

**May 7, 2008 Revision**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA  
STUDENT- ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT**

**I. Introduction**

This Student-Athlete Code of Conduct is designed to alert you, the student-athlete, to the behavior expected of you, and to the potential consequences that your behavior may have on your status as a student-athlete.

All student-athletes are members of The University of Iowa's student body. You are a student first, and your participation in intercollegiate athletics derives from your status as a student. Accordingly, all University policies governing student conduct apply to you.

In addition, your participation in the University's intercollegiate athletics program is governed by policies and procedures put into effect by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA); the Big Ten Conference (Big Ten), and the Board of Regents, State of Iowa. Your participation in the University's intercollegiate athletics program is also governed by all University of Iowa's Department of Athletics' rules and procedures as set forth in the Student-Athlete Handbook, including the Department of Athletics' Substance Abuse Policies, and Recruiting and Student-Host Guidelines.

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

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

There are two types of misconduct that may affect your ability to fully participate in the University's intercollegiate athletic program: "Category I Misconduct" and "Category II Misconduct."

**A. Category I Misconduct**

Any of the following acts by a student-athlete is Category I misconduct:

- Violation of a criminal law that is classified as a felony by the State of Iowa;
- Violation of a term of probation or other condition imposed by a court in a criminal proceeding; or
- Serious violation of a term of probation or other condition imposed by a University official or the Department of Athletics Administrator.

A student-athlete is determined to have committed Category I misconduct when:

- The student-athlete is convicted of, does not contest (e.g., a guilty or *nolo contendere* plea), or receives a deferred judgment for a crime that is classified as a felony by the State of Iowa; or
- The student-athlete is found by a court to have violated a court-imposed term of probation or other condition; or
- The student-athlete is found by the Director of Athletics, in consultation with the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), to have violated a term of probation or other condition imposed by the Department of Athletics or a University official, and the conduct underlying the violation of probation or condition represents a substantial lack of compliance with the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct.

1. **Preliminary Action:** The Director of Athletics, at his or her discretion, may take preliminary action to temporarily suspend a student-athlete from participation in practice or competition and/or access to athletic department services when the Director of Athletics has verified that felony criminal charges have been filed against a student-athlete or when there is specific and credible information (e.g., arrest records, statements of law enforcement officers, University records, third-party or witness statements, or acknowledgement by the student-athlete) for reasonably believing that a student-athlete may have committed Category I misconduct.
2. **Sanctions for Category I Misconduct:** The Director of Athletics, in consultation with the FAR and appropriate University officials, will determine from specific and credible information whether there is a reasonable basis for concluding that the student-athlete has committed Category I misconduct. Thereafter, the Director of Athletics shall suspend the student-athlete from participation in practice, competition, and/or from receiving services provided by the Department of Athletics.
3. **Termination of scholarship benefits:** The Director of Athletics may pursue revocation or modification of athletically-related financial aid, such as a scholarship, as a consequence of any and all Category I misconduct. Any action to revoke or modify athletically-related financial aid will be in accordance with NCAA procedures and University procedures as outlined in the Student-Athlete Handbook.

## B. Category II Misconduct

Any of the following acts by a student-athlete is Category II misconduct:

- Violation of a criminal law that is not classified as a felony by the State of Iowa, including laws pertaining to alcohol (e.g., Operating While Intoxicated –OWI; Possessing Alcohol Under the Legal Age - PAULA);
- Violation of a term of probation imposed by a University official or Department of Athletics Administrator that does not constitute Category I misconduct;
- Violation of a Department of Athletics policy; or
- Violation of University policies, rules, and/or regulations, including:
  - The University of Iowa’s Code of Student Life;
  - Academic dishonesty in violation of University, college, school, or department standards;
  - Violation of any University student conduct regulation; or
  - Willfully giving false and malicious information to a University official.

A student-athlete is determined to have committed Category II misconduct when:

- The student-athlete is convicted of, does not contest (e.g., a guilty or *nolo contendere* plea) or receives deferred judgment for a crime that is not a felony;
- The student-athlete is found by a court to have violated a term of court-imposed probation or other condition, and the conduct underlying the violation of probation or other condition does not constitute Category I misconduct;
- The student-athlete is determined by the Director of Athletics to have violated a **Department of Athletics policy**, or a term of probation or other condition imposed by the Department of Athletics and the conduct underlying the violation of probation or other condition does not constitute Category I misconduct; or
- A University official or hearing body has determined, in accordance with its official procedures, that the student-athlete has violated a University or college policy, rule, and/ or regulation.

1. **Sanctions for Category II Misconduct:** The Director of Athletics will determine from specific and credible information that there is a reasonable basis for concluding that the student-athlete has committed Category II misconduct. The Director of Athletics shall determine the appropriate sanction after consulting with the student-athlete’s Head Coach and assigned Sport Administrator. The Director of Athletics may also consult with the FAR and appropriate University officials for recommendations regarding the appropriate sanction(s).

Sanctions for Category II misconduct may include, but are not limited to: warning, reprimand, probation with or without conditions, requirements for restitution, conditions to encourage personal rehabilitation (e.g., counseling and community service), conditions related to satisfactory

academic performance, suspension from practice, suspension from competition, and/or suspension from access to athletic departmental services.

### **III. Notice**

If the University has a reasonable belief that a student-athlete committed misconduct (Category I or Category II) that is sufficiently serious to warrant a suspension of 10 days or more, the Director of Athletics shall take the following action before making a determination that the student-athlete indeed has committed the misconduct in question: (i) notify the student-athlete and University officials of the specific charge(s) of misconduct and substantiation concerning the charges; and (ii) provide an opportunity for a meeting at which the student-athlete may explain the circumstances, orally or by submission of a written statement.

The Director of Athletics shall notify the student-athlete and appropriate University officials, in writing, of any decision to impose sanctions based on misconduct under this Code of Conduct. If a sanction is imposed, the written notice shall include a complete description of the appeal procedures available to the affected student-athlete.

### **IV. Appeal**

A student-athlete may appeal any sanction that suspends participation in practice, competition, and/or services provided by the Department of Athletics pursuant to grievance procedures provided in the Student-Athlete Handbook. A student-athlete may also appeal a revocation or modification of athletically-related financial aid in accordance with NCAA procedures and University procedures as outlined in the Student-Athlete Handbook. In addition, other appeal processes may be used by a student-athlete in accordance with applicable University policies.

As set forth by the Student-Athlete Handbook, a student-athlete may not contest on appeal:

- Any underlying determination of responsibility rendered by a court or other civil authority; or
- Any underlying determination of responsibility rendered by a University official or hearing body in accordance with official procedures.

If there is a substantial change in circumstances affecting a student-athlete who has been suspended from participation in practice, competition, and/or services provided by the Department of Athletics, the student-athlete may petition the Director of Athletics to review the changed circumstances. The student-athlete may submit a written statement in support of the request. Thereafter, the Director of Athletics shall consult with the FAR and other appropriate University officials on whether the suspension should be modified. If circumstances warrant a change in a suspension, a student-athlete may be

reinstated by the Director of Athletics to resume participation in practice, competition, and/or services provided by the Department of Athletics.

Dismissal or reduction of a criminal charge is a change of circumstance that may or may not justify revision of a suspension from participation in practice, competition, and/or services provided by the Department of Athletics.

## **V. Dismissal**

The student-athlete may be dismissed from all elements of participation in intercollegiate athletics when the Director of Athletics, in consultation with the coach, the FAR, the Chair of the Presidential Committee on Athletics, and other appropriate University officials, determines that either the severity or the frequency of the misconduct necessitates the dismissal. A student-athlete who has been dismissed from participation in practice, competition, and/or services provided by the Department of Athletics shall be provided the opportunity to appeal the decision consistent with grievance procedures explained in the Student-Athlete Handbook.

## **VI. Records and Privacy**

Records of misconduct and actions taken will be maintained in your education record within the Office of the Associate Athletics Director for Student Services and Compliance. These records are subject to state and federal privacy protection, as well as University policies regarding confidentiality.

Notification to the public regarding your eligibility for intercollegiate competition shall be limited to your name and eligibility status, public information, and information that is not part of your education record subject to the privacy protections noted above.

## **VII. Review of Policy**

This Code of Conduct will be reviewed within three years after the latest revisions are implemented and revised as appropriate. This policy is subject to review at any other time deemed necessary by the President, the Presidential Committee on Athletics, the Director of Athletics, or the General Counsel.