benefit") for value or utility the student-athlete may have for the employer because of the student-athlete's status and/or athletics ability;

- The student-athlete is compensated only for work actually performed; and

- The student-athlete is compensated at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services.
Food Stamps

A student-athlete may use food stamps under the following conditions:

- No special arrangements are made on the part of the athletics department.
- The food stamps are available to anyone in the student body who meets the qualifications.

What is a Booster/Representative of Athletics Interest?

You are a Booster or Representative of Athletic Interests, if you:

- Have participated in, or ever have been, a member of the JAGUAR CLUB that supports Georgia Regents University Athletics.
- Are an EMPLOYEE at Georgia Regents University
- Have made any financial contribution to the Georgia Regents University Department of Athletics or any athletic organization of the University.
- Have been involved in the recruitment of a prospective student-athlete or have been asked to assist in the recruitment of a prospective student-athlete.
- Have provided or are providing benefits to an enrolled student-athlete or his/her relatives or friends.
- Have otherwise been involved in promoting the Georgia Regents University athletic program.
- Have helped arrange employment for student-athletes
- Are a parent or guardian of an enrolled student-athlete
- Are or have ever been a season-ticket holder

NOTE: Once someone has been identified as a Booster, he/she retains that identity forever.

Extra Benefits Defined:

The NCAA defines an extra benefit as any special arrangement by an INSTITUTIONAL EMPLOYEE or a REPRESENTATIVE OF ATHLETIC INTERESTS for a prospective or current student-athlete or the student-athlete’s relatives or friends.

Examples of extra benefits include, but are not limited to:
- Cash
- Gifts
- Monetary loans or cosigning of loans
- A vehicle or use of a vehicle
- Payment for or the arrangement of transportation
- Free or reduced cost goods or services
- Free or reduced cost housing

QUICK REMINDER

Preferential Treatment

A student-athlete may not accept any preferential treatment, benefits or services because of the individual’s athletics reputation or skill or pay-back potential as a professional athlete.

Student-athletes who receive any extra benefits are immediately ineligible for intercollegiate competition, they must repay the entire amount of the benefit, and they often must petition to the NCAA for reinstatement.
of their eligibility. In cases in which boosters provide the extra benefit, the NCAA or the institution often impose penalties related to disassociation of the booster from the athletic program.

Enrolled Student-Athletes:

**What contact can Boosters have with currently enrolled student-athletes?**

A booster may not provide a student-athlete any benefit or special arrangement that would not be offered to the rest of the general student population. This includes, but is not limited to:

- May not entertain student-athletes or their friends or family;
- May not use the name or picture of an enrolled student-athlete to advertise, recommend, or promote any product or service;
- May not provide awards or gifts to student-athletes;
- May not allow a student-athlete to use a telephone to make free calls or allow use of a free or discounted automobile; and
- May not provide a student-athlete free or reduced cost goods or services.

**NOTE:** An enrolled student-athlete may be invited to a booster's home for an occasional home-cooked meal, but may not be taken to a restaurant.

Boosters may participate in organized institutional community engagement activities with enrolled student-athletes.

**BOOSTERS AND RECRUITING INVOLVEMENT**

**What is a prospective student-athlete?**

A prospective student-athlete is any person who has begun classes in the ninth grade. A prospective student-athlete remains so even after signing a National Letter of Intent or accepting financial aid and until he/she reports for the first day of classes.

**What are Boosters prohibited from doing?**

- Contacting a prospect in-person or off-campus. *Note: boosters may contact Division II prospective student-athletes during an on-campus visit only*.
- Writing or telephoning a prospective or member of the prospect's family.
- Making arrangements for the prospect or the prospect's relatives or friends to receive money or financial aid.
- Providing transportation for a prospect or the prospect's family or friends to visit the campus.
- Providing free tickets or reduced-priced tickets to attend an athletic event to the prospect or the prospect's family or friends.
What are Boosters permitted to do?

- Notify coaches about prospects in the area.
- Attend athletics contests where prospects compete, but may not contact the prospect or the prospect’s relatives.
- Continue existing friendships with families of prospects, but not engage in recruiting activities (soliciting the prospect for ultimate enrollment and participation in the athletics program at GRU).
- Participate with prospects in organized institutional community engagement activities where prospects reside within a 100-mile radius of the location.

Contact the Athletics Compliance Office for additional information. Remember: Whenever in doubt about a gift, benefit, or service, ASK First! A violation of these rules could result in loss of eligibility.

Outside Competition

Generally, competition by a current GRU student-athlete on an outside team is prohibited. Student-athletes will lose eligibility if such participation occurs. Penalties can range in severity; ineligibility may be for an entire year or entire academic career.

There are exceptions for specific sports and summer activities. Due to the complexities of these rules, each student-athlete must notify both his/her head coach and the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academic Services before participation.

Promotional Activities, Commercial Advertisements

Student-athletes are permitted to participate in community engagement activities as well as Georgia Regents University promotional activities. Student-athletes are NOT permitted to participate in commercial advertisements or promote the sale of a commercial product. Any questions regarding these activities should be directed to the Director of Athletics or the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academic Services.

Five-Year, 10-Semester Rule

A student-athlete must complete four (4) seasons of participation during the first ten (10) semesters in which the student is enrolled in a full-time program of studies. Note: For Division I Men's and Women’s Golf, the student-athlete MUST complete four (4) seasons of participation within five (5) CONTINUOUS years from the first full-time enrollment as a collegiate student.
Athletic Program Evaluation

A student-athlete survey was developed by the GRU Office of Institutional Effectiveness in conjunction with the Athletics Department and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. It is requested that each student-athlete complete the survey at the end of his/her sport season. The survey is anonymous unless the student-athlete voluntarily provides his/her name. The results will be used to improve Athletics Department processes as well as address issues raised by student-athletes.

I, __________________________________________, have read and made myself familiar with the information contained in the 2015-2016 Jaguar Student-Athlete Handbook. Any questions I had were brought to the attention of my coach and/or the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academic Services and addressed accordingly.

By signing this form, I understand and agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this Handbook.

________________________________________  ______________  __________________
STUDENT-ATHLETE NAME  DATE  SPORT