



Northampton Community College Athletics

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct 2023-24

There are special responsibilities and requirements that accompany being a student-athlete and representing Northampton Community College. Northampton expects its student-athletes to demonstrate academic honesty and integrity, to train and strive for their highest degree of athletic excellence, and to conduct themselves as responsible citizens. Student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves, both on and off campus, in a manner that brings respect to Northampton and its athletic teams. Every student-athlete is expected to abide by the Northampton Community College Code of Conduct, including all College policies, the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) guidelines, and Region 19 regulations, in addition to adhering with all state and federal laws.

Academic Responsibilities

Student-athletes are expected to attend class regularly and punctually. Each student-athlete is responsible for notifying his or her instructor of absences relating to home and away athletic contests. If a student-athlete expects to miss a class due to athletically-related competition, then he or she must show his or her professor a travel absence letter at the beginning of the term. These letters can be obtained from a student-athlete's coach or the Associate AD for student services.

In addition, student-athletes should seek assistance before and/or when academic difficulties occur from the instructor and Support Services for Student-Athletes; attend all academic appointments, counseling, and advising sessions as scheduled; adhere to the College's policy regarding academic integrity; and maintain NJCAA minimum course-hour requirements. Student-Athletes should never add or drop a class without first getting written permission from the Associate AD for student services.

Social Responsibilities

Student-athletes are specifically cautioned against illegal or unauthorized use of alcohol, drugs, and other intoxicants and shall not:

- Use, or be under the influence of, drugs not prescribed by a physician
- Drink, be under the influence of, or be in personal possession of alcohol during any intercollegiate event, athletic practice, or on road trips associated with athletic events; or
- Use tobacco products during any intercollegiate athletic event, athletic practice, or on road trips associated with athletic events (this includes vaping)

In addition, student-athletes shall not:

- Participate or encourage any type of behavior, action taken or any situation created that intentionally causes embarrassment, harassment or ridicule and risks emotional and/or physical harm to members of a group or team, whether they are new members or not, and regardless of the person's willingness to participate.
- Post any items or photos to their social media accounts which may be found to be detrimental to the College, athletic program, or team.
- Engage in any type of discriminatory acts, derogatory comments, hate-speech, or demeaning behavior with any individual or group.

Residence Hall Responsibilities

All student-athletes are required to abide by the regulations and policies of the residence halls. Student-athletes are expected to be a "resource" for the residence life staff and serve as role models.

Good Sportsmanship

Student-athletes are ambassadors of Northampton Community College and, as a result, hold the responsibility of behaving with dignity and sportsmanship. In this pursuit, student-athletes shall exemplify honesty and good sportsmanship during games and competition. Behavior at all times should reflect positively on the reputation of Northampton both on and off the field of play and when traveling and competing at other institutions. Northampton expects our student-athletes to always maintain an attitude of respect toward our opponents. As models of good sportsmanship, Northampton student-athletes should look for ways to encourage and appreciate quality play and effort, regardless of whether it's exhibited by a teammate or an opponent.

Medical Responsibilities

Participation in intercollegiate athletics at Northampton is contingent upon medical approval by the Sports Medicine Staff. This process must be completed each year prior to the start of training and/or competition. All student-athletes must have proof of health insurance, have a valid physical on file, have results of a sickle cell test on file and complete an IMPACT test.

Compliance Responsibilities

Student-athletes must participate in all mandatory educational programs held by the Compliance Office. Student-athletes are also expected to assist the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics administration by providing information for eligibility certification and NJCAA compliance issues whenever sought.

Travel Expectations

When traveling as official representatives of Northampton, student-athletes' actions should reflect favorably on the College, their team, and themselves. Student-athletes are expected to adhere to the department dress code, including wearing only Under Armour gear, when representing the College. Student-athletes must travel to, and from, events on college-sponsored transportation, unless prior approval is granted.

NJCAA and Region 19 Responsibilities

All student-athletes are subject to NJCAA rules and regulations, as acknowledged by signing the NJCAA Student-Athlete Statement administered annually prior to certification of eligibility. Additionally, all Region 19 rules and regulations must be followed explicitly.

Violations of the Student-Athlete Standards

If a student-athlete's head coach or the Director of Athletics believes the student-athlete has violated the student-athlete standards, they may, at any time, reprimand the student-athlete, suspend or dismiss the student-athlete from the team, or impose conditions of probation on the student-athlete's continued participation on the team.

I, _____, understand that participation in athletics at Northampton is a privilege, not a right, and I understand that any violation of this Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, the College Code of Conduct or any state or federal laws could result in my suspension, and/or dismissal, from the team.

Signature of Student-Athlete

Date

THIS FORM MUST BE PRINTED, SIGNED AND THEN HANDED IN TO THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT