Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

There are special responsibilities and requirements that accompany being a student-athlete and representing Macalester College in athletics contests. The athletics department places the highest priority on notions of respect and integrity in all athletics endeavors and expects its student-athletes to conduct themselves, both on and off campus, in a manner which reflects positively on Macalester College and its athletic teams. As such, student-athletes must be concerned with any behavior which might discredit themselves, their teams, and/or the College and shall act in a manner that respects opponents, coaches, administrators, fans, and officials, and confines the competitiveness of the game to the playing venue.

Macalester College, the MIAC and the NCAA encourage and promote good sportsmanship on and off the field. Student-athletes are expected to abide by core values of civility and respect for opponents. Profanity, racial, ethnic or sexual comments or other intimidating actions will not be tolerated and may be grounds for disciplinary actions.

The College expects its student-athletes to train and strive for their highest degree of athletic excellence, to demonstrate academic honesty and integrity, and to conduct themselves as responsible citizens. Student-athletes must abide by all College, NCAA and MIAC codes, rules, regulations and policies, in addition to adhering with all state and federal laws.

In addition, student-athletes are subject to the rules and regulations specified by each head coach for team membership. A head coach or the Director of Athletics may at any time reprimand a student-athlete, suspend the student-athlete from the team, or impose conditions of probation on the student-athlete’s continued participation on the team, if the head coach or Director of Athletics believes the student-athlete has engaged in misconduct.

Disciplinary Process

1. Category I Infractions - Examples of Category I Infractions include but are not limited to the following: unsportsmanlike conduct during athletics events; engaging in disruptive behavior on or off campus; possession or use of alcohol and/or tobacco during athletics events; NCAA or MIAC rules violations.

If a student is found to have engaged in an infraction in this area, the following steps will be taken:

1. The student-athlete will be issued a written reprimand which will be copied to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.
2. The Director of Athletics will meet with the Head Coach of the student-athlete and determine additional disciplinary action if necessary; additional actions may include probation, suspension from practice/competition, and dismissal from the team.
3. The Director of Athletics will meet with the student-athlete to discuss the written reprimand and other possible disciplinary actions.

II. Category II Infractions – Examples of Category II Infractions include but are not limited to the following: repeat offenses of Category I Infractions, engaging in illegal and/or unethical activities, possession or use of illegal drugs, violation of college policy and rules, hazing, unauthorized access to and/or presence in college facilities and grounds, violation of state, federal, or local laws.

If a student is found to have engaged in an infraction in this area, the following steps will be taken:

1. Referral to the College Conduct and Disciplinary System
2. The Director of Athletics will meet with the Head Coach and the Dean of Students or designate to determine if additional disciplinary action beyond that of the College Conduct System is appropriate; additional actions may include probation, suspension from practice/competition, and dismissal from the team.
3. The Director of Athletics will meet with the student-athlete to discuss the possible disciplinary actions from the infraction
4. The Director of Athletics will provide a written statement to the student-athlete detailing the disciplinary actions and decisions that have been reached. This written statement will be copied to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.

III. Appeal Process – The appeal process exists to ensure that all disciplinary actions taken against a student-athlete by the Director of Athletics outside of the College Conduct and Disciplinary System are fair and equitable. All appeals will be heard by the Dean of Students or a designate. The appeal must be submitted in writing within five working days of notification of the initial sanction. The person to whom the disciplinary decision is appealed will review the previous decision and rule on its appropriateness.