

Bowdoin College

Student-Athlete Handbook



2023 - 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

Athletics at Bowdoin are an integral part of the College's educational mission. Through the pursuit of victory, student-athletes are challenged to reach the highest levels of achievement in all areas. The lessons learned through participation lead to more than wins on the playing field. Those lessons also promote success in the classroom, develop leadership qualities, encourage the acceptance of responsibility and aid students in leading more successful and fulfilling lives.

Intercollegiate competition at Bowdoin offers experiences rich with camaraderie and excitement to a broad cross section of the student body.

Contests provide an opportunity for the entire community to come together. As such, student athletes are expected to be positive representatives of the school. Polar Bear athletes take pride in their accomplishments, commitment, effort, and integrity. At Bowdoin, coaches attract quality student-athletes and serve as their mentors and teachers. They provide an environment that is goal oriented, challenging, and positive.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Tim Ryan	Director of Athletics	725-3247	tryan@bowdoin.edu
Alice Wiercinski	Senior Woman Administrator	798-4342	awiercin@bowdoin.edu
Katie Greene	Diversity Equity & Inclusion Coord.	725-3142	kgreene@bowdoin.edu
Robert Sobak	Faculty Athletics Representative	725-3664	rsobak@bowdoin.edu
Liz Grote	NCAA Compliance Coordinator	798-4148	egrote@bowdoin.edu
Kevin Loney	Asst. AD for Facilities & Events	725-3492	kloney@bowdoin.edu
Dan Davies	Asst. AD for Sports Performance	725-3018	ddavies@bowdoin.edu
Neil Willey	Dir. of Strength & Conditioning	725-3805	nwilley@bowdoin.edu
Jim Caton	Asst. AD for Communications.	725-3254	jcaton@bowdoin.edu

PRACTICE AND COMPETITION SCHEDULES & ACADEMIC CONFLICTS

Athletics and other extra-curricular activities are a crucial component of the Bowdoin community. However, when conflicts between athletic participation and academic commitments arise, students are expected to place highest priority on their academic experience (it is a NCAA violation to miss class or a lab for regular season practices, team meetings, pre-game meals and out-of-season conditioning sessions). Student-athletes should be prepared to be flexible with their extra-curricular schedule. Though the College tries to schedule athletic competitions in order to minimize academic conflicts, there may be instances where travel plans conflict with the academic schedule. It is imperative that students communicate with their professors about conflicts with their class schedule at the beginning of their season. Accommodation requests for post-season competition should be communicated to professors immediately upon being made aware of our contest schedule. Faculty members are asked, but not required, to make reasonable accommodations to allow for extracurricular participation. Please refer to the College's "How to Manage Time Conflicts during the Academic Year" document for additional helpful information.

OUT-OF-SEASON ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Per NESCAC guidelines, all out-of-season athletic activity outside of the development segment is voluntary and should not conflict with the academic schedule. Coaches and players are not permitted to take attendance or report information regarding out-of-season activities to staff members. As such, under NESCAC guidelines, there can be no correlation between participation

in offseason activity and being part of an athletic team. In the NESCAC, permissible out-of-season activities include team community service activities and educational programming including leadership, alcohol and hazing education. Students may volunteer to work in sport-based youth clinics provided clinics are conducted when classes are not in session and clinics are conducted not more than twice in any given sport in an academic year. Members of teams may not participate as a team or small group, or represent Bowdoin, in pickup leagues not affiliated with Bowdoin.

NCAA and NESCAC COMPLIANCE

NCAA Banned Substances – Student-athletes will be provided with a list of banned drugs and prohibited procedures by their athletic trainer at the beginning of the academic year. Student-athletes will be subject to drug testing during post-season competition, with positive tests resulting in a loss of eligibility.

Gambling – Online gambling, soliciting, or accepting wagers on any intercollegiate competition (for any item) and gambling at a casino or horse track is prohibited by the NCAA and student-athletes found to have participated in gambling activities will be subject to a loss of eligibility.

Transfer Request – Students are required to complete a NCAA self-release (DIII to DIII) or receive an institutional release from Bowdoin (DIII to DI or DII) prior to contact with other institutions. Student-athletes interested in learning about the transfer process should contact our Compliance Coordinator, Liz Grote (egrote@bowdoin.edu) or Tim Ryan.

* Please consult the [Code of Community Standards](#) for College policy and reporting information regarding [sexual misconduct](#), [hazing](#), and [bias incidents](#).

HAZING

Bowdoin [defines hazing](#) broadly to include *any activity that is part of an initiation or admission into a group or is required for continued acceptance in a group* that encompasses one or more of the following:

- physically or psychologically embarrasses, demeans, degrades, abuses, or endangers someone regardless of that person's willingness to participate;
- categorizes members of the group bases upon seniority or standing or otherwise emphasizes the relative power imbalance of newer members;
- involves the consumption of alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
- removes, damages, or destroys property;
- results in the disruption of college or community activities, the educational process, or the impairment of academic performance;
- violates a college policy and/or a state law.

Hazing is strictly prohibited and as such, no student, student organization, athletic team, other College-recognized group or association shall conduct, condone, aid, or participate as a witness in hazing activities, whether consensual or not. In addition to individual and team disciplinary action imposed by the College, students who engage in hazing could find themselves subject to criminal prosecution by legal authorities. Contact Tim Ryan with questions or concerns.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Sexual Harassment will not be tolerated at the College. Sexual Harassment, as defined under Title IX and described further in Bowdoin's Student and Employee [Title IX Policy](#), means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following: (1) quid pro quo sexual harassment by

an employee; (2) unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would consider so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive as to deny the victim equal access to the College's Education Program or Activity; or (3) sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking. Additional information regarding this policy can be found on the College's [Title IX website](#).

The College offers alternative options to resolve Formal Complaints of Sexual Harassment (except that an alternative resolution process is not available in matters involving an allegation that an Employee sexually harassed a student). The options are designed to provide prompt, fair and impartial resolution of Formal Complaints as well as an opportunity for parties to present their versions of the incident and to understand the nature of the incident and its effects on each party and on the College community. The options differ in their procedures and potential results. In all instances, the timeline for resolution of Formal Complaints moves as expeditiously as is possible. The College recognizes the importance of the availability of confidential reporting, and, to that end, there are several Bowdoin community members to whom students can report sexual harassment and who will not disclose identifying details of such reports to the Title IX Coordinator. Cases of sexual misconduct that may not meet the regulatory definition of Title IX may nevertheless violate College policy, including, but not limited to, the Code of Community Standards. For more information or resources on this matter, contact Director of Gender Violence Prevention and Health Education Rachel Reinke (rreinke@bowdoin.edu).

HOSTING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Prospective students/recruits visiting during the day or overnight are to abide by all College policies. Hosts of prospective students are responsible for assuring their guests abide by the guidelines set forth in the visit consent forms the prospect has signed, and especially as it relates to alcohol. Prospective students are prohibited from consuming alcohol while visiting campus.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Student-athletes should not post photographs, video, narrative descriptions, or other content depicting or describing themselves or teammates from any team gathering, event, or social gathering or any other event that reflects negatively on Bowdoin College, Bowdoin Athletics, or the student-athletes' team. Student-athletes are reminded that future employers regularly view applicants' social media platforms before making hiring decisions.

Name, Image and Likeness

Bowdoin College is supportive of its students being able to control and monetize their personal name, image, and likeness (NIL). The College recognizes that rules and laws regarding NIL are evolving, and the College may change its policy as applicable rules or laws are implemented. Current NCAA guidelines prohibit student-athletes from participating in a "pay for play" agreement and [Bowdoin's NIL policy](#) prohibits students from utilizing College logos, facilities or staff in the development of NIL content. For more information, please contact our Compliance Coordinator, Liz Grote (egrote@bowdoin.edu).

LGBTQ INCLUSIVITY

Bowdoin College is specific and assertive in the protection of all community members: respect for the rights of all and for the differences among us is essential to the health of the Bowdoin community and our athletic community on campus. Discrimination or harassment of others because of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, age, marital status, place of birth, veteran status or against qualified individuals

with disabilities on the basis of disability has no place in an intellectual community, especially within athletics at Bowdoin. The NCAA and the College have guidelines in place regarding transgender participation in inter-collegiate athletics. For more information regarding LGBTQ participation in athletics, contact Director of Gender Violence Prevention and Health Education Rachel Reinke (rreinke@bowdoin.edu), Tim Ryan, or Alice Wiercinski (awiercin@bowdoin.edu).

ATHLETIC TRAINING

Student-athletes are expected to arrive early for appointments with our athletic training staff, team physician and physical therapy providers. Bowdoin and physical therapy equipment such as crutches, braces, scooters, TEN's units, etc. must be returned after rehabilitation is complete or the student-athlete will be charged for the associated replacement costs. If a student needs to cancel an appointment, please do so 24 hours in advance. For more information or questions, contact Dan Davies (ddavies@bowdoin.edu).

EQUIPMENT

Uniform, apparel, and other equipment is College property. Equipment and uniforms are required to be returned at the end of each athletic season. If equipment or uniforms are not returned on time, the student using the equipment will be charged twice the price of unreturned equipment due to the difficulties associated with uniform and apparel replacement (matching items, etc.). For more information, contact Chappy Nelson (cnelson@bowdoin.edu).

BOWDOIN ATHLETES of COLOR COALITION

It is the mission of the Athletes of Color Coalition (AOCC) to advocate for student-athletes of color at Bowdoin regardless of their sport, race, class, sexuality, or gender identity. The group is open to all varsity and club athletes of color, providing a support system in which student-athletes of color can freely discuss their respective experiences on and off the playing field, on a predominately white campus, in a predominately white athletic league. The organization is designed to foster communication between the Bowdoin Athletic Department and its athletes of color as well as to create dialogue surrounding the experiences of athletes of color to the broader Bowdoin community. Assistant Soccer Coach Andrew Banadda (a.banadda@bowdoin.edu) and Assistant Track & Field Coach Marques Houston (m.houston@bowdoin.edu) work closely with the AOCC and are available to assist with questions or concerns.

BOWDOIN STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BSAAC)

The mission of the BSAAC is to enhance the total student-athlete experience by protecting and nurturing the health and well-being of all student-athletes. The committee consists of representatives from each athletic program and serves as the liaison between the student-athletes and College administrators. In addition, the BSAAC promotes athletic events on campus and is actively engaged in a number of community service projects, including the NCAA's partnership with the Special Olympics. For more information, contact Head Women's Basketball Coach Megan Phelps (mphelps2@bowdoin.edu).

Essential Equipment and Apparel Assistance

Students in need of financial support for the purchase of essential equipment and/or apparel for participation in a varsity athletic program are encouraged to contact their Head Coach. In addition, request can be made through Bowdoin's [Supplemental Funding Request](#) form.

Bowdoin Athletics Twitter and Instagram: @goubears

Athletics Website: www.goubears.com