

McDaniel College

Department of Athletics



Student-Athlete Manual

**A reference guide of policies and procedures for
McDaniel College Intercollegiate Athletes**

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Introduction

McDaniel College Department of Athletics maintains the following policies and guidelines in an effort to assist with understanding how the Intercollegiate athletics program operates. This manual will give student-athletes an idea of what is expected of them when they participate in one or more intercollegiate sports. Anyone with questions concerning the manual or intercollegiate athletics should please contact the McDaniel Athletics Office.

McDaniel College Intercollegiate Athletics Program

McDaniel College offers the following 25 varsity programs for student participation:

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
M. Cross Country	M. Basketball	Baseball
W. Cross Country	W. Basketball	M. Golf
Field Hockey	M. Indoor Track & Field	W. Golf
Football	W. Indoor Track & Field	M. Lacrosse
M. Soccer	M. Swimming	W. Lacrosse
W. Soccer	W. Swimming	M. Outdoor Track & Field
Volleyball	M. Wrestling	W. Outdoor Track & Field
	W. Wrestling	Softball
		M. Tennis
		W. Tennis

Conference Affiliations

Regionally, McDaniel College is a charter member of the Centennial Conference. Established in 1992, the purpose of the eleven-member conference is to provide for athletic competition with institutions that share similar academic aspirations and are committed to the importance of the total educational experience for students engaged in sports. The complete Centennial Conference Mission Statement may be found on the Conference web page, www.centennial.org.

Centennial Conference Member Institutions

Bryn Mawr College	Swarthmore College
Dickinson College	Washington College
Franklin & Marshall College	Ursinus College
Gettysburg College	*Marymount University
Haverford College	** United States Merchant Marine Academy
Johns Hopkins University	
McDaniel College	
Muhlenberg College	

*Associate member for women's golf

**Associate member for wrestling

Nationally, McDaniel College is affiliated with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III. McDaniel College embraces the NCAA Division III philosophy. Institutions with membership at the NCAA Division III level do not provide scholarships related to athletic ability or participation.

Department of Athletics

Mission Statement

McDaniel Athletics strives to provide a broad, diverse, and gender-equitable offering of activities that meet the needs of student interest and enhance the educational goals of the college. We are committed to providing an experience that pursues competitive excellence while maintaining a curricular balance that supports the mission of the College and the NCAA Division III philosophy. The Department will provide the teaching, coaching, and leadership necessary to enable students to maximize their athletic potential as a part of the educational experience.

Values & Goals

The values of the McDaniel College Department of Athletics support co-curricular participation in intercollegiate athletics and complement the overall mission of the College. We are committed to the personal development and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff. Our primary goal is to enhance the educational experience by contributing to it through a comprehensive, broad-based program of intercollegiate athletics that supports balanced, equitable, and competitively successful experiences.

We believe that successful programs include a strong relationship with the campus, alumni, and local communities and will strive to maintain those bonds regularly through competition, service, and alumni relations.

In support of our goals, we consider our core values to be:

- A balanced intercollegiate sports program that strives to achieve competitive excellence within the Centennial Conference, the Mid-Atlantic region, and the nation, and is committed to sportsmanship, fair play, and service to the community.
- A commitment to education and development through athletics that complements the mission of the College, as well as the philosophy of the Centennial Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III.
- A commitment to an athletics experience that enhances personal growth, good health and physical fitness and introduces students to educational concepts that will help prepare them for life after graduation.
- Supporting the educational experience by encouraging full participation in the life of the College.

NCAA Division III

Philosophy Statement

Colleges and universities in Division III place the highest priority on the overall quality of the educational experience and on the successful completion of all students' academic programs. They seek to establish and maintain an environment in which a student-athlete's athletics activities are conducted as an integral part of the student-athlete's educational experience, and an environment that values cultural diversity and gender equity among their student-athletes and athletics staff. To achieve this end, Division III institutions:

- a) Expect that institutional presidents and chancellors have the ultimate responsibility and final authority for the conduct of the intercollegiate athletics program at the institutional, conference and national governance levels;
- b) Place special importance on the impact of athletics on the participants rather than on the spectators and place greater emphasis on the internal constituency (e.g., students, alumni, institutional personnel) than on the general public and its entertainment needs;
- c) Shall not award financial aid to any student on the basis of athletics leadership, ability, participation or performance;
- d) Primarily focus on intercollegiate athletics as a four-year, undergraduate experience;
- e) Encourage the development of sportsmanship and positive societal attitudes in all constituents, including student-athletes, coaches, administrative personnel and spectators;
- f) Encourage participation by maximizing the number and variety of sport offerings for their students through broad-based athletics programs;
- g) Assure that the actions of coaches and administrators exhibit fairness, openness and honesty in their relationships with student-athletes;
- h) Assure that athletics participants are not treated differently from other members of the student body;
- i) Assure that student-athletes are supported in their efforts to meaningfully participate in nonathletic pursuits to enhance their overall educational experience;
- j) Assure that athletics programs support the institution's educational mission by financing, staffing and controlling the programs through the same general procedures as other departments of the institution. Further, the administration of an institution's athletics program (e.g., hiring, compensation, professional development, certification of coaches) should be integrated into the campus culture and educational mission;
- k) Assure that athletics recruitment complies with established institutional policies and procedures applicable to the admission process;
- l) Exercise institutional and/or conference autonomy in the establishment of initial and continuing eligibility standards for student-athletes;
- m) Assure that academic performance of student-athletes is, at a minimum, consistent with that of the general student body;
- n) Assure that admission policies for student-athletes comply with policies and procedures applicable to the general student body;
- o) Provide equitable athletics opportunities for student-athletes and give equal emphasis to men's and women's sports;
- p) Support ethnic and gender diversity for all constituents;
- q) Give primary emphasis to regional in-season competition and conference championships; and
- r) Support student-athletes in their efforts to reach high levels of athletics performance, which may include opportunities for participation in national championships, by providing all teams with adequate facilities, competent coaching and appropriate competitive opportunities.

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

Participation in Multiple Sports

Multi-sport competition is permitted and encouraged provided that:

1. The student will compete fully in each season of play.
2. The student-athlete who selects to play two sports during the same season will do so after consultation with the coach of both sports and the Athletic Director.
3. A student-athlete may not change teams during the season without written permission of the coach of the sport they are presently participating in, the Athletic Director, and the coach of the team to which they are transferring.
4. Students will complete one season in its entirety before commencing practice or competition with the next sport.

Coaches will not discourage athletes from multi-sport participation or participation in other extra-curricular activities at McDaniel College. Infractions should be reported to the Director of Athletics.

Participation in Post-Season Championships

McDaniel College representation in regional or national championships, team, and individual, will be predicated, in part, upon the following criteria:

1. A realistic appraisal of the competition level in the Centennial Conference and/or the region, as it compares to the national competition setting.
2. The level of athletic achievement reached by the athlete or team in conference competition.
3. Season-long consistency of the individual or team.
4. Cost considerations and exposure value.
5. Any qualifying standards that may exist.

Student-athletes should discuss the potential for post-season competition and travel with their coaches in advance of the season as post-season participation decisions and opportunities are often made at the last minute.

Student-Athlete Expectations

It is considered a privilege, and not a right, to be a member of an intercollegiate athletic team at McDaniel. Membership on an athletic team means accepting the responsibility of representing oneself, the team, and the college in a positive and appropriate manner.

Any behavior exhibiting racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual harassment is prohibited. Physical or verbal abuse of any member, guest, or host of the College (including officials, opposing teams, etc.); disruptive or disorderly conduct; or any offensive or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. **Breaches of conduct or any actions deemed inappropriate may result in disciplinary action or loss of privileges.**

Student conduct checklist:

1. Put forth a conscientious, positive effort in all athletic endeavors;
2. Encourage sportsmanship and ethical play in all situations;
3. Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat, congratulating the opponent after competition;
4. Control temper in all situations;
5. Be courteous to officials;

6. Do not incite fans;
7. Do not criticize team circumstances, coaches, or teammates publicly;
8. Understand and abide by team, department, and college rules and regulations;
9. Respect and give proper care to facilities, uniforms, and equipment;
10. Return all issued equipment on time;
11. Portray yourself, your team, and the College in a positive manner

Code of Conduct

McDaniel College is guided and governed by regulations set forth in the Honor Code and is applicable for all students - including student-athletes. The Department of Athletics also has a [Code of Conduct](#). Recognizing that participation in intercollegiate athletics is a privilege and carries significant responsibility, McDaniel student-athletes are expected to abide by both.

Academic Eligibility and Financial Aid

A student must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward a degree in accordance with McDaniel College and NCAA standards to be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Undergraduate student-athletes must be enrolled in at least 12 credits per semester. The student must also be enrolled as a full-time student. According to the McDaniel College Student Catalog, requirements toward an undergraduate degree include the following:

Students must meet the following requirements to graduate from McDaniel College with a Bachelor of Arts degree:

1. Completion of at least 128 credit hours. The 128 credit hours are distributed among the requirements for Integrated Study in the Liberal Arts, the Major, at least one January Term course, and electives. In keeping with the spirit of a liberal education, it is strongly recommended that no more than 52 credit hours in any one discipline be counted toward the 128 hours required for graduation.
2. Completion of the requirements of The McDaniel Plan for Integrated Study in the Liberal Arts, including requirements for January Term. Except for requirements in January Term, students may not carry courses that meet Integrated Study requirements under the Credit-Fail option.
3. Completion of at least one of the academic majors, including the Capstone Experience, offered by the College with an overall 2.00 GPA in the major. Students must have a 2.00 or better average in all courses required for the major, including supplementary courses outside the department or program of the major. The major GPA for double and dual majors is calculated separately for each department. To complete a double or dual major, students must have at least a 2.00 GPA in each subject area and supplementary courses.
4. A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 ("C") or above in all work taken at the College.
5. Completion of the last 32 hours in residence at the College. Normally, a student who has been in residence two years or more will be permitted to take as many as eight of the last 32 credit hours off campus with Dean approval. Pre-approval Transfer Credit forms should be completed, signed, and submitted to the Registrar's Office. If these are required for a major or a minor, the department or program head must approve as well. Courses taken at the Budapest campus, in affiliated study abroad programs, the U.N. Semester, the Washington Semester, and other approved programs count as courses taken in residence. Students with questions should contact the Registrar's Office.

Financial aid application materials are mailed to every admitted McDaniel student. Continuing students will automatically be sent renewal application materials each winter for the next academic year. As such, the college reviews each student's financial situation annually. **McDaniel College is an NCAA Division III institution and cannot award financial scholarships based on athletic performance.**

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Student-Athletes at McDaniel College are held in high regard and are expected to serve as role models in the community. As visible members of the campus and community, you bear the responsibility of representing your team, the College, and yourselves at all times. In recent years, Instagram, X, YouTube, Snapchat, and other social networking sites have increased in popularity and are used by the majority of student-athletes at McDaniel College. Third parties including the media, faculty, future employers, and NCAA officials can easily access social media profiles and view personal information and views displayed on these mediums. This includes pictures, videos, comments, articles, and reposting the content of others. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student, the athletic department, and the campus community. This may also be detrimental to a student-athlete's future professional or volunteer opportunities.

Inappropriate Behavior

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

1. Posting or reposting photos, videos, and comments showing the personal use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or illegal/banned substances (e.g., holding red Solo cups, cans, shot glasses, drug paraphernalia, etc.)
2. Posting or reposting photos, videos, and comments that are of an explicit sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
3. Using inappropriate or offensive language in comments, videos, and other postings. This includes threats of violence and derogatory comments against protected classes.
4. Posting on any anonymous forum that reflects any of the above inappropriate conduct.

You are bound by both NCAA rules and the student-athlete expectations as mandated by McDaniel College. It's your responsibility as a student-athlete at McDaniel to abide by these conduct rules.

Online Safety

For your own safety, please keep the following recommendations in mind as you participate in social networking websites both on a computer and smartphone:

1. Set your security settings so that only your friends can view your profile.
2. You should not post your college or personal email, home address, local address, telephone number(s), or other personal information as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, identity theft, etc.
3. Be aware of who you add as a friend to your site – many people are looking to take advantage of student-athletes or to seek connection with student-athletes. Do not accept friend requests from people you do not know.

Uniforms and Equipment

Students issued uniforms, practice gear and equipment must assume responsibility for returning each item at the end of the season. Lost or stolen items are the responsibility of the borrower. Any equipment not returned will be billed to the student. All equipment will be billed at the replacement cost.

EQUIPMENT ROOM

Equipment managers will issue team members practice gear, a laundry loop, and a combination lock for lockers. McDaniel College personnel will clean practice clothing and uniforms. Please, do not put personal items on the laundry loops for washing. The equipment room manager reserves the right to open the laundry loops and remove personal belongings should they be included.

Uniform clothing is to be returned to the equipment room or the coach immediately following the final scheduled competition.

Access to the equipment room is a privilege that may be revoked if a student-athlete fails to abide by any team or department's expectations.

Team Travel Policy

Students are, as a general rule, expected to travel with the team to all contests and practices. When students cannot travel with the team, they must complete a travel waiver, available in the athletic office, and have a parent contact (if student is under the age of 18) the front office giving verbal approval for the student to travel independently of the team. McDaniel College cannot be responsible for any activity or incident while students are traveling independently of the team.

While traveling, students are expected to conduct themselves responsibly and within the context of state, institutional, departmental and team regulations. Understanding that members of traveling parties are representing McDaniel College, failure to abide by rules, laws and policies may have punitive results.

Students may be asked to make a financial commitment for certain team trips deemed extraordinary to normal departmental travel. These may include spring, winter and fall break trips and other extended stay competitions. In these instances, the student is financially responsible for their ticket. Should the student, after purchase of such ticket, decide that they do not want to travel, that student will not be eligible for a refund of the ticket. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Drug & Alcohol Policy

Maryland state law prohibits the purchase, possession or consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of 21. The Department of Athletics recognizes Maryland State law and endorses the policies of the College with regard to activities while on campus. The Department does not condone alcohol use by anyone under the age of 21, including prospective students visiting campus. Prospective students will be made aware of this policy in advance of their visit. Student-athletes who host prospective student-athletes during the year should not encourage underage drinking. We expect coaches to communicate and reiterate this policy to all student hosts throughout the year.

The Department also maintains a policy that prohibits the possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or other illegal drugs by any student-athletes or other students during normal official team or departmental functions. This policy is enforced from the time a team or individual leaves campus, until their return.

Student-athletes are also bound by all NCAA rules regarding banned substances, the use of which is strictly prohibited by the Department.

Hazing Policy

The Department of Athletics, Physical Education & Recreation prohibits hazing of any kind. Hazing of any McDaniel student will not be tolerated and will result in college disciplinary action.

All McDaniel varsity intercollegiate athletes are subject to the NCAA's anti-hazing guidance. The NCAA defines hazing as "any act committed against someone joining or becoming a member or maintaining membership in any organization that is humiliating, intimidating or demeaning, or endangers the health and safety of the person. Hazing includes active or passive participation in such acts and occurs regardless of the willingness to participate in the activities. Hazing creates an environment/climate in which dignity and respect are absent." [Click here to review the NCAA's Hazing Prevention Handbook.](#)

McDaniel College prohibits any form of hazing, whether the activities occur on or off property owned or operated by the College. Additionally, the College supports and enforces Maryland State laws concerning hazing. Failure to notify the College of an incident of hazing may be a violation of this policy.

Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any behavior and/or acts of servitude that is designed or intended to humiliate, degrade, embarrass, harass, or ridicule an individual, or that which a reasonable person would deem harmful or potentially harmful to an individual's physical, emotional, or psychological well-being, as an actual or perceived condition of new or continued affiliation with any organization, and/or team. Hazing also includes knowingly or recklessly engaging in such behavior and/or acts.

Engagement in any of these behaviors, regardless of the intent to cause harm or the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity, for the purpose of initiation, admission, or continued affiliation and/or membership, is a violation of this policy.

Sexual Misconduct Policy

McDaniel College is committed to establishing and maintaining a community rich in equality and free from all forms of discrimination and harassment. The College seeks to create an environment in which the greatest academic potential of students and professional potential of employees may be realized. In order to create and maintain such an environment, the College recognizes that all who work and learn at the College are responsible for ensuring that the community is free from discrimination based on sex or gender, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and other forms of sexual misconduct. These behaviors threaten our learning, living, and work environments and will not be tolerated. In general, sexual misconduct is a broad term that refers to all of the prohibited behaviors under this policy. Hereinafter all behavior referenced in this policy will be termed sexual misconduct. Some of these prohibited forms of conduct may also be crimes under Maryland law. If you believe that you have been the victim of a crime, the College can assist you with reporting criminal activity to law enforcement authorities to seek assistance with obtaining protective orders or taking other legal action.

Please click the following link to see full [NCAA Sexual Violence Prevention Education Requirement](#). Please click the following link to see full [Title IX support and information](#).

Grievance Procedure & Disciplinary Action for Student-Athletes

This procedure is intended to aid student-athletes in the proper method of voicing concerns about a member of the McDaniel College athletic community. [The student-athlete grievance procedure](#) is outlined below.

Maryland state law requires institutions of higher education to implement a policy for receiving and addressing student concerns about the institution's athletic programs and activities. [Md. Code Ann., Education, § 11-1601 (2019).]

Direct Resolution & Head Coach Engagement (informal resolution)

1. A student-athlete should first attempt to resolve the issue directly with the other person(s) involved.
 - a. Complaints regarding sexual or intimate partner violence should be reported directly to the Title IX Office.
 - b. Complaints regarding hazing activities should be reported directly to the office of the Director of Athletics.
2. If the student-athlete cannot reach a satisfactory resolution of the issue through direct interaction, or if the student-athlete feels unsafe making direct contact with the other person(s) for any reason, the student-athlete should report the grievance to the Head Coach.
 - a. If, at any time, a student-athlete feels unsafe in their environment or with a member of the McDaniel College athletic community, their concern should be reported directly to Campus Safety (410.857.2202).

Director of Athletics' Office and Other Resources (formal resolution)

3. If a satisfactory outcome is not identified through dialogue with the Head Coach, or if the grievance involves the Head Coach and a resolution cannot be reached through direct dialogue, the student-athlete should report the grievance to the Director of Athletics' office.
 - a. Reports to the Director of Athletics' office should be made by appointment.
 - b. Prior to, or at the time of appointment, the student-athlete should submit a brief written statement concerning the grievance. The Director of Athletics and/or designee may ask for additional information from all parties involved in order to initiate a formal review.
4. The Director of Athletics and/or designee and student-athlete will meet to discuss the grievance. If appropriate, other community members may be invited into the meeting upon the agreement of the Director of Athletics and/or designee and the student-athlete initiating the grievance.
5. If a resolution to this grievance is not resolved by the Director of Athletics' office, student-athletes are asked to make an appointment and seek support from an intermediary party. These parties include the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), team faculty liaison, the Dean of Students, the Director of Diversity and Inclusion, among others. These resources will work collaboratively with the Director of Athletics' office to settle the grievance.

If a student-athlete wishes to alert college administration directly to egregious acts, treatment, or other issues of concern, they can report these issues anonymously or in person via the following methods:

1. Complete this [online form](#).
2. To the Associate Director of Athletics (Sandy Lagana Bly) - Gill Gym
Availability
 1. By appointment: 9:00am-4:30pm Monday through Friday
 2. By Phone: 410-386-4630
 3. By E-mail: slaganably@mcdaniel.edu
3. To the Title IX Coordinator (Liz Towle) – Human Resources
Availability
 1. By appointment: 9:00am-4:30pm Monday through Friday
 2. By Phone: 410-857-2205
 3. By E-mail: etwole@mcdaniel.edu

* Anonymous reports may impact the College’s ability to investigate and respond fully to the concern.

Concerns that may be reported under this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Unsafe coaching or playing environment in the athletics department and/or in athletic activities, including team practices, competitions, travel or events;
2. Negligent treatment of injuries;
3. Bullying and/or hazing activity by coaching staff and/or students;
4. Discrimination and/or harassment;
5. Violations of other college policies during the course of athletic activities, including, but not limited to the College’s Alcohol Policy or Zero-Tolerance Drug Policy;
6. Inadequate or improperly maintained equipment;
7. Unsafe transportation.

Reported concerns will be treated confidentially to the greatest extent possible and will be investigated promptly pursuant to the College’s policies. All parties are expected to abide by the process set forth by the investigative team.

PROTECTION AGAINST RETALIATION: A reporting person who acts in good faith will be protected from retaliation under this policy. Good faith means that the person has reasonable grounds to believe that the reported concerns are substantially true. Threats, intimidation, and retaliation against individuals for submitting a concern pursuant to this policy may be grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment. Complaints of retaliation may be submitted in the same manner as outlined above.

STUDENT ATHLETE NOTIFICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY: This policy will be posted on the college’s athletics website. The college will inform all students who participate in the athletic program or activities of the college about this policy.

REPORT TO THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION: As required by the Maryland State Code, beginning on or before August 1, 2020, and every year thereafter, the college will report to the Maryland Commission on Higher Education the number of students who shared concerns under the college’s policy during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLICY: Questions about the policy can be addressed to Jeremy Shepherd, Director of Athletics, or Sandy Lagana Bly, Associate Director of Athletics.

Team Policies and Disciplinary Action

Disciplinary Action & Appeal Process

Participation in intercollegiate athletics is a privilege, and student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a positive manner as representatives and ambassadors of the College.

A student-athlete may be subject to disciplinary action or removed from an athletic team at any time that the coach and Director of Athletics feels that a student has violated the policies, philosophy, guidelines, or principles of the team, McDaniel College, the Centennial Conference, or the NCAA. Any student-athlete that violates NCAA rules will be immediately suspended; reinstatement will be contingent upon recommendation by the relevant Centennial Conference or NCAA staff.

Student-athletes facing disciplinary action may appeal to the Director of Athletics.

1. All appeals should be submitted, in writing, to the Director of Athletics' office for review.
2. The Director of Athletics will review the appeal and issue a final decision.

Team Policies

Team policies are administered by a coach and are designed to be in the best interest of the student-athletes and team. All team policies established by a coach should be clearly stated and distributed to each team member in writing prior to the season or at the time they are established. A copy of these rules is also sent to the Director of Athletics and is expected to be enforced without prejudice.

McDaniel College Student Conduct

McDaniel College student conduct is also governed by regulations set forth in the Honor Code and is applicable for all students - including student-athletes. The Department of Athletics also has a [Code of Conduct](#). McDaniel Student-Athletes are expected to abide by both.

Athletic Communications

In order to best serve you as a McDaniel College student-athlete, the Department of Athletics is ready to assist you in dealing with the possibility of interview and photograph requests by media personnel. Before agreeing to any interview or photograph, please contact the athletics office for approval.

We want to protect you as a student-athlete as well as promote your achievements and those of your teammates. With your cooperation, we can properly coordinate any interview session, as well as provide necessary academic, biographical, and statistical information about you during your career at McDaniel College. Additionally, we can be present to help with any questions about the general state of the program or department.

If you are contacted directly by the media or have any questions concerning this policy, please contact the Director of Athletic Communications at extension [x 2291].

Strength & Conditioning

The purpose of our programs is to establish a strong athletic base and progress towards peak athletic performance. Athletes can expect a wide variety of training and lifting techniques ranging from Olympic style weightlifting, speed, agility and quickness to general conditioning. The strength and conditioning staff believe in a hands-on and highly variable approach. The staff will teach progressions and

regressions to the exercise prescriptions which allows for a more individualized program for the student athletes.

Student Academic Support Services

The McDaniel College Student Academic Support Services Office (SASS) provides all students with documented disabilities with appropriate accommodation.

Student Academic Support Services is the designated office to obtain and file disability-related documents, certify eligibility for services, determine reasonable accommodations, and develop plans for the provision of such accommodations.

In keeping with McDaniel College's caring and supportive community, the SASS office offers a variety of programs to assist students in achieving the college's high academic and personal expectations. The Basic program provides access to all approved accommodations, assistive technology, and use of the testing center for students with documented disabilities. The Academic Skills Program (ASP), Mentorship Advantage Program (MAP), and Providing Academic Support for Success (PASS) are additional fee-based levels of service available to students registered with the SASS Office.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and ADAAA (2008) prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Counseling and Health Services

McDaniel College's Wellness Center serves to foster the physical, emotional, interpersonal and intellectual well-being of all students; so that, students can optimize their capacity to learn, reach their potential, and achieve their goals inside and outside the classroom.

Counseling Services supports the mission of McDaniel College by providing crisis intervention and short-term counseling opportunities for students who are experiencing psychological concerns that are impeding their social, emotional, interpersonal, and intellectual well-being.

Counseling is a confidential process designed to help students learn about themselves, address concerns, and discover effective coping strategies. Counseling Services offers students the opportunity to work with licensed mental health professionals in a confidential setting.

Sports Medicine

All injuries are to be reported to the athletic trainers and coaches. Athletic Trainers will assess injuries and implement a course of treatment or refer the student to the appropriate medical specialist. Students are responsible for complying with treatment protocols and maintaining contact with the training room. Coaches may not permit injured students to practice or compete until the sports medicine office has cleared them.

Injuries that occur outside of practice or competition should be reported to the Wellness Center or an urgent care facility. Students should report the extent of the injury to the Sports Medicine office as soon as possible.

Physical Examinations and Insurance

The Athletic Department is fully committed to the health and welfare of the student-athletes participating in intercollegiate athletics and hopes to provide a safe environment by providing qualified sports medicine personnel for all intercollegiate athletics teams and student-athletes. The sports medicine department is staffed with NATA certified athletic trainers. Dr. Sam Matz and Carroll Health Group Orthopedics serve as McDaniel's on call orthopedic consultations and provides in-person evaluations, as needed.

All intercollegiate participants are required to complete a heart and lung evaluation upon their arrival to McDaniel as a freshmen or transfer athlete. All student-athletes must submit the following documents with the SportsWare program: preparticipation questionnaire; participation agreement; concussion education; sickle cell education and submission of waiver or sickle cell trait blood test; ADHD education; drug testing consent form; mental health information document; concussion baseline cognitive and balance test. Once the required information is submitted, reviewed, and deemed complete, the athlete will be allowed to participate. Failure to complete the sports medicine documents will prohibit the student athlete from participation in strength and conditioning sessions, team meetings, and intercollegiate practices and competitions.

McDaniel College requires all students to carry medical insurance. When a referral is made to a physician for evaluation of a sports-related injury, the student-athlete will be responsible for providing primary insurance information to the attending physician or health care professional.

All athletes requiring a physician's evaluation will be required to fill out the college's insurance company's claim form. This form must be completed and forwarded to the insurance company within 30 days of the onset of injury. Each injured athlete that has completed this form will have an additional confidential file in the training room dedicated to their insurance claim and claim history.

The student-athlete will be responsible for forwarding all bills, invoices, and explanation of benefits (EOB) from the primary insurance company to the Insurance Coordinator. All forwarded paperwork will be submitted to the college secondary insurance carrier for review and payment.

If the athlete has school insurance, the college's insurance will accept full responsibility for any medical coverage from intercollegiate athletics, provided that all claims are submitted in a timely manner.

The NCAA provides catastrophic insurance for claims in excess of \$90,000.

Treatment of Illness

All illnesses that might interfere with the ability to practice or compete should be reported to the athletic training staff and your coach as soon as possible. A member of the sports medicine office will make the appropriate referral for evaluation.

Please visit the [Sports Medicine webpage](#) for additional information about injury and illness protocols, access to student-athletes forms, and other pertinent information.

Medical Hardship Waivers: Division III Bylaw 14.2.5

Please contact Sports Medicine to determine your eligibility for a hardship waiver.

NCAA Division III Hardship Waiver Bylaw:

14.2.5 Hardship Waiver. A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of participation (per Bylaw [14.2.4](#)) by the conference or the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from a season-ending injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions: *(Revised: 1/12/04 effective 8/1/04 for any athletics participation occurring on or after 8/1/04, 8/23/07)*

- (a) The season-ending injury or illness occurs before the completion of the first half of the traditional playing season in that sport for the season being waived and results in incapacity to compete for the remainder of the traditional playing season. The first half of the traditional playing season is measured by the maximum contest or date of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport) limitation in each sport as set forth in Bylaw 17 plus one contest or date of competition. For cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field, see Bylaw 14.2.5.2.5.1; and *(Revised: 1/10/05 for any competition occurring on or after 8/1/04, 1/9/06, 8/23/07, 1/16/10 effective for injuries or illnesses that occur before 8/1/10, 4/13/10)*
- (b) The season-ending injury or illness occurs when the student-athlete has not competed in more contests or dates of competition than a number equivalent to one-third of the standard denominator, where the standard denominator is determined by the maximum number of contests or dates of competition plus one contest or date of competition (see Bylaw 14.2.5.2.5.1).

For cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field, see Bylaw 14.2.5.2.5.1. Only competition (excluding preseason scrimmages and exhibition contests but including scrimmages and exhibitions after the first regularly scheduled contest) against outside participants during the traditional playing season, 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 calculating the number of contests or dates of competition in which the student-athlete has competed. [See Figure 14-1] *(Revised: 1/10/92, 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 1/10/05 for any competition occurring on or after 8/1/04, 4/7/05, 1/9/06, 8/23/07, 1/16/10 effective for injuries or illnesses that occur before 8/1/10, 4/13/10, 10/18/16 effective 10/18/16)*

Coach Evaluation

The Director of Athletics and/or designee will meet individually with each coach at the end of each season. The review will include a compilation of comments from student surveys, which will be distributed at least every other year. The student surveys will be confidential, and coaches will not see them in their entirety. The Director of Athletics and/or designee will consider input from personal interactions with students, observations from practices and / or games, and possible other members of the campus community.

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee ("SAAC"), is an official chartered student organization of student-athlete representatives from each varsity athletic program at McDaniel College. SAAC serves as the governing body for student-athletes.

The mission of Division III SAAC, as defined by the NCAA, is to:

"...enhance the total student-athlete experience by promoting opportunity for all student-athletes;
protecting student-athlete well-being; and fostering a positive student-athlete image, while maintaining the tenants of the Division III philosophy."

Additionally, as members of NCAA Division III and the Centennial Conference, McDaniel College SAAC provides the following as the primary mission of this organization:

- Promote varsity athletics as a valuable part of the McDaniel College campus community;
- Increase campus awareness of varsity athletic programs;
- Cultivate and strengthen relationships between the athletic community and the campus community through SAAC sponsored endeavors;
- Support and act as a resource for McDaniel College varsity student-athletes;
- Act as a liaison between student-athletes and the athletics administration;
- Cultivate a prosperous and supportive athletic community.

RESOURCES:

- [Centennial Conference SAAC Homepage](#)
- [NCAA Division III SAAC Homepage](#)

Sports Wagering

The NCAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering (this includes super bowl squares, fantasy leagues, online bets [such as FanDuel or DraftKings], betting apps, parlay cards and prop bets), which has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and the intercollegiate athletics community.

[NCAA Sports Betting Information](#)

Transfer Process/Permission-to-Contact and Self-Release:

Under the basic transfer regulations, you must spend an academic year in residence at the school to which you are transferring. If you transfer from a four-year college to an NCAA school, you must complete one academic year in residence at the new school before you can play for or receive travel expenses from the new school, unless you qualify for a transfer exception or waiver. To satisfy an academic year in residence, you must be enrolled in and successfully complete a full-time program of studies for two-full semesters or three-full quarters. Summer school terms and part-time enrollment do not count toward fulfilling an academic year in residence.

If you are enrolled full time in a four-year school, athletics staff members from an NCAA school cannot contact you or your parents unless you are in the NCAA Transfer Portal or they first have a letter from your current athletics director (or athletics administrator designated by the athletics director). If you are transferring from a school that is not a member of the NCAA or NAIA, you do not need a permission-to-contact letter.

If you are a student at a Division III school and you want to transfer to another Division III school, you may issue your own permission-to-contact self-release to allow another Division III school to contact you about transferring.