

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**Reason for Policy**

To clarify the relationship of intercollegiate athletics to the mission of the college, and to establish broad principles to guide the administration and operation of the intercollegiate athletics program.

Definitions

1. *Coach* means any person serving as a head coach, assistant coach, graduate assistant coach, coaching intern, or volunteer coach.
2. *Athletic staff* means any person serving in an administrative, management, or support capacity within the Department of Athletics, or any capacity in which they supervise students as employees or -athletes, or have responsibility for the provision of substantive services or other benefits to student employees or student-athletes.
3. A *student-athlete* is any college student who plays an intercollegiate sport as defined by National Junior College Athletic Association (“NJCAA”) regulations.
4. A *student employee* is any student who is employed in any capacity by the Department of Athletics.

Policy Statement

- A. The college’s intercollegiate athletics is intended to:
 1. Enhance the learning experience for participating students, and
 2. Enhance the connection between the college and the community.
- B. Under the leadership of the President and within the budgetary resources provided, the college shall provide a learning-centered intercollegiate athletics program that complements each participating student-athlete's academic program of study while encouraging their physical and emotional well being and their social development. Through intercollegiate sports, it is the goal of the College to improve the academic skills of each student-athlete, foster the development and refinement of athletic skills, and teach sportsmanship and teamwork, a strong work ethic, leadership skills, and such personal character traits as integrity, loyalty, humility, and maturity.
- C. Under the leadership of the President and within the budgetary resources provided, the college shall seek to attract interest in its intercollegiate athletics program from within the college community and throughout the community at large through such means as attendance at games, dissemination of publicity and special events.
- D. Student-athletes shall be subject to the same admission and financial aid policies, academic policies and standards, and the fulfillment of curriculum requirements as other students. Except as allowed by NJCAA regulations, student-athletes shall receive no special consideration or benefits that are not made available to all students.
- E. The President shall establish procedures and assign responsibility to govern the recruitment, admission, administration of grants-in-aid, student employment, and

continuing eligibility of athletes. Students and coaches are responsible to know and meet the eligibility requirements of the NJCAA.

- F. The College shall be a member of the Garden State Athletic Conference, Region XIX of the NJCAA and must adhere to the procedures and guidelines provided in the N.J.C.A.A. Handbook and Casebook and Regional Operating Codes regarding student-athlete recruiting, retention, participation in regional and national tournaments and conduct.
- G. The College must adhere to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 requiring the equal treatment of genders regarding athletic programs and athletic scholarships.
- H. All coaches shall be challenged to accept responsibility for establishing and maintaining the highest standards of good conduct among their student athletes.
- I. Amorous and/or sexual relationships are strictly forbidden between coaches or athletic staff and student athletes or student employees for whom they are responsible.
- J. Student-athletes shall be required to behave in a manner that is exemplary when they are on the field/court representing the College in an intercollegiate event. There shall be no use of foul language or play regardless of the situation. Student-athletes are responsible for promoting good sportsmanship among their teammates and their opponents. They shall respect the decisions made by the officials and not display any negative actions toward any official.
- K. All revenue, from whatever source derived and of whatever kind, and all expenditures, for the athletics program shall be properly deposited and accounted for according to established procedures.
- L. The President shall appoint annually an ad hoc committee of faculty, staff, and students to monitor and report on compliance of the Athletics Program with policy and procedures, and to evaluate the Athletics Program to ensure that it is an integral part of the education of athletes and the college mission.

Any willful violation of this policy will result in the commencement of disciplinary proceedings up to and including student dismissal or employee termination.

Approved: Board of Trustees
July 27, 1978

Revised: May 18, 1995
June 15, 2006