

**BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY**



**STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK**  
**&**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT**

## *A Letter from the Athletic Director*

Dear Yellow Jacket Student-Athlete,

Welcome to the 2023-24 academic year! I hope that your experience this year is one that is rewarding and enriching. BHSU Athletics have an impressive record of success both in the classroom and on the playing surface. A commitment to becoming your best self by striving for excellence in the classroom and on the playing surface will maximize your experience and make it profoundly meaningful. We are happy that you have joined us. The BHSU Athletics Department is committed to creating an environment that allows for your success and development in all areas; academically, physically, and socially. As a BHSU student-athlete, you are held to a high standard. When reviewing this handbook, please pay particular attention to the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct that outlines our expectations of you. The information contained in this handbook has been developed with the values and mission of Black Hills State University in mind. You have an amazing opportunity during your time at BHSU and I encourage you to take advantage of that opportunity. I can't express how excited I am that you are here and look forward to getting to know you and watching your development in our athletics program.

Go Jackets!

### ***Scott Larson***

Director of Athletics  
Black Hills State University

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# **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT STAFF DIRECTORY**

## **NAME, POSITION, EMAIL, PHONE, UNIT, OFFICE**

BHSU Athletic Department, 1200 University St, Unit 9424, Spearfish, SD 57799

For off-campus calling: All Black Hills State University phone numbers begin (605)642-xxxx

### **ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION**

Scott Larson, Athletic Director, [Scott.Larson@bhsu.edu](mailto:Scott.Larson@bhsu.edu), 6885, Unit 9424, YC115  
Kristin Carmichael, Asst. AD – Student-Athlete Success/SWA, [Kristin.Carmichael@bhsu.edu](mailto:Kristin.Carmichael@bhsu.edu), 6259, Unit 9410, YC114  
Jade Temple, Asst. AD – Compliance, [Jade.Temple@bhsu.edu](mailto:Jade.Temple@bhsu.edu), 6630, Unit 9400, YC 113  
Thayer Trenhaile, Asst. AD - External Operations, [Thayer.Trenhaile@bhsu.edu](mailto:Thayer.Trenhaile@bhsu.edu), 6460, Unit 9506, Joy Center  
Riley Baker, Asst. AD – Communications, [Riley.Baker@bhsu.edu](mailto:Riley.Baker@bhsu.edu), 6832, Unit 9428, YC 111  
Bryce Johnson, Asst. Director – Athletic Comm/Video Content, [Bryce.Johnson@bhsu.edu](mailto:Bryce.Johnson@bhsu.edu), Unit 9428, YC 100  
Nicky Winterstein, Athletic Events & Facilities Manager, [Nicky.Winterstein@bhsu.edu](mailto:Nicky.Winterstein@bhsu.edu), 6003, Unit 9409 YC  
Mandy Baur, Athletics Business Manager, [Mandy.Baur@bhsu.edu](mailto:Mandy.Baur@bhsu.edu), 6882, Unit 9409, YC  
Randy Doran, Faculty Athletic Representative, [Randall.Doran@bhsu.edu](mailto:Randall.Doran@bhsu.edu), 6505, Unit 9021, Jonas Science 159

### **ATHLETIC TRAINING/ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE**

Shaun Skavang, Athletic Trainer, [Shaun.Skavang@bhsu.edu](mailto:Shaun.Skavang@bhsu.edu), 6001, Unit 9403, YCA101  
Kylie Daugherty, Athletic Trainer, [Kylie.Daugherty@bhsu.edu](mailto:Kylie.Daugherty@bhsu.edu), 6001, Unit 9403, YCA 103  
Austin Westland, Athletic Trainer, [Austin.Westland@bhsu.edu](mailto:Austin.Westland@bhsu.edu), 6001, Unit 9403, YCA 101  
Kellan Anderson, Athletic Performance Co-Director, [Kellan.Anderson@bhsu.edu](mailto:Kellan.Anderson@bhsu.edu), 6314, Unit 9415, YC 139  
Clayton Koch, Athletic Performance Co-Director [Clayton.Koch@bhsu.edu](mailto:Clayton.Koch@bhsu.edu), 6314, Unit 9415, YC 139

### **MEN'S BASKETBALL**

Ryan Thompson, Head Coach, [Ryan.Thompson@bhsu.edu](mailto:Ryan.Thompson@bhsu.edu), 6607, Unit 9426, YC 104  
Makaleb McInnis, Assistant Coach, [Makaleb.McInnis@bhsu.edu](mailto:Makaleb.McInnis@bhsu.edu), 6959, Unit 9419, YC 210

### **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

Mark Nore, Head Coach, [Mark.Nore@bhsu.edu](mailto:Mark.Nore@bhsu.edu), 6886, Unit 9407, YC 112  
Hope Bonlander, Associate Head Coach, [Hope.Bonlander@bhsu.edu](mailto:Hope.Bonlander@bhsu.edu), 6884, Unit 9408, YC 210

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

Brian Medigovich, Director of Track and Field and Cross Country, Head Coach,  
[Brian.Medigovich@bhsu.edu](mailto:Brian.Medigovich@bhsu.edu), 6486, Unit 9412, YC 105  
Maggie Davis, Assistant Cross Country Coach, [Mary.Davis@bhsu.edu](mailto:Mary.Davis@bhsu.edu)

### **FOOTBALL**

Josh Breske, Head Coach, [Josh.Breske@bhsu.edu](mailto:Josh.Breske@bhsu.edu), 6036, Unit 9404, YC 103  
JB Brown, Assistant Coach, [JB.Brown@bhsu.edu](mailto:JB.Brown@bhsu.edu), 6008, Unit 9421, YC 226A  
Ben Blake, Assistant Coach, [Ben.Blake@bhsu.edu](mailto:Ben.Blake@bhsu.edu), 6009, Unit 9420, YC 226B  
Jonathan Cervantes, Assistant Coach, [Jonathan.Cervantes@bhsu.edu](mailto:Jonathan.Cervantes@bhsu.edu), 6449, Unit 9416, YC 236  
Drake Davidson, Assistant Coach, [Drake.Davidson@bhsu.edu](mailto:Drake.Davidson@bhsu.edu), 6944, Unit 9416, YC 236  
Brendan Hopkins, Assistant Coach, [Brendan.Hopkins@bhsu.edu](mailto:Brendan.Hopkins@bhsu.edu), 6944, Unit 9416, YC 238

### **WOMEN'S GOLF**

Randy Doran, Interim Head Coach, [Randall.Doran@bhsu.edu](mailto:Randall.Doran@bhsu.edu), 6096, Unit 9410, YC 100

### **WOMEN'S SOCCER**

John Hutchison, Head Coach, [John.Hutchison@bhsu.edu](mailto:John.Hutchison@bhsu.edu), 6973, Unit 9414, YC 106

### **SOFTBALL**

Ashlyn Englehorn, Head Coach, [Ashlyn.Englehorn@bhsu.edu](mailto:Ashlyn.Englehorn@bhsu.edu), 6881, Unit 9418, YC107

### **TRACK AND FIELD**

Austin Billings, Head Coach, [Austin.Billings@bhsu.edu](mailto:Austin.Billings@bhsu.edu), Unit 9413, YC 108  
Matthew Cahoon, Assistant Coach, [Matthew.Cahoon@bhsu.edu](mailto:Matthew.Cahoon@bhsu.edu), Unit 9413, YC 108

### **WOMEN'S TRIATHLON**

Connie Feist, Head Coach, [Connie.Feist@bhsu.edu](mailto:Connie.Feist@bhsu.edu), 605-631-0141, Unit 9410 YC Aquatics Center Office

### **VOLLEYBALL**

Brianne Davis, Head Coach, [Brianne.Davis@bhsu.edu](mailto:Brianne.Davis@bhsu.edu), 6870, Unit 9417, YC 111  
Dillon Dahl, Assistant Coach, [Dillon.Dahl@bhsu.edu](mailto:Dillon.Dahl@bhsu.edu), 6870, Unit 9417, YC 210

### **RODEO**

Glen Lammers, Head Coach, [Glen.Lammers@bhsu.edu](mailto:Glen.Lammers@bhsu.edu), 6582, Unit 9406, YC 116

### **CHEERLEADING**

Lacey Doyle, Head Coach, [Lacey.Doyle@bhsu.edu](mailto:Lacey.Doyle@bhsu.edu)

# **BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

## **Vision Statement**

Black Hills State University will innovate to provide cutting-edge education, promote student success, be a sustainable campus, and serve as an economic engine for western South Dakota.

## **Mission Statement**

Black Hills State University is a regional, comprehensive, public institution that provides access to higher education for aspiring students. BHSU offers a generous number of baccalaureate and select master's degrees, generates new knowledge, promotes excellence in teaching and public engagement, and serves as a regional economic leader. Graduates make significant contributions to the workforce and the betterment of their community.

## **BHSU Values**

The values identified by Black Hills State University create a culture that guide our actions and decision making. Values become intrinsic guidelines for making strategic choices that shape longer-term outcomes. Over time, living one's values will typically signal what can be expected from our institution.

*Student-Centered*

*Collaborative*

*Adaptable*

*Integrity*

*Excellence*

# **BHSU DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS INFORMATION**

## **Black Hills State University Athletics Mission Statement**

The mission of the athletics department is to provide an opportunity for student-athletes to develop and challenge their abilities through sports and provide a component of college life for all students, staff, alumni, and the community through an affiliation and membership in the NCAA Division II level of athletics.

## **Black Hills State University Athletics Philosophy Statement**

BHSU Athletics deem the educational well-being and academic success of the participating student-athletes as the primary focus for success. At BHSU, athletics places emphasis on the 'whole experience' for the student-athlete as it relates to a comprehensive program of learning and development in a personal setting in line with the NCAA DII Philosophy statement as per bylaw 20.10. "Higher education has a lasting importance on an individual's future success."

## **History of the Yellow Jacket Mascot**

The use of a Yellow Jacket as a mascot dates back to the late 1920s. According to an article in the centennial edition of the Eochia the name was first used during October 1927 football game when one of the fans jumped to her feet and yelled, "Go you Yellow Jackets, go!" in reference to the yellow-colored jackets the team wore.

Another account in the centennial yearbook relates "the football team had been known as the Yellow Jackets; a name that appeared to have derived from the horizontally striped socks worn by team members which gave them the appearance of wasp-like yellow jackets.

The Yellow Jacket Mascot was officially named Sting in 2008 after students chose the name through a vote. Sting is always a popular draw at games and other events in the community.

## **Other Yellow Jacket Facts**

Black Hills State is an NCAA Division II member. On July 12, 2010, BHSU received confirmation that its application had been accepted to become a member of NCAA Division II. On June 1, 2011, BHSU accepted membership to the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference effective for the 2012-2013 year. Prior to joining the NCAA, BHSU was a member of the NAIA and the Dakota Athletic Conference.

BHSU offers 14 NCAA DII intercollegiate varsity sports including nine sports for women and five sports for men. Women's sports include basketball, cross country, golf, indoor track and field, outdoor track and field, softball, volleyball, triathlon, and soccer. Men's sports include basketball, cross country, football, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field. Rodeo is recognized as a varsity sport for both men and women under the NIRA. BHSU also provides opportunity for participation in the BHSU Yellow Jacket Cheer Team.

## **CAMPUS RESOURCES**

TRIO Student Support Services	Ashley Kirchner SSS Program Director	605-642-6824 <a href="mailto:Ashley.Kirchner@bhsu.edu">Ashley.Kirchner@bhsu.edu</a>	Woodburn 139
BHSU Public Safety	Corey Compton Public Safety Director	605-642-6297 (8am-5pm) 605-641-6988 (after hours) <a href="mailto:publicsafety@bhsu.edu">publicsafety@bhsu.edu</a>	Woodburn 1 <sup>st</sup> floor *behind Student Success
Student Health Services	Sara Gottlob	605-642-6520 605-642-6406	Student Union Lower Level
Student Counseling Center	Rebecka Funk	605-642-6520 <a href="mailto:CounselingCenter@bhsu.edu">CounselingCenter@bhsu.edu</a>	Student Union Lower Level
BHSU Disability Services & Testing Center	Jennifer Lucero Coordinator	605-642-6099 <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Lucero@bhsu.edu">Jennifer.Lucero@bhsu.edu</a>	E.Y. Berry Library 240
Writing Assistance Center		605-642-6922 <a href="mailto:WritingCenter@bhsu.edu">WritingCenter@bhsu.edu</a>	E.Y. Berry Library 130
Math Assistance Center	Randy Doran Faculty Athletic Rep	605-642-1282 <a href="mailto:MAC@bhsu.edu">MAC@bhsu.edu</a>	E.Y. Berry Library – 140
Student Success Center & Academic Advising	Janette Hettick Director	605-642-6934 <a href="mailto:Janette.Hettick@bhsu.edu">Janette.Hettick@bhsu.edu</a>	E.Y. Berry Library 170
Computer Help Desk Information Technology Services		605-642-6580	E.Y. Berry Library 120
Student Financial Services Financial Aid		605-642-6145	Woodburn 114
Residence Life	John Ginther Director	605-642-6086 <a href="mailto:BHSUResidenceLife@bhsu.edu">BHSUResidenceLife@bhsu.edu</a>	Woodburn 124
Student Organizations, Student Engagement, & Leadership Center	Jessie Gramm	605-642-6378 <a href="mailto:Jessie.Gramm@bhsu.edu">Jessie.Gramm@bhsu.edu</a>	Student Union 211B
Career Development	Jin Woo Kim Director	605-642-6269 <a href="mailto:Careers@bhsu.edu">Careers@bhsu.edu</a>	E.Y. Berry Library 175
Title IX	Dr. Breon Derby Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Breon.Derby@bhsu.edu">Breon.Derby@bhsu.edu</a> 605-642-6977	Young Center 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Academic Offices
Mail Services	Jimmy Roberts	605-642-6396 <a href="mailto:Jimmy.Roberts@bhsu.edu">Jimmy.Roberts@bhsu.edu</a>	Student Union Basement Room 005
Admissions	Joe Rainboth Director	605-642-6411 <a href="mailto:Joe.Rainboth@bhsu.edu">Joe.Rainboth@bhsu.edu</a>	Woodburn 107
Registration & Records	April Meeker Registrar	605-642-6567 <a href="mailto:April.Meeker@bhsu.edu">April.Meeker@bhsu.edu</a>	Woodburn 103
Student & Academic Affairs	Jane Klug Dean of Students	605-642-6080 <a href="mailto:Jane.Klug@bhsu.edu">Jane.Klug@bhsu.edu</a>	Student Union 105E
Human Resources		605-642-6549 <a href="mailto:BHSUHumanResources@bhsu.edu">BHSUHumanResources@bhsu.edu</a>	Woodburn 202

## **EMERGENCY RESOURCES**

<b>You can always call 911 (from Campus Phone 9-911)</b>	
Campus Police/BHSU Public Safety	605-642-6297 (8am-5pm) 605-641-6988 (after hours)
BHSU Dean of Students	605-642-6080
BHSU Student Health & Counseling Services	605-642-6520
BHSU Residence Life	605-642-6464
Spearfish Police Department	605-642-1305
Lawrence County Sheriff	605-548-2230
Monument Health Spearfish Hospital	605-644-4000
National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline	988 (Call/Text/Chat)

## **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT RESOURCES**

Black Hills State University and the Department of Athletics provide numerous resources for support and assistance to students who need help with a problem, complaint, grievance, or issue. Examples include but are not limited to nonrenewal of your athletics scholarship; hazing or other abusive behaviors including sex offenses; discrimination based on sexual orientation, race, religion, or gender; substance abuse; disciplinary or legal issues; and conflict resolution.

Here are some avenues open to you if you have problems, issues, complaints, or grievances you want to address within the Athletics Department:

- Talk to your team's Captain and/or a returning/upperclassmen member of your team, their knowledge and experiences might be able to assist you.
- Reach out to a representative of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC); this group of student-athletes represents every intercollegiate sport and serves as a conduit of communication among student - athletes, coaches and athletic administrators on issues related to the student-athlete experience.
- If it is a sport or program specific issue, talk with your coaches; they are a valuable resource for you and are available to assist you.
- If you are having trouble in a class or communication with a professor, visit with your coach(es) or Randy Doran, the Faculty Athletic Representative (a BHSU faculty member appointed by the University President who serves as a liaison between Athletics and the University community), for guidance.
- If the situation or concern has to do with the coach(es) and/or you have talked to your coach(es) without resolution, then schedule a time to meet with an Athletic Department administrator or staff member including the Senior Woman Administrator-Kristin Carmichael, the Director of Compliance-Jade Temple, Faculty Athletic Representative-Randy Doran, and/or a member of the athletic training room staff.
- If you have continued issues of concern, schedule an appointment with the Director of Athletics.

## **ACADEMICS & ATHLETICS**

Student-athletes have academic responsibilities. As a student-athlete at Black Hills State University you agree:

- To take on the responsibility for handling the time and effort required to be both a scholar and a NCAA Division II athlete.
- To exhibit self-discipline in study habits and class attendance.
- To use the resources available to you.
- To understand your progress toward your degree and keep your graduation plan up to date.
- To understand the status of your eligibility and always check with the Athletic Academic Advisor, Assistant Athletic Director of Compliance, or the Faculty Athletic Representative before making any degree or schedule changes.
- To provide the Compliance Department staff with required forms and paperwork in a timely manner.
- To GRADUATE!!!!

At no time shall your participation in BHSU athletics be considered an extenuating circumstance upon which to base a request for an incomplete grade, late administration of an examination, or late submission of required work assignments. COMMUNICATION with your professors is essential to having success in the classroom.

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT (from the BHSU Student Handbook)**

Academic Misconduct means cheating or plagiarism. BHSU has a policy statement on academic misconduct, which is included in the class syllabus. For specific information about Academic Misconduct, please refer to Board of Regent Policy 2:33. If the alleged Academic Misconduct is not informally resolved through this policy, the matter will be addressed through Board Policy 3:4, Student Code of Conduct. Students accused of academic dishonesty will be subject to the University disciplinary process and can be placed on probation or even dismissed from the University. Some disciplinary sanctions can include ineligibility for participation in intercollegiate athletics, which are grounds for cancellation of athletically related financial aid.

### **Common Eligibility Concerns**

#### **Declaring or Changing a Major/Minor**

Changing or declaring a major/minor may affect your eligibility status. Due to the progress toward degree requirements, student-athletes must see an Academic Advisor, Faculty Athletic Representative, and/or Compliance Officer, prior to changing or declaring a major/minor. The timing of a major change or declaration can also affect a student - athlete's eligibility status. DO NOT MAKE A MAJOR/MINOR CHANGE OR DECLARATION WITHOUT SEEING AN ACADEMIC ADVISOR AND VISITING WITH FAR/COMPLIANCE.

#### **Repeated Courses**

Students may repeat courses during their academic career. **Repeating a course can affect eligibility.**

**STUDENT-ATHLETES MUST TALK WITH THE FAR (FACULTY ATHLETIC REPRESENTATIVE) OR THE COMPLIANCE DIRECTOR BEFORE REPEATING A COURSE.**

#### **Degree Progress**

Student-athletes are required to pass 24 credits per academic year, and at least 9 credits per semester to be eligible for the following semester. Grades received in courses that do not meet the minimum grade requirements for programs of study may not be used to meet the 24 credits per year, or the 9 credits per semester required for satisfactory academic progress.

#### **Minimum Grade Requirements for Programs of Study**

Colleges and Departments may require specific grades in courses to graduate or move forward in the degree program. This minimum grade requirement may be one or both of the following:

- a. Students maintain a minimum grade point average in a designated set of two or more courses critical to a designated undergraduate program of study, e.g., major, minor, interdisciplinary studies program, certificate program; and/or

- b. Students earn a minimum grade in a single course or in each of a designated set of courses critical to that undergraduate program. These standards are available in the catalog or in materials published by the department for student use in advising. If you are required to have a minimum grade in a course for graduation, this course will not count for satisfactory academic progress in that course unless the minimum grade is achieved.

STUDENT-ATHLETES NEED TO BE AWARE OF MINIMUM GRADE REQUIREMENTS IN THEIR PROGRAM OF STUDY. FAILURE TO MEET THESE MINIMUM GRADE REQUIREMENTS MAY AFFECT STUDENT-ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY.

#### **Registration Procedures**

When registering for courses each semester, please note:

- Returning student-athletes must first go through the pre-registration advising procedures coordinated by the student's college.
- Incoming freshmen and transfers receive advising support from academic advisors. Academic advisors must sign off and approve courses prior to registration.
- Course schedules can be arranged in accordance with workout, practice and team meeting schedule commitments. Student-athletes have priority registration due to time and schedule constraints, please make sure you take advantage of this opportunity.
- University Holds, including all personal debt (parking fines, etc.) must be cleared from student accounts to insure access to registration.

#### **Add/Drop Dates**

The University utilizes a number of different dates that allow students to add and drop courses. These dates may affect athletic eligibility and any course changes during these time periods must be discussed and approved by the FAR or the Compliance Director. Academic holds will be placed on all student-athletes.

#### **Student Transcripts**

Student-athletes may order official Black Hills State University transcripts through a secure Parchment Ordering Service. Official transcripts are \$9.00 and will be delivered electronically or through the mail. Please visit:

<https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/19520943/institution>

to order your official transcripts. *When searching for school (BHSU) you will want to search for South Dakota Board of Regents – BHSU is part of the South Dakota Board of Regents Schools.*

#### **Midterm Grade Reports**

The Athletic Department sends out midterm grade reports on all freshmen and select upper classmen. These grade reports are helpful to the student-athlete in assessing current progress in a course that may affect athletic eligibility. Coaches will receive notification of all mid-term deficiencies, which could also affect athletic scholarship awards. Student-athletes should follow-up the midterm report with a visit to the class instructor.

#### **Courses at Other Institutions**

Student-athletes are encouraged and required to take BHSU courses. Prior approval must be obtained from Black Hills State University for coursework taken at another institution to ensure that the course will meet the transfer requirements. Grades received from courses taken at other institutions may not apply to your Black Hills State University grade point average and may affect scholarships with specific requirements and athletic aid. Please visit with compliance before taking non-BHSU courses.

#### **Class Attendance Policy**

- ATTEND ALL CLASSES; pay attention while there and be on time.
- Sit near the front of the classroom and participate in class discussions.
- Get required course materials as soon as possible.
- Keep all relevant information for each class (e.g., assignments, syllabi, etc.).
- Inform your instructors and tutors of expected athletic absences.
- Attend all structured study sessions with proper materials.
- Some coaches may require ARMS Class Check In to ensure athletes are attending and participating in class.

#### **PROCESS FOR ABSENCES DUE TO COMPETITION AND TRAVEL**

It is extremely beneficial to the student-athlete to establish a positive rapport with instructors and to let them know about future absences.

- It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to provide instructors with a schedule of dates for which they will miss class due to competition and travel.
- Coaches will also email professors the week of away competitions with the travel roster as a way of tracking who is competing and missing class.

Students are to make prior arrangements with instructors and classmates for notes, assignments, and handouts as necessary. If informed well in advance of absences due to athletic competition, instructors will assist you in rescheduling exams. However, arrangements for making up missed assignments are at the discretion of the instructor.

- If an instructor does not assist you in rescheduling or does not allow for an excused absence for a university sponsored student activity, please schedule a meeting with the academic dean of that college to visit about this concern.
- If you are unable to come to a resolution, please contact the Faculty Athletic Representative – Randy Doran (605) 642-1282.
- Leaving in the late afternoon for a road trip to a game does not excuse you from attending classes in the morning. You are responsible for all classes that day up until departure time.

#### **ABSENCES DUE TO ILLNESS/EMERGENCIES**

Contact the Office of the Dean of Students to have a letter sent to your instructors if you have missed or will miss class due to hospitalization, injuries, or family/personal problems.

#### **Structured Study (Study Tables) and Peer Tutoring**

Study tables provide an opportunity for the management of study time and other academic responsibilities of the student-athlete. Study tables are available during day and evening hours each week that classes are in session. Study table's structure is specific to each program and at the discretion of the coaching staff. Structured study is considered a part of team policy. Failure to adhere to team policy could result in withdrawal of scholarship aid. Peer tutoring is available to all student-athletes and may be required for incoming freshmen to help insure healthy study practices and support for eligibility concerns.

## **COMPLIANCE, ELIGIBILITY & FINANCIAL AID**

### **Compliance**

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is the governing body for intercollegiate sports at over 1,000 colleges and universities in the United States. Black Hills State University has been accepted to be a member of Division II of the NCAA as of September 1, 2013.

As a result of this affiliation, student-athletes, coaches, and staff members are required to comply with certain rules and regulations governing the operation of our intercollegiate athletic programs. The following summary is designed as a handy reference guide to some of the most important NCAA legislation.

It is the responsibility of each student-athlete to always comply with NCAA, RMAC and BHSU regulations. Failure to do so can result in: loss of eligibility (temporarily or permanently), forfeiture of games, and/or loss of athletically related financial aid.

Do not take chances with your eligibility. Contact the Compliance Director or your head coach before doing anything that may have an impact on your eligibility. Such things could include accepting employment; making personal appearances or endorsements; participating in outside competition; violating your amateur standing (such as agreeing to be represented by an agent); having improper involvement with boosters; accepting impermissible gifts, loans, services or other benefits; and violating NCAA policies on gambling, use of drugs and other banned substances, and use of tobacco products.

*WHEN IN DOUBT, CHECK IT OUT!*

### **Eligibility**

The NCAA, RMAC and Black Hills State University have established academic eligibility requirements for student-athletes. It is important that you are aware of these requirements so that you make progress toward your degree and remain eligible to participate in your sport.

#### **INITIAL ELIGIBILITY**

##### **NCAA Eligibility Center**

Participation in NCAA Division II athletics requires that high-school student-athletes register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and have their high school academic records (core courses, GPA and ACT/SAT test scores) reviewed for compliance with the NCAA's initial-eligibility requirements. To be eligible for practice, competition and/or an athletic scholarship upon initial enrollment at Black Hills State University, incoming freshmen must be certified as a "Qualifier" by the NCAA Eligibility Center. These requirements are explained in more detail on the NCAA website at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org). It is also possible that, in some cases, the eligibility status of transfer student-athletes may be dependent on eligibility certification decisions. The NCAA Eligibility Center is also responsible for certifying amateur status of new students. Check with the Compliance Director for more information.

#### **CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY**

After enrollment at Black Hills State University, you must meet the following criteria to remain academically eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics:

- Register for 15 credit hours, while a minimum of 12 credits is required during a semester to practice and/or compete.
- Successfully complete 24 new credits in your degree program every academic year. These courses must come from the areas of your major including required major courses, University Studies Program requirements and electives.
- Eighteen of these 24 credits must be successfully completed during the regular academic year (fall and spring semesters) with no more than six (6) hours being earned during the following summer session.
- Declare a major no later than the start of your 5th semester of enrollment. Open option programs, pre-programs or interdisciplinary studies are not considered majors and you may not stay in any of these programs past your fourth semester.
- Maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA to remain in good academic standing and be eligible to compete. Falling below a 2.00 GPA for more than two semesters will result in academic probation and potential academic suspension from the University. Under NCAA regulations, the GPA is certified on a semester -by-semester basis.
- Successfully complete a minimum of six (9) credits the previous academic semester to be eligible for competition the following academic semester. For example, every student-athlete must successfully complete 9 hours in the fall to compete in post-season competition between terms or in the spring (or nine (9)) hours in the spring to compete in post - season competition or the following fall semester). This regulation applies to incoming freshmen, transfer students, continuing student-athletes and those student-athletes competing as graduate students.

## **PROGRESS TOWARD DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (PTD)**

With recent rule changes and delayed effective dates, student-athletes should always refer to the Compliance Office, FAR and NCAA Rule 14.4 for PTD questions and information.

## **SCHOLASTIC STANDARDS**

Failure to maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average earned at Black Hills State of 2.00 or higher will result in academic probation. Students on academic probation must achieve a 2.0 semester GPA the following semester in order to remain enrolled. If their semester GPA is below a 2.0 during the semester following their probationary status, they will be suspended from the University.

## **WITHDRAWALS**

When withdrawing from the University, students must contact the Office of the Registrar prior to departure. Students leaving the University without officially withdrawing will receive failing grades and will be billed for the courses. Please contact your academic advisor to ensure the process is complete.

## **SEASONS OF COMPETITION 10 SEMESTER RULE**

A student-athlete cannot engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport. Participation in any portion of a competition triggers a complete season of competition. A student-athlete must complete his/her seasons of competition within ten full-time semesters. Registration for a minimum full-time program of studies in any collegiate institution (two-year, four-year, foreign institution) regardless of whether the institution sponsors the student-athlete's sport and regardless of whether or not the student-athlete participates in intercollegiate athletics at that institution counts as one semester.

- If you plan on extending your eligibility through an NCAA waiver or COVID-19 waiver, please visit with the Compliance office.

## **REDSHIRT**

A student-athlete during their 10 full-time semesters of attendance may elect to use one redshirt season during a season of competition. The student-athlete can practice with the team during the season but is not allowed to compete or be listed on any roster or season of competition form. Please consult your coach and the compliance department if you consider redshirting.

## **MEDICAL HARDSHIP**

14.2.5 Hardship Waiver. A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by the conference or the committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for reasons of hardship. Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions:

- (a) The incapacitating injury or illness occurs in one of the four seasons of intercollegiate competition at any two-year or four-year collegiate institution; (Revised: 1/10/92 effective 8/1/92)
- (b) The injury or illness occurs prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport (see Bylaw 14.2.5.2.3) and results in an incapacity to compete for the remainder of that playing season; and (Revised: 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 1/14/02 effective 8/1/02, 1/13/03 effective 8/1/03 for any injury or illness occurring on or after 8/1/03, 1/21/17 effective 8/1/17 for any incapacitating injury or illness, or other extenuating circumstance occurring on or after 8/1/17)
- (c) The injury or illness occurs when the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport), or 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in their sport (see Bylaw 14.2.5.2.5.1.1 for information regarding percent calculation in track and field and Bylaw 14.2.5.2.5.1.2 for information regarding percent calculation in basketball). Competition (excluding alumni games, fundraising activities, celebrity sports activities, scrimmages and exhibition contests per Bylaw 17 in the applicable sport) against outside participants during the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship, or, if so designated, during the official NCAA championship playing season in that sport (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), shall be countable under this limitation. In basketball, contests played as part of a region challenge shall be countable under this limitation. (Revised: 1/10/92, 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 1/14/02 effective 8/1/02, 4/29/04, 1/10/05 for any competition occurring on or after 8/1/04, 1/17/09 effective 8/1/09, 1/16/13, 1/21/17 effective 8/1/17 for any incapacitating injury or illness, or other extenuating circumstance occurring on or after 8/1/17, 4/16/19 Immediate, for student-athletes who initially enroll during the 2019-20 academic year, and thereafter, 1/27/20 effective 8/1/20 for any incapacitating injury or illness, or other extenuating circumstance occurring on or after 08/01/20, 8/26/21)

## **Financial Aid**

### **ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID**

Under NCAA regulations, an athletic grant-in-aid (scholarship) cannot exceed the value of tuition, fees, room, board and course-related books. A grant-in-aid cannot be awarded for more than one academic year (fall and spring semesters) at a time. Other aid from the University or aid from outside sources may require a reduction in your athletic grant-in-aid. Student-athletes are required to promptly report all sources of institutional and/or outside aid. Check with the Compliance Director to determine if additional aid will impact your athletic grant-in-aid.

### **NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT**

A National Letter of Intent (NLI) is not valid unless it has been accompanied by an athletic grant-in-aid (scholarship) offer for a minimum of one academic year. Once you have signed an NLI, all institutions and conferences that participate in the NLI program are obligated to respect your signing and must cease to recruit you. For additional NLI information, please visit [www.nationalletter.org](http://www.nationalletter.org). Please talk with the Compliance Director prior to making any transfer decisions.

### **ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF SERIOUS MISCONDUCT FORM**

Any current or incoming student-athlete in the South Dakota Board of Regents system and invited to participate in an organized and competitive sport will be required to complete the Student-Athlete Annual Disclosure of Serious Misconduct Form.

- Institutions will take reasonable steps to confirm, review, and verify whether incoming, continuing, and transfer Student-Athletes have been held responsible through a Title IX, student conduct, or other proceeding, or a criminal conviction for Serious Misconduct and whether there are any incomplete or pending proceedings.
- The institution will designate Institutional Intercollegiate Athletics Department personnel to receive Annual Disclosure forms, verify that Student-Athletes have met the Annual Disclosure requirements and that all forms are fully completed, and make assurance of compliance with the requirements of this and NCAA policies. Forms indicating that Serious Misconduct occurred, or that are observed to contain inaccurate disclosures, will be forwarded to the Institution's Title IX Office for further review, with notice to the Student-Athlete.

#### **REDUCTION/CANCELLATION OF ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID**

Once the period of the award (academic year) has begun, changes generally cannot be made in your athletic grant-in-aid (scholarship). Your grant-in-aid may be cancelled, however, under the following conditions:

- You render yourself ineligible for intercollegiate competition.
- You give false information on your application, NLI or financial aid agreement.
- You engage in serious misconduct resulting in university disciplinary action.
- You voluntarily withdraw from the sport for personal reasons.
- You accept impermissible outside aid or aid that violates your individual or your team's financial aid limit.
- You fail to attend class(es) or participate in other class-related activities (e.g., field trips, labs, etc.) related to your academic course work.
- You fail to abide by NCAA, Conference or Black Hills State rules, the specific written rules of your sport or the "Expectations for Student-Athlete Conduct".

#### **RENEWAL/NON-RENEWAL OF ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID**

If you have eligibility remaining, you will be notified in writing if your head coach recommends that your athletic grant-in-aid (scholarship) be reduced or not renewed for a subsequent year. Contact the Director of Athletics for assistance. **\*Athletic grant-in-aid is an annual agreement and at the discretion of the head coach as to whether that athletic grant-in-aid (scholarship) is to be reduced or not renewed for a subsequent year.**

#### **TRANSFER REGULATIONS**

Once you enroll at Black Hills State (or report for official practice in your sport), NCAA rules prohibit you from contacting another four-year institution about the possibility of transferring and participating in their athletic program without written permission from Black Hills State's Director of Athletics (or his/her designated representative). Once you have visited with your coach, the Director of Compliance will have you complete a form, have you watch the NCAA DII transfer education video, provide completed video certificate, and enter your information into the transfer portal and/or give you a Permission to Contact Letter for NAIA Institutions.

## **EMPLOYMENT & PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

#### **STUDENT-ATHLETE EMPLOYMENT**

- There is no limit on the amount of earnings student-athletes can receive from employment opportunities, provided they are compensated only for work actually performed and at a rate of pay comparable to the going rate in the employer's locality for similar work. Transportation to and from the job cannot be provided unless it is the employer's established policy to transport all employees to and from the job site.
- Student-athletes can receive compensation for teaching or coaching sports skills or techniques in their sport. Such employment is subject to the following conditions: Fees are paid by the lesson recipient (or recipient's family) and NOT any other individual or entity. Facilities must be scheduled through BHSU Athletics & Events Manager.

#### **NAME, IMAGE, & LIKENESS (NIL)**

##### **BHSU NIL, SDBOR Policy 8.3**

Subject to other applicable governing, laws, policies, and procedures, Student-Athletes may externally promote their own business; promote a corporate entity (e.g., brand ambassador, social media influencer); establish their own professional sports service, such as a camp or clinic; make appearances and receive compensation; sign autographs and receive compensation; and similar activity that does not infringe upon the University's property rights and obligations.

- Student-Athletes must comply with the governing provisions and refrain from accepting compensation in exchange for athletic performance, participation, or inducement for enrollment.
- Student-Athletes may have representation by an agent for NIL purposes, but they must be registered with the State of South Dakota and follow all reporting requirements.
- University staff members will not be involved in arranging or providing compensation in violation of conflict-of-interest policies, pay-for-play, achievement, compensation for work not performed, or impermissible inducements.
- The University will prohibit Student-Athletes from opportunities that violate existing institutional sponsorship agreements, are unlawful, or are not in conformity with applicable governing provisions.
- Employees affiliates and boosters are prohibited from creating or facilitating compensations opportunities as a recruiting inducement, extra benefit remain enrolled at the University, for play or achievement, or for work not performed.
- Express written permission of the University is required to use the SDBOR's or University's intellectual property, including, but not limited to the University's name, jersey, uniform, marks, and logos.
- Student-Athletes may not promote any third-party or third-party branding during official University events and activities without the University's express, written consent.
- Student-Athletes may consent in writing to use of their NIL by the University in conformity with applicable provisions.
- The University may support education and educational experiences in areas such as financial aid, debt management, budget information, time management, and related information.
- If a Student-Athlete enters a relationship in a Prohibited Sponsorship Category, the Student-Athlete will be required to terminate such relationship immediately. Prohibited Sponsorship Categories are identified as being in direct conflict with

- the University mission; damaging to the name, image, or reputation of the University; conflicting with current or contemplated future University relationships; or for any other reason determined in good faith by the University.
- Allegations of Student Conduct Code violations or grievances or misapplication or misinterpretation of policies will be handled in accordance with applicable grievance policies.

Procedures:

- All Student-Athletes will receive NIL education each fall from the University's Athletics Compliance department.
- Student-Athletes who enter a contract, agreement, or transaction for compensation for the use of their NIL are required to disclose the activity to the University's Athletic Compliance department with three (3) business days of signing the contract or agreement. Student-Athletes are strongly encouraged to have the activity approved by the Athletics Compliance department in advance to avoid an NCAA or institutional violation.
- New Student-Athletes at the University will be required to disclose existing contract for compensation related to NIL that we previously entered prior to enrollment.
- Failure by a Student-Athlete to disclose any contracts fully and accurately (i.e., oral, written, implicit) will subject the Student-Athlete to disciplinary action, up to and including loss of Grant-In-Aid and/or expulsion.

I acknowledge that my institution, or a designee of my institution, may review the accuracy of this information, and I consent to any investigation, review, or audit. I acknowledge that inaccurate or incomplete disclosure, or failure to cooperate could support a reasonable conclusion that compensation I received constituted an inducement to attend or remain enrolled at a specific school, a substitute for pay for athletics performance or participation, or an otherwise illegitimate source of compensation for use of my name, image, and likeness.

### **BOOSTERS & STUDENT-ATHLETES**

Boosters, coaches, Athletic Department staff and/or University employees are not allowed to provide student-athletes with any extra benefits or special arrangements, such as:

- Room, board or transportation for family or friends to visit campus or attend an away game.
- Use of an automobile or provision of any type of transportation (except as specified below).
- Use of cell phones, telephone access codes or credit cards for free long-distance calls.
- Cash or special discounts, payment arrangements or credit on goods or services.
- Loans of money in any amount or signing or co-signing a loan or note to arrange a loan for any purpose.
- Use of personal property (e.g., ski condo, summer home, car, boat, equipment, computers, stereos, etc.).
- Gifts for holidays, birthdays or any other occasion; and
- Free or reduced-cost services or goods (e.g., movies, haircuts, dry cleaners, restaurant meals or food, tickets, etc.).

It is permissible for a booster to:

- Invite a student-athlete to his/her home for a meal on an infrequent and special occasion (must be provided in the home and not at a restaurant); booster can provide transportation for the student-athlete to the home but may not provide the student-athlete with the use of his/her vehicle; invitation must be approved in advance by the head coach and the Compliance Director.
- Hire a student-athlete for a bona-fide employment opportunity; salary must be based on actual work performed and at a rate of pay comparable to the going rate for similar work; all employment during the academic year must be approved by the Compliance Director; and
- Entertain student-athletes at away contests provided the entertainment includes all team members and has been approved by the Compliance Director.

It is permissible for an Athletic Department coach or staff member to provide reasonable local transportation to a student - athlete on an occasional basis. It is also permissible for an Athletic Department coach or staff member to provide a student-athlete with a meal on an infrequent and special occasion at either the coach's or staff member's home or at a local restaurant, provided such meal has been approved in advance by the Compliance Director.

## **PRACTICE, COMPETITION & RECRUITING RULES**

### **Playing & Practice Seasons**

To minimize interference with the academic progress of student-athletes, the NCAA limits organized practice activities, the length of playing seasons and the number of contests or dates of competition in all sports. Each head coach, in conjunction with the Compliance Director, will determine the dates of the playing/practice season and the competition schedule for each sport.

During the playing/practice season, the following restrictions apply (when classes are in session):

- A limit of four (4) hours per day and 20 hours per week of athletically related activities (all competition counts three (3) hours).
- One day off each week when no athletically related activities can occur.
- No restrictions on voluntary activities provided they are not required or supervised by a coach (for safety reasons, a coach can supervise swimming, diving, water polo and field events in track).
- Class time cannot be missed for practice activities (except for travel to an away contest).

For additional playing and practice season information please visit NCAA DII Handbook Bylaw 17. Please visit with Compliance office, SAAC representative, training staff or FAR if you have additional questions or concerns regarding sport related activities.

### **Outside Competition**

Student-athletes are not allowed to participate during the academic year as a member of any outside team in any non-collegiate, amateur competition except while representing Black Hills State University. Exceptions or waivers are available for specific events such as high school alumni games, Olympic Games, Pan American games and national teams.

APPROVAL FOR ANY OUTSIDE COMPETITION MUST BE OBTAINED IN ADVANCE FROM THE COMPLIANCE DIRECTOR. NCAA rules allow limited summer competition based on certain restrictions for each sport. Student-athletes should check in advance with their coach or the Compliance Director before committing to any summer competition. Student-athletes in men's and women's basketball are required to have written permission from the Compliance Director before participating in summer competition, and they can only participate in summer competition that has been certified by the NCAA.

## **Involve ment in the Recruiting Process**

Enrolled student-athletes can play a limited role in the recruiting process. Specifically, student-athletes can:

- Serve as a student host during a recruit's official visit to campus; student hosts will receive printed instructions at the time of their recruits' visit.
- Receive telephone calls from a recruit if the calls are made at the recruit's expense and are made after July 1st following the recruit's junior year in high school.
- Call a prospect at his/her own expense (call cannot be paid for by Black Hills State University, its employees, or boosters) as long as the call is not at the direction of a coach or Athletic Department staff member.
- Student-athletes are not allowed to transport recruits to or from the airport. Student-athletes are also not allowed to participate in making any phone calls for any department on campus (such as the Admissions Office) if the calls involve recruitment of students (athletes or non-athletes) to Black Hills State University.

## **SERVING AS A STUDENT HOST**

As a student-athlete, you may be asked to host prospective student-athletes (high school and transfer students) during their official recruiting visit to Black Hills State University. Serving as a student host is an important responsibility, and you will be expected to conduct yourself in an appropriate manner and one which brings credit to the University and its athletic programs. You will be provided with student-host money to entertain your recruit. You will be expected to comply with all NCAA and institutional regulations regarding the use of the student-host money, to account for the expenditure of all such funds, and to return any unused funds to the institution following completion of the visit.

## **INAPPROPRIATE RECRUITING CONDUCT**

Recruiting activities specifically prohibited include:

- Underage or excessive consumption of alcohol
- Illicit drug use
- Sexual misconduct
- Participation in gambling and/or gaming activities
- Use of escorts, exotic dancers, strippers or any other such personal services providers
- Visits to adult entertainment facilities or venues
- Abusive conduct which threatens or endangers the physical or psychological health, safety, or welfare of any individual
- Harassment, including harassment on the basis of race, sexual orientation, age, gender, religion or physical disability
- Activities or events at any location that may cause a perception of impropriety
- Entertainment that is excessive or not at a scale comparable to that of normal student life
- Any other behavior that is illegal, inappropriate or results in embarrassment to the University, its athletic programs, its student-athletes or its recruits

Inappropriate conduct will result in disciplinary action that could include suspension or termination from the team and loss of your athletics scholarship. Such behavior could also result in university disciplinary action and/or legal action.

## **NCAA REGULATIONS**

Student hosts will be provided with a maximum of \$30/day (up to two days) to cover entertainment expenses for a recruit.

NCAA rules specify that:

- Student-host money may only be used for the student host, the recruit, the recruit's parent(s) [or legal guardian(s)] or the recruit's spouse, if married.
- If you host more than one recruit at the same time, you will be provided an additional \$15/day for each additional recruit you host.
- No cash may be given to the recruit.
- Student-host money may not be used to purchase souvenirs, T-shirts, or other institutional mementos.
- All entertainment must occur on the main campus or within a 30-mile radius.
- You may not use a vehicle provided by a coach, institutional staff member or booster. Host money may be used for gas (\$5 for one day; \$10 for two days) if you use your personal vehicle to transport a recruit.
- Recruits are not allowed to have contact with any boosters at any time on or off the institution's campus.
- You must keep receipts, provide a complete list of all expenditures, and return all unused funds at the conclusion of the visit.

## **ATHLETIC TRAINING & THE ATHLETIC TRAINING ROOM**

The Black Hills State University athletic training (AT) room exists to serve the medical needs of the BHSU student-athletes. The AT staff strives to provide comprehensive medical care with the goal of a safe and prompt return to participation. Due to the significant responsibilities associated with this goal, certain rules must be followed.

### **Athletic Training Room Rules**

- The athletic training room is a place of business for the AT staff. Therefore, student-athletes must conduct themselves in a mature and courteous manner.
- No student-athletes are allowed in the athletic training room without an AT present.
- The AT room is not for social gatherings; loitering is not allowed.
- Nothing may be taken from the AT facility without the staff's permission.
- All treatments will be directed by the AT staff.
- No equipment, balls or shoes with cleats are to be in the AT facility.
- No food or drink allowed.
- No tobacco products of any kind are permitted (nor anywhere else on campus).
- The AT room is a co-ed facility; please maintain proper language, behavior and attire (shirts are required, white spandex is prohibited).
- No shoes are allowed on the treatment tables.
- The telephone in the AT room is for staff use only. Cell phones are prohibited in the treatment area.

### **Dietary Supplements**

If a student-athlete chooses to purchase and use nutritional or dietary supplements, sports drinks, stimulants, performance-enhancing drugs, or any other such substances, even something over the counter that is not in compliance with NCAA guidelines he/she may be putting his/her health, as well as athletics eligibility, in jeopardy.

### **Treatment of Injuries and Illnesses**

The athletic training staff needs the cooperation of the student-athletes to ensure proper treatment and care of any problems that arise. If you are injured, you should:

- Report any injury or problem to the AT staff immediately. The sooner treatment begins, the sooner an injury can respond to treatment. It is the student-athlete's responsibility to follow the directions of the sports medicine staff.
- If an injury or illness develops after hours, please attempt to contact the athletic trainer that oversees your sport, regardless of the time of day. In the event of an emergency, seek medical attention at a hospital or urgent care facility located on your emergency contact card – or call 911 for medical assistance then contact your designated AT staff member as soon as possible.
- Black Hills State utilizes a network of local healthcare providers in addition to services provided at Health Services. If you desire medical attention other than that which is provided by the Black Hills State sports medicine staff, you may do so at your own expense. The Athletic Department will not be responsible for payment of medical expenses. A student-athlete who seeks medical care outside of the department will not be allowed to participate without written documentation from his/her personal physician clearing him/her for full participation and clearance to participate by the BHSU team physician.

### **Physical Exams**

The NCAA and Black Hills State University require a medical physical examination for all student-athletes prior to participation in any athletic activity. Physical exams are performed initially prior to or upon arrival to campus, and then as needed/if necessary, therein after. Physical exams, and all other required medical documentation, is required to be on file with the athletic training staff before participation in any athletic activities. A detailed list and instructions on how to complete this documentation can be found under the Athletic Training link on the athletics website.

### **Health Insurance**

The NCAA holds a catastrophic injury and disability policy on all student-athletes. The Athletic Department requires all student-athletes to have "primary" insurance coverage through their parents, through an independent insurance carrier or carry the University's student health insurance policy (this expense is not covered by the Athletic Department) for medical expenses. Student-athlete primary health insurance must provide emergency coverage in the state of South Dakota and have no exclusions for intercollegiate athletics. If your current insurance policy does not cover injuries resulting from intercollegiate athletics you will be required to purchase a policy that does prior participation. Since there are numerous circumstances where Black Hills State is unable to pay for medical expenses, it is strongly recommended that parents maintain their primary health insurance on their son or daughter to cover non-athletic related injuries. Each year, parents are requested to provide insurance information and a copy of their insurance card for their son or daughter. This must be completed and on file in the athletic training room prior to the start of the first practice.

## **STRENGTH & CONDITIONING & THE ATHLETIC WEIGHT ROOM**

The charge of the Black Hills State University strength and conditioning program is to provide a safe and positive environment that allows student-athletes and coaches to work together towards developing the full physical and mental potential of each student-athlete. Resistance training, speed development, conditioning, flexibility, and proper dietary practices are the core of the program. These areas

are based on the latest research and utilize sport-specific training methods. Modeled in a year-round cycle, the program is designed to produce bigger, leaner, stronger, faster, and more physically explosive student-athletes.

### **Objectives**

- Injury prevention;
- Increase total body strength and power;
- Increase lean muscle mass and lower body fat;
- Improve sport specific conditioning
- Improve speed, agility and flexibility
- Improve mental and physical self-esteem; and
- Improve athletic performance.

### **Facility Policies**

Training sessions are an extension of your sports practice. To get the most out of training sessions, the following policies exist:

- A strength coach MUST always be present if an athlete is conducting physical activity in the weight room.
  - Unsupervised use of the athletic weight room is strictly prohibited.
- The facility is co-ed. Any attire or conduct that is inappropriate will not be tolerated.
  - Train in appropriate Black Hills State gear only. T-Shirts, athletic shorts, sweatpants, team issues gear, etc.
  - Closed toed shoes must always be worn in the weight room.
- BE ON TIME for assigned team or individualized workout sessions.
- If an accident happens or you are bleeding, please notify the strength coach immediately to assist you and to properly sanitize the equipment to eliminate the spread of bloodborne pathogens.
- The music system is supervised by staff members *only*.
- Report problems with training equipment to a member of the strength and conditioning staff immediately.
- Remember that it is a privilege to use the strength & conditioning facility. Treat the staff, facility, and equipment with respect at all times.
- No equipment should be taken out of the weight room without advanced permission from the Strength & Conditioning Staff. Please ensure all equipment is returned to its proper place and the room is reset to normal at the end of your training session unless told otherwise by a strength coach.

## **ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS**

The Athletic Communications Department is charged with enhancing the image of the Athletic Department, as well as those of the respective coaches and competitors in each individual sport, and serving as a liaison between the local, regional, and national media, and the BHSU student-athletes, coaches and staff. This office also maintains the Athletic Department's official website ([BHSUAthletics.com](http://BHSUAthletics.com)) and manages all aspects of sports information and publicity. Black Hills State is a nationally recognized program, competing at the highest level of college competition. As one of the largest institutions in the state, we receive coverage from local/regional newspapers. Every student-athlete is required to fill out an information and photo release form prior to attendance at BHSU.

With this media attention, it's likely that every student-athlete during his/her tenure at BHSU will receive at least one interview request. Every interaction with the media should be viewed as an opportunity to develop your communication skills which will benefit you now and in the future.

### **THE INTERVIEW**

Whenever there is a media request for an individual interview, a member of the Sports Information staff will be in contact with you either in person, by phone, or by a written message. Any other requests that are received individually should be forwarded immediately to the Athletic Communications Department.

#### **Guidelines for Interviews:**

- All interviews must be arranged by a member of the Athletic Communications staff.
- Academics, team practice, and competition come first. An interview should never be scheduled that conflicts with any of these events.
- The home telephone/cell phone number of a student-athlete should never be given to a media representative for any reason.
- Student-athletes who have agreed to do an interview should be prompt and courteous. Respect the time constraints of the media representative as they are working with a deadline to meet.
- Whenever possible, interviews either in person or by phone, should be conducted in the Athletic Communications office, the media work room, or at the practice or competition venue with an Athletic Communications representative present;
- Don't criticize teammates, coaches, officials, or opponents;
- Don't respond to questions that are framed as "off the record" and don't use the term "off the record" in your response;
- Remember that what takes place in the locker room is private and has no place in the media or general public;
- Don't speak on behalf of the head coach. Let coaches answer questions related to lineups, injuries, etc.;
- The head coach, athletic training room staff and sports information personnel will handle the dissemination of information related to all injuries.

#### **Hints for Successful Interviews**

Prior to the interview, think what points you want to communicate as a student-athlete and be honest.

- Who is the audience (e.g. students, general public, etc.)?
- You can't control the questions, but you can control the response;
- Anticipate the line of questioning before the interview begins;
- Use positive body language and speak clearly;

- Look directly at the media representative conducting the interview;
- With the immediacy of electronic journalism (radio and television), newspapers are forced to dig deeper to maintain reader interest. Be prepared to spend more time giving answers. Every athlete has an interesting story - whether it is about hobbies, interests, or activities;
- Television seeks short answers, 10-20 seconds long. A first impression is critical. Speak clearly and distinctly when on camera. Maintain pace in delivery and pause to reinforce important statements. Maintain eye contact with the reporter. Be patient through any technical difficulties (e.g. sound, lighting);
- Radio is a more relaxed medium and the possibility of being misquoted is virtually zero. The interview is more like a conversation and answers can be longer but get to the point.

#### **NOTES ABOUT THE MEDIA**

##### Newspaper

Beat writers are sports reporters who cover Black Hills State's athletic program on a daily basis. Beat writers provide objective coverage versus columnists who are feature writers who cover specific events and write to express their subjective opinions.

##### Television

Television broadcasters visit campus the days preceding a televised event. They typically interview coaches and players.

##### Radio

Radio broadcasters cover Black Hills State's athletic program on a daily basis and attend practices as well as games. They provide listeners with a behind-the-scenes look at our program.

## **YELLOW JACKETS GIVE BACK**

### **Student-Athlete Community Outreach & Service**

Student-athletes play a vital role in the Athletic Department's community outreach and community service programs as a means of investing in the community and the citizens of South Dakota who, in turn, invest in and support the University and its athletic programs. Student-athletes will occasionally be called upon to participate in these activities and should welcome the opportunity to "give back" and represent themselves, their team, the Department, and the University in a gracious and positive manner.

Yellow Jacket athletes have volunteered and participated in the following community outreach and service activities/events:

- Special Olympics (Polar Plunge & Special Olympics State Games)
- Feeding South Dakota
- Area K-12 School Visits (reading to children, speaking, crafting, playing at recess)
- Community Clean-Up Days
- Adopt-A-Park (Spearfish Community/Parks & Rec)
- Numerous sport-specific community service activities

### **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee**

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is made up of student-athletes assembled to provide insight on the student-athlete experience and to offer input on the rules, regulations and policies that affect student-athletes' lives. It serves as a conduit of communication among student-athletes, coaches and athletic administrators on issues to improve the student-athlete experience and promote growth and education through sports participation. Concerns can be voiced and solutions offered regarding any issue that may be relevant to Black Hills State student-athletes. Each intercollegiate varsity team at Black Hills State has representation by at least one member, and the committee meets regularly during the academic year. A designated athletic department staff member serves as the administrative liaison to the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

#### **Ways for Student-Athletes to Get Involved**

- Attend home events of fellow Yellow Jacket teams and sit in the student section.
  - BHSU students receive FREE admission to all home athletic events with the BHSU Student ID card.
- Attend other campus-related activities and events.
- Join a student organization.
  - A list of options can be found at [www.bhsu.edu/student-life/clubs-organizations/](http://www.bhsu.edu/student-life/clubs-organizations/)
- Be outgoing and friendly with other students, faculty, and staff and encourage them to attend athletic events.
- Wear team gear with pride! Go Yellow Jackets!

## **YELLOW JACKET ATHLETICS - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Equipment**

All issued equipment is the property of the Athletic Department, and you will be notified as to what equipment must be returned after the conclusion of the playing season.

No equipment, uniforms or other items of apparel may be sold, donated, or otherwise disposed of without the consent of the Director of Athletics and/or the Compliance Director (if NCAA rules are involved). Student-athletes will be charged with the full cost of any equipment that is lost, stolen, or not returned, regardless of the age of the item(s).

### **Replacing Lost/Stolen or Worn-Out Equipment**

Please notify the head coach or administrative staff member of any lost/stolen or damaged and worn-out equipment immediately. Do not throw away worn-out or damaged equipment without permission from an administrator to do so. Student-athletes:

- Are responsible for replacing the equipment;
- Must pay the full cost of the item lost or stolen;
- Will not receive a replacement item until charges are paid;
- Will be ineligible to register for classes, receive grades, or graduate until account is cleared;
- Will not be issued additional gear for any gear left at home.

### **Athletic Tickets**

#### **Complimentary Admissions**

The NCAA allows student-athletes to receive 4 complimentary admission to home contests in their sport. Ticket procedure is as follows:

- Fill out and sign a complimentary request form in ARMS prior to each contest.
- Student-athletes must sign up at least three hours prior to the event on the day of their event or the Friday before (if the contest is on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday).
- If a student-athlete neglects to declare a recipient or substitutes a name for someone previously listed, no admissions will be issued.
- Each person receiving admissions must present an ID and sign for their own tickets. Only one ticket may be left for each individual guest.

# **STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Participation in Black Hills State University's intercollegiate athletic program is a **privilege**. As a student-athlete at Black Hills State University, you represent this University, your teammates, the Athletic Department, Spearfish Community, South Dakota, the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, Yellow Jacket alumni, and yourself. This representation is not only during participation in intercollegiate athletics but also in all mental, physical, social, and recreational activities in which you engage, on and off campus. It's a significant privilege that carries with it a unique set of responsibilities. **As a student-athlete you must accept that you are evaluated and held to a higher standard than the nonstudent-athlete at BHSU.**

## **Interpretation of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct**

The Athletic Director (or designee) has complete and discretionary authority to interpret the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct. Consequences may be imposed by the athletic department and/or coaching staff because of convictions **or credible evidence** of misconduct. Each case will be handled individually and with all the unique aspects of the situation taken into consideration.

This code of conduct may be modified or amended at any time. Student-athletes are responsible for keeping themselves informed of the requirements of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct.

## **THE BHSU STUDENT-ATHLETE**

Black Hills State student-athletes are expected to excel in the classroom and on the playing field and be contributing members of the community. The success of our student-athletes does not stop at graduation, numerous former Yellow Jackets have become leaders in their professions and have been recognized for their contributions to our society. As a student-athlete you will be highly visible on campus and in the Spearfish community. As such, you will have the responsibility of always representing the Athletic Department in a positive manner. Student-athletes are responsible for the following:

### **Academic:**

- Attend all classes and complete all academic assignments/requirements.
- Maintain an academic load of at least 12 credit hours per semester and make satisfactory progress toward a degree, as required by the NCAA
- Be responsible for maintaining academic eligibility.
- Follow BHSU policies on academic integrity.
- Understanding that earning a baccalaureate degree is the main goal of the student-athlete.

### **Athletic:**

- Abide by all NCAA, RMAC, BHSU, and team/program rules and regulations.
- Demonstrate sportsmanship and respect for opponents, teammates, officials, coaches, and fans.

### **Ethical/Conduct:**

- Conduct becoming of a student-athlete; represent BHSU Athletics in a positive manner. Your conduct should never bring a negative image to your team, the Athletic Department, or Black Hills State University.
- Understand and comply with the BHSU Student-Athlete Handbook and the BHSU Student Code of Conduct.
- Abide by all local, state, and federal laws.
- Sexual harassment and participation in hazing activities will not be tolerated.
- Make a genuine effort to wear BHSU apparel as opposed to apparel from other schools while in attendance at athletics events or in the Young Center. Show pride as a member of the Yellow Jacket family!

## **BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONDUCT CODE**

Black Hills State University has a Student Conduct Code for all of its students. By virtue of your admission and enrollment at the University, you have an obligation to know and follow the University Student Conduct Code. By formulating a general code of conduct and regulations, the University affirms the principle of student freedom that is coupled with an acceptance of full responsibility for individual action and the consequences of such action. The University expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of the institution and to assume responsibility for their actions; to observe national, state and local laws and University regulations; and to respect the rights, privileges and property of other people. The Black Hills State University Student Conduct Code, including student rights and responsibilities and the student disciplinary process, is available online at [https://www.bhsu.edu/Student-Life/\\_docs/Student-Handbook.pdf](https://www.bhsu.edu/Student-Life/_docs/Student-Handbook.pdf).

## **STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT**

In addition to these policies, the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct has additional, athletics-specific expectations that come with the privilege of being a student-athlete, it also has potential consequences that inappropriate behavior may have on your status as a student-athlete. The Athletic Department may take action under the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct regarding your participation in the University's intercollegiate athletics program, as well as the awarding, renewal, and modification of an athletic scholarship pursuant to your financial aid agreement. The Student-Athlete Code of Conduct is intended to compliment, not replace, conduct rules and consequences that your sport team has adopted. It is also important to note that your head coach may impose additional penalties (i.e. suspension/dismissal, additional physical requirements, etc.) at his/her discretion.

## **ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES**

As a student-athlete at Black Hills State University, you represent this University, your teammates, and yourself not only during participation in intercollegiate athletics but also in all mental, physical, social, and recreational activities in which you engage.

- Being a Yellow Jacket athlete is a **PRIVILEGE** that carries with it a unique set of responsibilities.
- As the name “student-athlete” implies, you have chosen to accept not only the responsibility of being a successful student, but also the pursuit of excellence in your sport.
- **As a student-athlete, you represent Black Hills State University, its Department of Athletics, and your team in everything you do.**
- You are required to maintain the responsibilities traditionally expected of all students and, in addition, you have chosen to accept the expectations placed on you as an athlete.
- It is important that you realize you are always under the scrutiny of the public, whether in the classroom, in competition or in social settings away from athletics.
- You are not only governed by the rules of conduct of the NCAA, the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, and Black Hills State University, but the ever-watchful eye of an admiring and sometimes critical public.
- Student-athletes shall demonstrate respect for all members of the BHSU community and the Spearfish community at large. Student-athletes shall respect and cooperate with people of authority (including, but not limited to, coaching staffs, University faculty and staff employees) and shall refrain from insubordination.

## **ADDING, SWITCHING, QUITTING, OR DISMISSING OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE IN A SPORT**

As a student-athlete if you wish to add, switch, quit, or if you are dismissed by the coach in any sport, you should be directed to the Compliance Director, and may request a meeting to be scheduled with the coach and AD or SWA if needed.

1. **MAKING SQUAD CUTS:** Coaches make squad cuts at their own discretion and can base this decision on a student-athlete not performing to the level expected of a collegiate program.
2. **VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL:** If a student-athlete receiving scholarship voluntarily withdraws from the athletics program, all applicable national governing body rules and regulations must be followed. The athlete shall meet with compliance and sign a —Voluntary Statement of Withdrawal from Athletic Grant-in-Aid form.
3. **DISMISSAL FROM A SPORT:** Each head coach is directly responsible for overseeing the athletic integrity of their respective programs. If a student-athlete jeopardizes the athletic integrity, is determined to be detrimental to the team, or in the coach's mind is in violation of the BHSU Student Code of Conduct or the BHSU Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, the coach has the right to suspend or dismiss a student-athlete on these grounds.
4. **NOTIFICATION:** Upon dismissal from a varsity sport, the Head Coach will provide the student-athlete with the reasons for dismissal and ask SA to schedule a meeting with Assistant AD-Compliance.
5. *The protocol for dismissal/withdrawal of a Student Athlete (SA) from a BHSU Sports Program/Team; SA will be asked verbally and via email to schedule a meeting with the Assistant AD-Compliance to submit and sign the required paperwork for dismissal/withdrawal within 5 days of notification. The Assistant AD-Compliance will have the SA sign the voluntary withdrawal form and/or explain the outlined SA appeal process for dismissal from respective sport program/team.*
6. **SWITCHING SPORTS:** No scholarship athlete, or athlete who has given up a scholarship in one sport, will be permitted to leave one sport and participate in another sport without the written consent of the coach who was previously responsible for the athlete's scholarship and the AD. This applies to athletes switching from one sport to another or who are adding a second sport.
7. **MULTIPLE SPORTS:** Any athlete participating in more than one sport must have prior consent from both sport's Head Coach and AD or SWA. Then and only then, can a student-athlete show up on two squad lists.

## **GRIEVANCE/APPEAL PROCEDURES**

It is the position of the Athletics Department that all grievances should be addressed in an appropriate manner to prevent wrongful deprivation of the student-athlete's interests. If a SA has a grievance that cannot be resolved with the Head Coach, a meeting with the Athletic Director (AD) and/or Senior Woman Administrator (SWA) is appropriate.

- Such grievance shall be in writing within (5) five working days, exclusive of holidays, after notice of decision is received.
- A meeting is to be scheduled with the SA and the AD or SWA and the SA will provide information and/or documentation regarding the grievance.
- A meeting is to be scheduled with the Head Coach and the AD or SWA and the Head Coach will provide information and/or documentation regarding the dismissal.
- The evaluation of the AD or SWA is not to pass judgment or provide opinion, but to make a decision regarding whether the proper policies, procedures, and due processes were followed by the Head Coach and the SA.
- The AD or SWA will then provide the SA with a letter of explanation. If proper policies, procedures, or due process is in question, the SA may request reinstatement or if relief through the grievance process is not granted to the satisfaction of the student-athlete, he or she may utilize the Appeals Process as outlined in the Student Handbook.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA/INTERNET ETHICS POLICY**

While the Department of Athletics chooses not to prohibit the use of social media websites and/or internet blog websites, it does reserve the right to monitor student-athlete profiles and materials posted on these platforms for the following:

- Offensive or inappropriate pictures;
- Offensive or inappropriate language or comments;
- Any pictures, comments or information placed on the platform(s) that negatively reflect on Black Hills State University; the Department of Athletics and/or any of its coaches, staff and student-athletes; any intercollegiate athletics team, whether at BHSU or another institution; or any student or staff member of the University.

Content posted by student-athletes at other institutions or non-student-athletes at Black Hills State University may not be acceptable on a BHSU student-athlete's profile. The Department of Athletics will take any action deemed appropriate by the Director of Athletics in

response to the posting of offensive, inappropriate or negative material on a student-athlete's profile, even if the profile is set on "private" and regardless of how the material is discovered. Such action may include temporary or permanent suspension from the team and/or loss of athletics scholarship. Questions regarding acceptable content should be directed to the student-athlete's head coach or the Director of Athletics. University officials, media outlets, law enforcement agencies and many other individuals, including on-line predators, check these platforms on a regular basis. Potential employers, internship supervisors, scholarship committees and graduate programs also use these sites to screen candidates and applicants. Black Hills State University student-athletes are urged to exercise extreme caution in their use of social media websites.

**TikTok:** Per the Board of Regents and an executive order from Governor Noem, Black Hills State University employees may not access or use TikTok on university devices, and BOR universities are not to use TikTok for university marketing and communications.

## **RESPECT FOR SELF AND OTHERS**

It is important that all individuals involved in the Athletic Department (student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and staff) respect each other. You will not always like or agree with everyone, but good communication and the ability to "treat others like you would like to be treated" will go a long way in developing the trust and respect desired by all. It is your responsibility, not your teammates, to solve problems. It is important for all student-athletes to recognize the importance of treating support staff (e.g. administrative assistants, equipment personnel, custodial staff, and managers) with respect and courtesy. Respect your equipment and facilities. Maintain clean locker rooms. Pick up equipment and towels and place them in the appropriate places. You represent Black Hills State University, your team and yourself when you travel. Respect and demonstrate courteous behavior towards individuals at airports, hotels, restaurants and the practice and competition sites you visit at all times.

## **EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETE RELATIONSHIPS**

We expect all members of our athletics teams to be honest, responsible, and mature. As a department, we strive to do what is best for each team as a whole and what is fair and workable for all individuals on each team. Our decisions are generally based on broad principles of fairness. All members of our teams must work together for the good of their team, and the good of the department. Everyone has responsibilities to his/her team and a commitment to being a team member who is focused on contributing to achieving team goals. Relationship issues can distract a team from its competitive goals. For this reason, the Black Hills State University Athletic Department has the following expectations for all team members regardless of the type of relationship.

Possible relationship situations include, but are not limited to:

- Best friends being exclusive of others or having a falling out.
- Two women dating the same man or the same woman; Two men dating the same woman or the same man.
- A teammate dating someone, another teammate had a past relationship with
- Heterosexual dating on the same team or different teams
- Homosexual dating on the same team or different teams
- Siblings on the same team
- Conflicts between student-athletes based on race, sexual orientation, sexual identity, personal belief systems, religion, etc.

When with the team, the team comes first. Conduct yourselves as teammates. Being a member of a team requires responsible and professional behavior. This includes at practice, during competition, on the team bus, in hotel rooms, in the training room, in the weight room, at team meetings, in the locker room and anywhere else you may be on "Team Time". Focus on the team and your role as a member of that team. You don't have to hide your relationship, but when on "Team Time" the following behaviors are expected:

- Respect team space: Avoid drama and keep relationship conflicts away from "Team Time".
- No PDA (Public Displays of Affection), this includes hand holding, kissing, hugging, etc.
- If you need help resolving relationship issues, please contact the BHSU Counseling Office at 605-642-6520.

If unable to meet these expectations, student athletes will be subject to the following:

- Meeting with your coach to review expectations and consequences of not abiding by them.
- Meeting with athletic administrators to discuss appropriate behavior and expectations.
- You may be requested to meet with a counselor.
- Suspension or dismissal from the team for failing to abide by the expectations (insubordination of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct)

Team Captains play an important role in maintaining a positive team-oriented climate and helping team members maintain team focus.

- Remind teammates about coach's expectations and why they are important.
- Communicate with coaches when relationship issues need to be addressed.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Acts in violation of the Black Hills State sportsmanship policy include physical abuse, incitement to inappropriate action, obscene gestures and language, public criticism and ejection and/or suspension from a contest. Penalties include suspension from one or more contests and/or public reprimand. Sportsmanship violations may also lead to additional punitive action by the University and/or the Department of Athletics including suspension or dismissal from the team and loss of athletically related financial aid.

### **RMAC Sportsmanship Code**

The NCAA, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and its institutions value respect and are committed to elevating good sportsmanship. We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and game officials in a positive manner. Profanity, racist, homophobic, or sexist comments or other intimidating actions directed at officials, student-athletes, coaches, team representatives, or anyone in attendance will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the site of competition. We encourage you to cheer for your favorite team during today's competition. We appreciate your cooperation in creating a safe, positive, and inclusive game environment for everyone.

### **Game Environment**

BHSU lays emphasis on a positive game environment for you as athletes, fans, visiting teams and coaches, and officials. Demonstrating good sportsmanship, includes playing fair, following the rules of the game, respecting the judgment of game officials, and treating opponents, coaches, and fans with respect. Always representing BHSU in a positive manner.

## **HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION/HAZING**

Abusive conduct which threatens or endangers the physical or psychological health, safety, or welfare of an individual or a group of individuals or harassment of any member of the University community including harassment on the basis of race, sexual orientation, age, gender, religion or physical disability are prohibited by Black Hills State University. Any student or other student organization (including an athletics team) found to have committed or to have attempted to commit an act of hazing is subject to disciplinary sanction. Hazing includes any act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or which destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. The express or implied consent of the victim will not be a defense. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of hazing is not neutral; they are violations of this rule.

## **FIREARMS**

Per BOR policy, firearms are not allowed on campus unless they are stored in one of the two following methods:

- In a locked vehicle, unloaded, fully cased, and hidden from view.
- Stored in the Public Safety Office (by appointment only). No related ammunition will be stored in the Public Safety Office. Appointments for firearms storage can be made by calling 605-641-6988.

## **Dangerous Weapons**

Per BOR policy, dangerous weapons that are not allowed on campus include, but are not limited to the following: handguns, gas guns, metal knuckles, gravity knives, knives with blades longer than five inches, and switchblade knives, firearm silencers, machine guns, short rifles, short shotguns, blowguns, bow and arrows, slingshots, B.B. guns, pellet guns, air guns, stun guns, and paint guns. Students offending this standard risk suspension from the university. Ammunition is not permitted in the residence halls.

## **GAMBLING**

NCAA legislation prohibits student-athletes from engaging in gambling or betting activities related to college or professional sports events. Student-athletes found in violation of this legislation will be ineligible for further intercollegiate competition, even if the gambling activity did not involve the student-athlete's specific sport or institution.

In clear, simple language, NCAA rules mean:

- You may not place a bet of any sort on any college or professional sports event.
- You may not give information to anyone who does place bets on college or professional sports.

That means:

- NO wagers on ANY professional or college sports event, even those that don't involve Black Hills State University.
- NO sports —pools or bracket contests, even those run by your friends in the dorm.
- NO internet gambling on sports events.
- NO sports wagering using —800 numbers.
- NO exchange of information about your team with ANYONE who gambles.
- No fantasy leagues.

Protect your college career simply by remembering the following:

- DO NOT make bets on your team or any other team.
- DO NOT give information, such as reports on team morale, game plans, starting line-ups, new plays, discipline problems, injuries, etc. about your team or your teammates or any student-athletes at your institution to anyone.
- DO NOT talk about odds or point spreads with anyone.
- DO NOT associate with bookies or gamblers.
- DO NOT accept money, gifts or favors for any reason from anyone associated with sports betting.

**GAMBLING IS A CRIME;** it is a federal offense to influence or attempt to influence in any way a sporting contest by bribery. This statute covers not only the outright throwing of contests but also point-shaving and applies to the maker and the recipient of the bribe. Violations may result in substantial fines, imprisonment or both. It is a federal offense to make use of interstate facilities, including the telephone, internet or mail, for the placing of illegal bets. If you have any questions regarding gambling or are approached by anyone soliciting bets or inside information on teams or student-athletes, you should immediately inform the Director of Athletics, the Compliance Director or your head coach.

## **ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS**

Student-athletes are expected to abide by practices that enhance their personal health as well as their skills in their sports.

- Student-athletes are expected to comply with local, state and federal laws
- Student-athletes may not use or be under the influence of drugs which have not been prescribed by authorized medical personnel.
- Student-athletes are not to consume, be under the influence of or be in personal possession of alcohol during any intercollegiate event, athletic practice, or any other athletically sponsored event.
- The legal age for alcohol consumption is 21 in the State of South Dakota. Any minor in possession of alcohol will be charged accordingly.
  - o Student-athletes may be held accountable by the Athletic Department or their coaches for:
    - underage drinking, whether it be a statement of admission/guilt or are caught with alcohol
    - entering an over-21 establishment when underage, with or without a fake ID
- **Black Hills State University Athletics** institutes random drug testing of student-athletes. If an athlete has a positive drug test, they will automatically be placed into all subsequent drug test administrated by the department during their academic career. Head coaches also have the discretion to request one of their athletes be drug tested at any time.

## **AMNESTY POLICY**

Per BOR policy: Disciplinary actions/conduct sanctions for alcohol violations will not be pursued for i. Students who seek emergency medical attention (or how have emergency medical attention sought on their behalf) for alcohol-related consumptions; or ii. A bystander student who engaged in alcohol consumption and who seeks emergency medical attention for someone else related to their alcohol consumption. ii. Disciplinary actions/conduct sanctions for alcohol or drug violations will not be pursued for i. Students who are been sexually assaulted or sexually harassed.

## **TOBACCO & BANNED SUBSTANCES**

### **Use of Tobacco Products**

NCAA regulations prohibit the use of all tobacco products by student-athletes during practice and competition. In addition, the Black Hills State University Athletic Department does not allow student-athletes to consume any alcohol, tobacco or drugs when representing at University sponsored functions.

### **Use of Banned Substances**

The NCAA has adopted a list of banned drugs and other substances. This list is provided to all student-athletes at the fall eligibility meetings along with the NCAA's Drug Testing Consent form. A copy of this list is also available on the NCAA's website at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org). If the NCAA tests you for the banned substances on this list, and you test positive, you will be ineligible to participate in regular-season and post-season competition for one calendar year and will be charged with the loss of a minimum of one season of competition in all sports. The penalty for missing a scheduled drug test is the same as the penalty for testing positive for the use of a banned substance. If you are using nutritional or dietary supplements, sports drinks, stimulants, performance-enhancing drugs or any other such substances, even something over the counter, you may be putting your health as well as your athletics eligibility in jeopardy. Since many dietary and nutritional supplements are not strictly regulated, what's in the bottle is not always on the label. So be sure to check out what you are taking. Talk with an athletic training room staff member.

Examples of banned drugs can be found at [www.ncaa.org/drugtesting](http://www.ncaa.org/drugtesting).

Any substance that is chemically related to the class of banned drugs is also banned (unless otherwise noted)! NOTE: Information about ingredients in medications and nutritional/dietary supplements can be obtained by contacting the Resource Exchange Center, REC, 877/202-0769 or [www.drugfreesport.com/rec](http://www.drugfreesport.com/rec) password ncaa1, ncaa2 or ncaa3. It is your responsibility to check with the appropriate athletics staff before using any substance.

## **CONSENT TO TESTING**

Student-Athletes must sign a NCAA DII drug testing consent form to participate (i.e. practice or compete) in intercollegiate athletics per NCAA Constitution 3.2.4.6 and NCAA Bylaw 14.1.4. If you have any questions you should discuss them with your coach, Director of Athletics, or the Compliance Director. By signing the consent form you agree to allow the NCAA to test you in relation to any participation by you in an NCAA Championship or in any postseason game certified by the NCAA for the banned drugs listed in Bylaw 31.2.3. Additionally, if you participate in a Division II NCAA sport, you also agree to be tested on a year-round basis. As a Yellow Jacket student-athlete you also agree to be drug test by BHSU Athletics

## **TITLE IX AND/OR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**

Any instance in which a student-athlete is involved in a Title IX and/or Criminal Investigation, he/she is subject, but not limited to: suspension indefinitely from team all activities during the entire investigative process as well as consequences from the outcome of the investigation(s).

## **REPORTING OF STUDENT-ATHLET CONDUCT**

As a student-athlete you have the responsibility to report any violation of conduct to your head coach within 24 hours of the misconduct, including but not limited to involvement in a crime or Title IX investigation. It's always better for your coach and the athletic department to hear it from you than from another source.

# BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY

## DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS DISCIPLINARY POLICY

### ALCOHOL, DRUG and CRIMINAL OFFENSE POLICY

It is the belief of the Black Hills State University Athletic Department that student-athletes (SA) must maintain a level of behavior that reflects the guidelines for healthy and safe living. SAs are representing the University 24/7/365 and because of that are expected to act in a way of respect not only for themselves, but also for their teams, the athletic department, and the University as a whole. It is a privilege to be able to participate in college athletics and with privilege comes responsibility.

The Black Hills State University athletic department recognizes the need to establish behavior guidelines for SAs at BHSU regarding alcohol, drugs use, and criminal behavior. Disciplinary action will be taken by the Athletic Department in response to behavior that is determined to violate these guidelines. Discipline levels have been established and are commensurate with the seriousness of the offence.

Any instance in which a student-athlete violates a team, athletic department, and/or University policy, he/she is subject but not limited to, the disciplinary policy set forth by the Athletic Department, head coach and/or University's process along with possible legal implications. Such instances include, but are not limited to:

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Illegal Substance(s)
- Criminal Offense(s)
- Patterns of misbehavior/misconduct
- Involvement in Title IX investigation(s)
- Conduct that has a negative perception/impact on your sports program and/or athletics
- Academic misconduct

#### **DEFINITION OF TERMS:**

**SUSPENSION:** The SA may not participate in any team activities during the suspension period. At the head coach's discretion, the SA may attend workouts, practice, competitions, meetings, and other team functions, but may not participate in any of these activities.

**COMPETITION:** This includes championship and non-championship season contests and is defined as a game or date. Missing a date could result in more than one competition.

**BHSU THOMPSON DIVERSION PROGRAM/OPTIONS PROGRAM** Black Hills State University's alcohol/drug abuse prevention programs are called the THOMPSON DIVERSION and OPTIONS Program. These programs are based on an educational and harm reduction approach. The intention is to engage students in a self-reflective process, in a non-judgmental environment, where they may notice substance-use behaviors, contemplate whether a change is desired and be given new knowledge to help create a personal plan. The SA will participate in the Level I OPTIONS Program, Part I or II, or Level II Advanced OPTIONS Program, Part I or II. Each part of the OPTIONS program consists of five (5) hours of Alcohol/Drug Education and Counseling. The BHSU Counseling Center will administrate the OPTIONS program.

#### **REPORTING:**

1. SAs are required to contact their head coach within 24 hours of the infraction. If the SA chooses to appeal, contact must still occur. Failure to do so may result in progression to the next level.
2. It is the responsibility of the head coach of each team and/or athletic department staff to notify the Director of Athletics if a student-athlete has been charged with any infraction whether through the state criminal and/or University. If a coach or other staff member demonstrates blatant disregard for this policy, he/she will be subject to disciplinary penalty.
3. Every infraction and offence must be reported to BHSU Student Life and documented according to NCAA, RMAC, and University policy. This documentation will remain on file in the Athletic Department Compliance Office.

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

1. Once a student is established as an athlete, his/her behavior is monitored before, during and after the season. Off-season suspensions are handled as if they occurred the first day of practice; suspension may begin with the first day of practice. SAs are bound by these policies until eligibility is complete. All previous infractions, prior to the current Fall season, as an athlete at BHSU will be considered during the upcoming year if another infraction occurs.
2. Suspensions will occur with the day most immediately following the infraction or offence. For some athletes this may occur in the non-championship segment of the year, in this case the SA would serve the suspension during that portion of the season.
3. The progress of violations continues through the completion of eligibility. The infraction is against the Athletic Department and the University, not the sport. The slate is not wiped clean when a student participates in one sport and then becomes involved in another; in effect, accumulation occurs until athletic eligibility is completed.
4. If an infraction and/or offence occurs at or towards the end of one athletic season and the SA competes in another sport that is concurrent with the previous season, the athlete will serve or complete the suspension/discipline in the upcoming sport.
5. Eligibility after suspension will not be reinstated until all sanctions have been completed in full.
6. SA has the right to appeal. The appeal process is written in detail in the SA Handbook
7. The Director of Athletics has final discretion on the level of infraction and offense for each athlete.

8. The Director of Athletics reserves the right to alter any penalties based on individual circumstances and upon recommendation of the Compliance Committee.

#### **FIRST TOBACCO INFRACTION**

Tobacco use of any kind (including chewing tobacco) is prohibited for SAs. BHSU also prohibits tobacco use of any kind anywhere within campus buildings, including residence halls. Use of tobacco and snuff will be considered an infraction. The first time will constitute a warning. The second offence will enter the SA in Level I.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach;
2. Warning;
3. Referral for free counseling or replacement products at Health Services and/or SD Quit Line at 1 -866-737- 8487.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:**

1. SA enters into Level I Infraction

#### **LEVEL I INFRACTION**

Examples Include: Minor In Possession, Minor in Consumption, Using a Fake Identification to purchase alcohol or enter a bar/restaurant for only 21 years or older or any related University Conduct violations, Tobacco Use (after Warning), misdemeanors, and any related University violations.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach.
2. Suspension up to one calendar week at the discretion of the head coach and director of athletics, this may include competition dates;
3. The head coach may assess any additionally disciplinary penalty as previously approved by the athletics director; and
4. Alcohol assessment or education sessions may be required

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with Head Coach and Director of Athletics and/or SWA;
2. Suspension for one calendar week;
3. Suspension from one competition or 10% of team's scheduled competitions, whichever is greatest.
4. Mandatory attendance of the Level I THOMPSON DIVERSION Program, Part 1 with cost of program to be borne by the student-athlete;
5. The Head Coach may assess any additionally disciplinary penalty as previously approved by the Athletics Director.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach and director of athletics and/or SWA;
2. Suspension from two competitions or 20% of the team's scheduled competition, whichever is greatest. This is in addition to the 10% missed for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense;
3. Mandatory Level II Advanced OPTIONS Program, Part 2 with cost of program to be borne by the SA
4. Reduction or cancellation of athletically related financial aid may follow this termination at the coach's discretion;
5. The head coach may assess any additional disciplinary penalty as previously approved by the athletics director.

**4<sup>th</sup> Offense:**

1. Permanent suspension from participation in athletics at Black Hills State University; and
2. Revocation of athletically related financial aid will follow this termination.

#### **LEVEL II INFRACTION**

Examples include: DUI, DWI, procuring alcohol for minors or social hosting.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach and director of athletics and/or SWA;
2. Suspension from all team activities for one calendar week;
3. Suspension from one competition or 10% of team's scheduled competitions, whichever is greatest.
4. Mandatory attendance of Level II Advanced OPTIONS Program, Part 1 with cost of program to be borne by the SA
5. The head coach may assess any additional disciplinary penalty as previously approved by the athletics director.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach and director of athletics and/or SWA;
2. Suspension from two competitions or 20% of the team's scheduled competition, whichever is greatest. This is in addition to the 10% missed for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense;
3. Mandatory Level II Advanced OPTIONS Program, Part 2 with cost of program to be borne by the SA
4. Reduction or cancellation of athletically related financial aid may follow this termination at the coach's discretion;
5. The head coach may assess any additional disciplinary penalty as previously approved by the athletics director.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:**

1. Permanent suspension from participation in athletics at Black Hills State University; and
2. Revocation of athletically related financial aid will follow this termination.

### **LEVEL III INFRACTION**

Testing positive for illegal street drugs (random testing) through BHSU Athletics Substance Abuse Policy.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach and director of athletics and/or SWA and outsourced drug and alcohol evaluation
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:
  1. Would be considered a Level III 1<sup>st</sup> Offense athletic infraction. Additional disciplinary action may also be taken by other entities within the University.

### **LEVEL III INFRACTION**

Examples include: possession of marijuana, narcotics, or controlled substance; Use of marijuana, narcotics or controlled substance.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach and director of athletics and/or SWA;
2. Suspension from two competitions or 20% of the team's scheduled competition, whichever is greatest;
3. Mandatory drug and alcohol evaluation (referral to outsourced provider made by Director BHSU Counseling Center) with the cost to be borne by the SA;
4. The head coach may assess any additional disciplinary penalty as previously approved by the athletics director.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:**

1. Permanent suspension from participation in athletics at Black Hills State University; and
2. Revocation of athletically related financial aid will follow this termination.

### **LEVEL IV INFRACTION**

Examples Include: Positive test of NCAA banned substance, anabolic steroid/performance enhancer; and/or missing a scheduled drug test.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach and director of athletics and/or SWA;
2. Permanent suspension from participation in athletics at Black Hills State University for a minimum of one season of competition in all sports if competition has not begun;
3. If competition has already begun, then SA misses the remainder of the current season and all contests in the next season up to the period of time in which declared eligible during the year;
4. Mandatory drug and alcohol evaluation (referral to outsourced provider made by director of BHSU Counseling Center) with the cost to be borne by the SA;
5. Ineligible for a period of 365 calendar days from the positive test result
6. Re-test upon expiration of the calendar year;
7. If re-test is positive, then permanent suspension from participation in athletics at Black Hills State University; and
8. Revocation of athletically related financial aid will follow this termination;
9. The head coach may assess any additional disciplinary penalty as previously approved by the athletics director.

### **LEVEL V INFRACTION**

Criminal offences such as: dealing drugs and/or other situations of arrest and conviction, examples include: assault, burglary, robbery, sexual assault, rape, Title IX and/or criminal investigations, etc. Due to the seriousness of this infraction the compliance committee will review each case.

#### **Any Offense:**

1. Mandatory meeting with head coach and director of athletics;
2. Suspension from all team activities ***indefinitely***; during with time an inquiry, investigation, and notification to BHSU Student Life, BHSU Security and Law Enforcement will occur. AFTER REVIEW FROM THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE CONSEQUENCES MAY INCLUDE:
  1. Temporary or permanent suspension from participation in athletics at Black Hills State University may occur dependent on investigation, plea, charges, date of trial, and/or court decision.
  2. Revocation of athletically related financial aid may follow temporary suspension. Revocation of athletically related financial aid will follow termination.

**GO YELLOW JACKETS!**