Welcome to Aurora University Athletics

As you browse through our Student-Athlete Handbook, speak with our coaches, or participate in an athletic contest, you will find Aurora University Intercollegiate Athletics to be completely dedicated to the overall development of the student-athlete.

Aurora University has a rich history and tradition of success across the spectrum of sport offerings. From conference championships to NCAA Championship appearances to academic awards and community service, student-athletes and staff continue to bring excitement and a sense of pride to Aurora University and all of the Spartan fans across the country.

At Aurora University, we firmly believe that intercollegiate athletics should promote the character development of participants, enhance the integrity of higher education, and promote civility in society. Toward these ends, we strive to adhere to fundamental values such as respect, civility, honesty and responsibility. Student-athletes and staff at Aurora University are always expected to operate with the principles of sportsmanship and ethical conduct in mind.

We value our affiliation with the NCAA and subscribe to the rules and principles outlined by the association in the administration of our sport programs, as well as in our recruitment and financial aid packaging of student-athletes.

We also value our affiliation with our sports conferences, the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (NACC), Midwest Lacrosse Conference (MLC), Midwest Women's Lacrosse Conference (MWLC) and Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA).

Our conferences are an association of select institutions dedicated to the sponsorship of NCAA Division III intercollegiate competition in a broad spectrum of sports. Member institutions subscribe to shared values and evidence commitment to academic excellence, equal opportunity, sportsmanship and fair play.

Thank you for your involvement in Aurora University and Spartan Athletics. It’s a great day to be a Spartan!

Jim Hamad
Director of Athletics

Spartans
A Spartan is a person of great courage and fortitude, who takes great pride in simplicity and self-discipline.

S – Sportmanship
P – Preparation
A – Attitude
R – Respect
T – Teamwork
A – Accountability
N – Now - Not later
S – Success

Aurora University Mission Statement and Core Values
Aurora University – an inclusive community dedicated to the transformative power of learning.

Statement of Core Values
We will adhere to the highest standards of integrity in every aspect of institutional practice and operation. Through this proven dedication to honesty, fairness, and ethical conduct, we will lead by example and inspire our students to do the same.
We will exercise the rights and responsibilities of **citizenship** in an educational community, founded upon the principles of mutual respect and open discourse. We will live within our means and manage our resources wisely, while creating an environment that fosters teamwork and promotes service to others.

We will work and live as an organization devoted to **continuous learning**. We recognize that the University exists in a rapidly changing world and know that we will succeed in helping students achieve their full potential only if we realize our own.

We will pursue **excellence** by embracing quality as a way of community life. Accordingly, we will set high expectations for ourselves, our students, and our university and will work together to attain them.

**Aurora University Athletics Mission Statement**

Aurora University is committed to a philosophy of firm institutional control of athletics, and to unquestioned academic and financial integrity of the athletic program. The mission statement and core values of the University determine the standards by which the intercollegiate athletic program is conducted.

Every student-athlete, male and female, in all sports will receive equitable and fair treatment. Aurora University is committed to providing quality coaching, facilities, equipment, and support services for our student-athletes as it encourages participation and supports students in their efforts to reach their potential in both athletic and academic performance. The well-being, health and safety of student-athletes are primary concerns of the athletic department.

The Aurora University athletic department insists upon, applauds and encourages sportsmanship, ethical conduct, fair play and respect of its opponents and game officials by coaches, staff, student-athletes and fans in every phase of intercollegiate competition.

**Aurora University Athletics Code of Conduct**

It should be considered a privilege to compete in intercollegiate athletics and to represent your team and your institution in a positive manner. Demonstrate respect on and off the field for teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, fans, and just as importantly, for oneself. Take pride in your ability to excel on the field/court and in the classroom. Be mindful that your behavior represents not only yourself, but also your teammates and fellow student-athletes. Strive to combine your passion and competitiveness during competition with sportsmanship and ethical conduct. Such conduct demonstrates an understanding of the letter of the rules as well as the spirit of the rules.

**Introductory Conduct and Ethics Statement for Student-Athletes**

Aurora University is proud of its reputation as a school that strongly values **integrity, respect and truthfulness**. This reputation enables us to produce successful students, maintain the confidence of the employers that hire them and retain the highest quality employees. For student-athletes, participation in athletics is seen as an integral part of the preparation for life after college. It is important that AU student-athletes take pride in representing the university both in and out of the athletic arena. They are expected to serve as an example for others on how to be good citizens in the community. In order to practice honorable citizenship AU student-athletes must adopt the City of Aurora as their hometown and put forth all efforts to better their community. They should be viewed as partners with the local citizens to create an environment in which the university and residents live harmoniously together.

**Expectations and Responsibilities of Student-Athletes**

AU student-athletes are held to a high standard of excellence and it should be considered a privilege to compete in intercollegiate athletics. Of the upmost importance is to represent their team and institution in a positive manner. AU student-athletes are expected to demonstrate respect for teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, fans, and just as importantly, for themselves. They must strive to combine their passion and competitiveness during competition with sportsmanship and ethical conduct. Finally, student-athletes should take pride in their ability to excel in athletic competition.
This standard of excellence is also expected to be met in the classroom and within the community. A core principle for AU student-athletes is the understanding that their behavior represents themselves, their teammates, fellow student-athletes and Aurora University while out of the athletic arena. Achievement in the classroom, practicing service learning and serving as leaders within the Aurora community creates well-rounded students and translates to success in life after graduation.

Student-athletes are invited to be part of the discussion to regularly review and revise this code of conduct. This allows student-athletes to take ownership of the code and increases the likelihood that they will abide by its rules. With this sense of ownership comes the understanding that AU student-athletes are expected to educate new athletes about the code once they arrive on campus. Athletes are also expected to intervene when they see the code being broken. It is important that all AU student-athletes work together to see that the code they helped create is being followed.

**A-Book Student Handbook**
The link for the A-Book: [http://www.aurora.edu/academics/resources/abook.html](http://www.aurora.edu/academics/resources/abook.html)

AU student-athletes are to meet the expectations and follow the rules set in the Aurora University A-Book. Student-athletes who fail to abide by these rules will be subjected to university sanctions in addition to athletic department penalties as dictated by the Director of Athletics and Head Coaches. In addition, expectations exist for student-athletes and coaches when they represent Aurora University as outlined above.

**Student-Athlete Conduct-Related Suspensions**
Student-athletes in violation of Aurora University policies or if any acts of inappropriate behavior comes to the attention of the Department of Athletics from school personnel or the community, those student-athletes may receive sanctions from the university as delineated in the Aurora University Student Code of Conduct. The student-athletes will likely appear before the Director of Athletics, who will decide if additional athletic-related sanctions may be warranted. There could also be additional A-Book sanctions.

**Important Code of Conduct Notes**
- AU student-athletes are expected to be stalwarts for the university’s values of integrity, excellence, citizenship, and respect.
- AU student-athletes are held to a high standard of excellence and it should be considered a privilege to compete in intercollegiate athletics.
- AU student-athletes understand that their behavior represents themselves, their teammates, fellow student-athletes, and Aurora University while in and out of the athletic arena.
- To practice honorable citizenship AU student-athletes must adopt the City of Aurora as their hometown and put forth all efforts to better their community.
- Achievement in the classroom and serving as leaders within the Aurora community creates well-rounded students and translates to success in life after graduation.
- AU student-athletes are expected to take ownership of the Code of Conduct and educate new athletes about the Code once they arrive on campus.
- AU student-athletes are expected to intervene when they see the Code being broken.
- AU student-athletes in violation of Aurora University policies will appear before the Director of Athletics, who will decide if additional athletic-related sanctions are warranted.

**Common Violations that Jeopardize Athletic Eligibility**
- Being loud and disruptive in any manner on or off campus
- Walking in groups and/or being disruptive to/from the residence halls and off-campus residences
- Hosting guests or being present at an off-campus residence in a manner in which neighbors are disturbed
- Appearing on campus while intoxicated or under the influence of drugs
- Drinking alcohol when under 21 years of age
- Hosting an event in which persons under the age of 21 drink alcohol
- Selling drugs
• Abusing recreational drugs or performance enhancing drugs
• Failing a drug test
• Lying to AU administrators, especially when being questioned about an alleged violation
• Stealing
• Being abusive towards another person; acting in a manner defined as fighting, assault and/or battery
• Acting in a manner that violates the AU Sexual Discrimination Policy
• Posting incriminating materials online
• Hazing and/or bullying
• Vandalizing AU or private property
• Violating the AU A-Book

This list is a framework of examples and is not all inclusive.

Aurora University Sportsmanship Statement
The NCAA, Aurora University and the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference promote good sportsmanship by student-athletes, coaches and spectators. We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and officials in a positive manner. Profanity, racial or sexist comments or other intimidating actions directed at officials, student-athletes, coaches, spectators or team representatives – as well as public intoxication, the consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are grounds for removal from the site of competition and other disciplinary actions.

Athletic Affiliations
Aurora University is a member of the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (NACC).

The Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference was established in 2006 and consists of Alverno College, Aurora University, Benedictine University, Concordia University – Chicago, Concordia University – Wisconsin, Dominican University, Edgewood College, Illinois Institute of Technology, Lakeland College, Marian University, Milwaukee School of Engineering, Rockford University, and Wisconsin Lutheran College. Conference information can be found at www.naccsports.org. Men’s Lacrosse competes in the Midwest Lacrosse Conference (MLC) and Women’s Lacrosse competes in the Midwest Women’s Lacrosse Conference (MWLC). Conference information can be found at http://www.mlclacrosse.org/landing/index. Men’s and Women’s Hockey competes in the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA), conference information can be found at www.nchahockey.org.

NACC Code of Conduct
Philosophy – Individuals associated with the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference are expected to deport themselves in a manner consistent with the Core Values of the Conference. Their behavior at all times shall reflect the high standards of honor and dignity that characterize participation in competitive sports in the collegiate environment. Displays of sportsmanlike behavior and mutual respect of competitors and officials shall be considered an integral part of all athletics competition. Administrators, coaches, student-athletes and officials shall abide by the rules governing the Conference and the NCAA and fully cooperate in any and all inquiries related to possible violations of those rules.

Basic Principles – As a member of the NACC, we agree to:
• Adhere to NCAA rules and Division III philosophy.
• Place the welfare of our student-athletes at the forefront of our operating principles.
• Treat NACC members and all opponents with respect and dignity in victory and defeat.
• Treat contest and bench officials with respect and dignity.
• Serve as gracious hosts to our opponents and exhibit conduct portraying ourselves as appreciative and worthy guests.
• Encourage and promote positive spectator behavior and take corrective measures regarding incidents that are not consistent with NACC standards of conduct.
Aurora University Athletics Drug Education, Counseling and Testing Program

The intent of the drug education, testing and counseling program is to ensure a drug-free competitive environment for the student-athletes at Aurora University. Its goals are to protect the health and well-being of the participants, to provide support and education for those who are found to engage in substance abuse, to provide drug education to the student-athlete and university community, and to maintain the ideals of fair play and positive standards of behavior in intercollegiate athletics.

Appropriate student-athlete sanctions are provided for those student-athletes not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the program. Prior to implementation, all student-athletes and coaches will be provided with an electronic copy of the drug education, counseling and testing program. Prospective student-athletes will be apprised that Aurora University implements a drug education, testing and counseling program. Student-athletes who are eligible for testing include all student-athletes who are on a current intercollegiate athletic roster. Student-athletes who have exhausted their eligibility, are academically ineligible, or are otherwise dismissed from a current roster will not be tested.

Athletic Eligibility

Within Division III, student-athletes may use up to four seasons of intercollegiate athletics participation in any one sport. A student-athlete must use these four seasons of participation during the first 10 semesters (or 15 quarters) of full-time enrollment.

The Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference follows NCAA rules for academic standards. The NACC is committed to student-athletes making satisfactory progress towards a degree; therefore, each NACC institution may have higher standards than NACC minimums.

Student-athletes must be enrolled in a minimum full-time (12 semester hours) program of studies to be eligible to practice or compete. Athletic participation credit is not counted as one of the 12 semester hours.

Student-athletes who are returning must have passed 24 semester hours in the previous two terms of full-time attendance to be eligible to compete. Previously approved and successfully completed part-time work may be used in this calculation. Repeated Course Work which had been previously passed and counted towards satisfactory progress may not be counted a second time.

Dropping a Class

If you plan to drop a course, please speak with your head coach and the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development. This will help to avoid potential eligibility problems related to practice or competition. If you have questions regarding athletic eligibility ask your head coach to refer you to the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development.

Academic Standards for Non-Transfer Athletes

Minimum Credits earned:

- A minimum of nine semester hours must be passed in the first full-time term.
- Developmental courses (i.e. MTH0990 Preparatory Math) may count towards credits earned.

Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA):

The following scale of grade point average (GPA) is required of all athletes representing NACC schools in intercollegiate competition. Calculation of GPA is based on the 4.0 system. In the conference, all GPA averages are rounded off to two decimal points.

- A minimum GPA of 1.75 must be earned in the first semester of full-time enrollment.
- In all subsequent terms of enrollment, student-athletes must earn a 2.00 or higher cumulative GPA.
**Academic Standards for Transfer Athletes**

All transfer student-athletes must meet with the assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development to verify any prior work or participation at previous institutions within two weeks of initial participation. Transfer student-athletes who have not competed in any intercollegiate sport previously are immediately eligible for competition provided they have been accepted and are enrolled full-time, however, they must complete transfer paperwork.

Transfer student-athletes who have competed previously at another institution(s) in any intercollegiate sport will need to have their eligibility verified by the Faculty Athletic Representative and Registrar, working in conjunction with the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development and the institution(s) from which they have transferred.

The NACC follows the NCAA rules regarding transfer athletes. The NACC tracer report determines a student-athlete’s eligibility for the first semester at a NACC institution. Following the first semester of full-time attendance at the NACC institution, the student is subject to the same GPA and minimum credit requirements as a non-transfer student-athlete.

**Minimum Credits Earned:**
- A minimum of nine semester hours must be passed in the first full-time term.
- Developmental courses (i.e. MTH0990 Preparatory Math) may count towards credits earned.

**Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA):**
- Transfer student-athletes must earn a 2.00 or higher cumulative GPA by the start of their second term of enrollment.

**Self-Release (NCAA Bylaw 13.1.1.2.1)**

Using a form made available from the NCAA, a current Division III student-athlete may request that another Division III institution have permission to contact them about a potential transfer. This request should be directed to the Director of Athletics at the institution of interest. The institution of interest shall not notify the current institution unless the student-athletes requests such notification, 30 days has elapsed from date on the self-release or a second self-release is issued.

**NCAA Student-Athlete Statement**

Prior to the first competition each year, student-athletes will be required to sign a single form regarding NCAA regulations and policies. Within this document is the Student-Athlete Statement, which has four components: a statement concerning eligibility, which affirms that, to the best of your knowledge, you are eligible to compete in intercollegiate competition; a Buckley Amendment consent, which means you agree to disclose your educational records; and affirmation that you have not tested positive for a banned substance by the NCAA or a non-NCAA national or international athletics organization and you are aware of the NCAA championship drug testing program.

**Gender Equity Statement**

The University is committed to complying with NCAA operating principles regarding the participation of women in intercollegiate athletics and with Title IX regulations as interpreted to date by the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights (OCR). The university reviews areas that will help ensure that similar sport programs are treated equitably and student-athletes receive equitable access to resources, regardless of gender.

**Excused Absence Policy**

The excused absence policy at Aurora University places the majority of the responsibility on the student-athletes. First, identify potential conflicts with classes or labs by comparing your sport schedule with your class schedule. During the first week of class provide your instructors with a copy of your sport schedule, highlighting the potential con-
flicts. It is generally unacceptable for authorized absences to exceed 20% of the class meetings. In such cases, alternative arrangements, such as a Course by Special Arrangement, may be considered at the discretion of the instructor.

Student-athletes will then confirm with the instructor at least 48 hours prior to the class that they will miss due to an intercollegiate contest. It is recommended that the student receive written confirmation of the request and a statement regarding the work to be made up along with the timetable (this may be left up to the discretion of the instructor). It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to make up the work in the agreed upon time frame.

**Crouse Center for Student Success (Academic Advising)**
If you have questions about your progression toward an academic degree, your course load or your schedule, please see your Faculty Advisor or a professional staff member in the Crouse Center for Student Success, Eckhart 301-312 (630-844-6807).

**Career Services**
AU Career Services advisors are catalysts for your career! They are dedicated to preparing our undergraduate and graduate students to successfully transition from the role of the student to that of a professional. We also offer services for alumni who want to advance their careers and employers interested in hiring AU students and graduates. Make an appointment to meet with us today by visiting us in Eckhart Hall, Room 316, calling us (630-844-5403) or email [career@aurora.edu](mailto:career@aurora.edu).

**Academic Support Center**
The Academic Support Center is located in the southeast corner of the Charles B. Phillips library. One-on-one professional math and writing tutoring is available to all registered Aurora University students, whether commuter or resident, part-time or full-time, undergraduate or graduate. Peer tutoring (at no cost) is available for specific course material. Staff members may also be able to help you figure out whether you’re managing your time wisely or studying effectively for the courses you’re taking.

The Academic Support Center also coordinates all disability services for Aurora University (630-844-5520).

**Cheating/Plagiarism**
Student-athletes are expected to operate with integrity in the university environment at all times. Cheating and plagiarism by student-athletes will be dealt with in the most severe terms as this is a violation of the code of ethical conduct. Student-athletes found guilty of such behavior are subject to punishment by the athletic department, on a case by case basis. Below is a link to the Aurora University’s Code of Academic Integrity.

**Sexual Misconduct Policy**
Aurora University does not tolerate sexual misconduct against students, staff, faculty, or visitors, in any form, including but not limited to: sex discrimination, sexual harassment, dating/domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault. The University also provides assistance for community members reporting sexual misconduct. For additional information, including detailed definitions, reporting options, and support resources, please see AU’s [Sexual Misconduct Policy](https://www.aurora.edu/about/reports-policies/sexual-misconduct/index.html) at https://www.aurora.edu/about/reports-policies/sexual-misconduct/index.html

The University has designated the following individual to enforce the sexual misconduct policy and to educate the community regarding reporting and prevention:
Title IX Coordinator: Mary Weis, VP for Human Resources; mweis@aurora.edu; 630-844-3866

Confidential on-campus support and resources are provided by the following offices:
Counseling Services, Dr. Marcie Wiseman, mwiseman@aurora.edu, 630-844-5416, 1400 Southlawn (north entrance)
Wellness Center, cblock@aurora.edu, 630-844-5434, 1400 Southlawn (west entrance)
University Chaplain, Mark Woolfington, mwoolfington@aurora.edu, 630-844-6175, 430 S. Evanslawn
Student-Athlete Well-Being

KEY STAFF AND DEPARTMENTS:

Athletics Committee/Faculty Athletics Representative
The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), Chair of the Athletics Committee, is a member of Aurora University's faculty who is designated to represent our institution and its faculty in the institution’s relationships with the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (NACC) and the NCAA. The FAR is a resource for student-athletes on issues concerning eligibility, academic coursework and the student-faculty relationship.

David Rudek, Associate Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, is designated as Aurora University’s Faculty Athletics Representative and can be reached at drudgek@aurora.edu or 630-844-7857.

Associate Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Wellbeing / Senior Woman Administrator
The Senior Woman Administrator serves as a member of the Senior Management Team within the Athletic Department. Pursuant to NCAA legislation, this position is defined as the highest ranking female involved in the management of an institution’s intercollegiate athletics program. Its purpose is to provide a female voice within the decision-making process of the intercollegiate athletics program.

Nicki Pieart is designated as Aurora University’s Senior Woman Administrator and can be reached at npieart@aurora.edu or 630-844-6174.

Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development
The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development works with the Faculty Athletics Representative and Registrar to verify academic and athletic eligibility. In addition, this position works with transfer students to determine initial athletic eligibility. The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development also offers interpretations and answers questions regarding NCAA and conference bylaws. The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student Development also coordinates the Spartan Academic Game plan and all other athletic academic issues.

Heather Reinke can be reached at hreinke@aurora.edu or 630-844-7567.

Strength and Conditioning Coordinator
The Strength and Conditioning Coordinator serves as a member of the Athletic Department, and oversees the strength and conditioning programs for AU’s 22 athletic programs. The purpose is to provide a certified instructor within the intercollegiate athletics program for all strength and conditioning needs.

Chad Trudo is designated as Aurora University’s Strength and Conditioning Coordinator and can be reached at ctrudo@aurora.edu or 630-844-6848.

Wellness Center
The mission of the Wellness Center at Aurora University is to maximize student, faculty and staff’s well-being, and to encourage the establishment of lifestyle behaviors that promote healthful living. Care received in the Wellness Center is provided by a Master’s prepared nurse based on physician-approved protocols. All current Aurora University students as well as faculty and staff may utilize Wellness Center Services. The following services are offered: assessment and treatment of minor injuries, illness and health problems; basic laboratory testing (blood glucose testing, Rapid Strep A Screening); over-the-counter medication availability; wellness assessments (blood pressure, pulse, body mass index, and percentage body fat analysis); health education/programs (individual and group); information on local health care referral sources; and annual flu shot and meningitis vaccination clinics.
The Wellness Center is located at 1400 Southlawn Place and Cheryl Block, RN, MS, is the Director. She can be reached at cblock@aurora.edu or 630-844-5434. Students may access Wellness Center services on a walk in basis, however appointments are preferred.

**Counseling Services**

Emotional, social or psychological concerns can interfere with daily functioning at any point in life, and often occur during the many changes that are a part of college. Individual services are designed to be short-term. Often, a few individual meetings can help you better identify, understand, and resolve the barriers that may be interfering with your sense of personal well-being and/or academic success. If you’re not sure you want to schedule an appointment or you want to bounce the situation off someone else, call for a 10-15 minute phone consultation. Call 630-844-5416 or on campus, 5416. You can obtain names and locations of community agencies or private practitioners from Counseling Services as well.

These confidential services are for AU students in both undergraduate and graduate programs. The Counseling Center is located at 1400 Southlawn Place, and is directed by Marcie Wiseman. She can be reached at mwiseman@aurora.edu or 630-844-5416.

**Student-Athlete Advisory Committee**

The Aurora University Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is a student organization designed to provide a student-athlete voice on the campus of Aurora University, and specifically within the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. The SAAC strives to organize service efforts within the community and discuss issues and develop recommendations to enhance student-athlete well-being. Student-Athletes, athletic training students and cheer-dance participants who are interested in joining the SAAC should contact their head coach. The SAAC Advisor is Heather Reinke (hreinke@aurora.edu).

**ATHLETIC AWARDS:**

**Athletic Awards and Recognition Receptions**

The Athletic Department recognizes student-athletes, coaches, and support staff at awards receptions during the academic year. For all letter winners participation token is given by the department at the end of the season. Senior letter winners are awarded an AU Recognition Plaque.

The yearly Athletic Department Awards include:

- Male and Female Athlete of the Year – Awarded to the athlete that had the most accomplished athletic year based on post-season recognitions.
- Spartan Student-Athlete of the Year – Awarded to an upper-class athlete who demonstrates athletic proficiency, character, leadership, academic achievement and involvement in the University as a whole.
- Richard Rickey – Presented to a senior male athlete demonstrating outstanding character development throughout the academic year. The award is given as a memorial to the late Richard Rickey who died in an automobile accident in 1963 while he was a member of the basketball team.
- Chris Thompson – Presented to a senior female athlete who exemplifies the characteristics of dedication, determination, sportsmanship and faith throughout the academic year. This award is a memorial to the late Chris Thompson who dies of cancer during her freshman year.
- James Scott Award – Presented to the athletic team(s) who best represent Aurora University in the areas of Success, Scholarship, Sportsmanship and Service. One Female and one Male team are selected each year. Teams are nominated by the head coach who provides the necessary supporting rationale.

**KEY DEPARTMENT POLICIES:**

**Social Media Policy**

Playing and competing for Aurora University is a privilege. Student-athletes at AU are held in the highest regard and are seen as role models in the community. As leaders student-athletes have the responsibility to portray the team, University and themselves in a positive manner at all times.

Social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) have increased in popularity globally and are used by the majority of college student-athletes in one form or another.
Student-athletes should be aware that third parties, including the media, faculty, future employers and NCAA officials, could easily access profiles and view personal information. This includes pictures, videos, comments and posts. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student-athlete, the athletic department and the University. This can also be detrimental to a student-athlete’s future employment options.

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

- Photos, videos, comments or posts showing any use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.
  - e.g., no holding cups, cans, shot glasses etc.
- Photos, videos and comments that are sexual in nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
- Pictures, videos, comments or posts that condone drug-related activity. This includes, but is not limited to, images that portray the personal use of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity (examples: derogatory comments regarding another institution, student-athletes, coach or opposing team and derogatory comments related race, gender, or sexual orientation).
- No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual violence, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, and illegal drug use).
- Content online that would constitute a violation of NCAA or Conference rules (examples: commenting publicly about a prospective student-athlete, providing information related to sports wagering activities, or soliciting impermissible extra benefits).

If a student-athlete’s profile and its contents are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the above behaviors, they will be subject to the following penalties:

- Written warning
- A meeting with Director of Athletics and Head Coach
- Penalties as determined by the athletic department, including but not limited to possible suspension from their athletic team.

For your own safety, please keep the following recommendations in mind as you participate in social media websites:

- Set your security settings so that only your friends can view your profile.
- Do not post your email, home address, local address, telephone number(s) or other personal information as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, identity theft, etc.
- 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.
- Consider how the above behaviors can be reflected in all social media applications.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds the values of yourself, the athletic department, and the university. Remember, always present a positive image and don’t do anything to embarrass yourself, the team, your family or the University.

**Hazing Policy**

**Aurora University prohibits the practice of hazing and participation in such activities.** The term “hazing” shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any team or student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or substance, or any brutal treatment of forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extending deprivation of sleep or extended isolation. Essentially, subjecting any student or other person to any type of demeaning activity or treatment could be considered a form of hazing.
Individuals and/or teams who participate in hazing activities will be subject to disciplinary action by the Director of Athletics and the Vice President of Student life. Hazing is against Illinois State Law and offenders may also be subject to penalties through the legal system.

If you have been a victim of hazing, please contact the Senior Vice-President of Student-Life (Lora deLacey, ldelacey@aurora.edu, 630-844-5110), Director of Athletics (Jim Hamad, jhamad@aurora.edu, 630-844-4910), or the Senior Women’s Administrator (Nicole Pieart, npieart@aurora.edu, 630-844-6174).

**Alcohol and Tobacco Policy**
Aurora University is concerned about the damaging effect of alcohol and tobacco on the physical, mental, social, emotional, and intellectual well-being of our student-athletes. Aurora University firmly believes that the use of alcohol and tobacco can seriously interfere with the performance of individuals as students and as athletes.

Aurora University does not condone the use of alcohol by individuals under the age of 21 and seeks to promote an environment for those over 21 in which choosing not to drink are preferred and socially acceptable.

The following policies and sanctions are intended to be a deterrent to the use and abuse of alcohol and tobacco. They are designed to promote general awareness and responsible decision-making within the Aurora University Athletic Department, as well as the campus community at-large.

- The possession, use, or distribution of alcoholic beverages by a student-athlete, athletic training student, or student-manager while he/she is representing Aurora University in conjunction with an athletic event (including practice and competition, travel to and from practice or competition, and while on road trips) regardless of the age of the students is expressly prohibited.
- Aurora University student-athletes will also comply with the rules and regulations regarding alcohol and illegal, banned, and controlled substances set forth in the Aurora University A-book, Resident Guide Book and Illinois state law.
- Aurora University student-athletes will comply with the Aurora University Department of Athletics Drug Education, Counseling and Testing Program.

Sanctions will be dictated by the Aurora University A-book and/or the Department of Athletics Drug Education, Counseling and Testing Program; additional athletic sanctions may be imposed. Athletic sanctions will be determined by a committee comprised of the Director of Athletics, the Dean of Student Life, and the Vice-President for Student-Life.

**Disciplinary Appeals Process**
In an effort to provide due process, student-athletes may request reconsideration of a decision to impose a disciplinary sanction or suspension with the Director of Athletics. *The Director of Athletics may only reconsider sanctions imposed by the Athletic Department or a member of its staff*. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Director of Athletics within two weeks of the notification of sanction or suspension. The request should provide detailed rationale for reconsideration and information/documentation which would support revisiting the sanction or suspension.

**KEY NCAA POLICIES:**

**Tobacco Policy (NCAA Bylaw 11.1.5)**
The use of tobacco products is prohibited by all game personnel (e.g., players, coaches, athletic trainers, managers and game officials) in all sports during practice and competition. Aurora University also prohibits the use of tobacco products while traveling in conjunction with any institutionally sponsored athletic event.

**Gambling (NCAA Bylaw 10.3)**
Recent surveys have shown that illegal gambling is prevalent in all NCAA Divisions (I, II, and III). Surveys also indicate that there are a substantial number of Division III student-athletes who have participated by making illegal wagers on collegiate or professional sporting events. *The penalties for such activities are severe and range from the loss of eligibility for one calendar year to permanent loss of eligibility in all sports.*

Student-athletes shall not knowingly:
• Provide information to individuals involved in organized gambling activities concerning intercollegiate athletics competition;
• Solicit a bet on any intercollegiate team;
• Accept a bet on any team representing the institution;
• Participate in any gambling activity that involves intercollegiate athletics or professional athletics through a bookmaker, a parlay card or any other method employed by organized gambling.

Student Host (Prospective Student-Athlete)
Aurora University student-athletes may be asked by their Head Coach to serve as hosts for prospective student-athletes during day and/or overnight visits. Hosting prospective student-athletes is an important part of the recruiting process and requires that “host” (current) student-athletes understand their responsibilities and our expectations.

- Hosts will be pre-selected by their head coach based on institutional criteria. These selected hosts will be trained in the expectations of residence life, student life and additional athletics guidelines prior to hosting a prospective student-athlete.
- Recruits are not permitted to be housed off-campus, and should stay with their assigned “Host”.
- The use of alcohol and/or illegal substances by the prospective student-athlete and “Host” is prohibited. A “Host” should operate as if they are representing Aurora University in conjunction with an athletic event, and adhere to all Athletic Department and University policies.
- Under some circumstances, a “Host” may be provided with money to entertain the prospective student-athlete, or to provide a meal to the prospective student-athlete off-campus if the on-campus dining facilities are closed (NCAA bylaws 13.6.5.6.3, 13.7.2.1.1). Aurora University adheres to the NCAA bylaw 13.6.5.5 governing student-hosts.13.6.5.5

The institution may provide the following to a student host entertaining a prospective student-athlete:
  o A maximum of $20 for each day of the visit to cover all actual costs of entertaining the prospective student-athlete (and the prospective student-athlete’s parents, guardians, spouse or other individual of a comparable relationship), excluding the costs of meals and admission to campus athletic events. These funds may not be used for the purchase of souvenirs such as t-shirts or other institutional mementos. It is permissible to provide the student-host with an additional $10 per day for each additional prospective student-athlete the host entertains.
  o A complimentary meal, provided the student host is accompanying the prospective student-athlete.

Travel
Because of the number of off-campus practice and competition sites, we request that any student-athlete traveling to or from practice or competition obey all traffic and safety laws. As a student-athlete at Aurora University, we ask for your cooperation in being “good neighbors” to those that immediately surround our practice and competition sites.

In many cases, a student-athlete may wish to drive themselves to practice however a lack of a vehicle should not be a deterrent to participation in intercollegiate athletics. Regardless of the reason, please contact your Head Coach if you need assistance getting to or from athletics practice.

For competition, it is expected that Aurora University team members travel on official university transportation unless other arrangements have been made with the Head Coach.

Voluntary vs. Athletically Related Activities (NCAA Bylaw 17.02.1)
When not in the declared playing season for your sport (traditional or non-traditional season), your participation in athletically related activities is voluntary. NCAA bylaw 17.02.1.1 lists activities that are considered “athletically related activities”.

You must initiate any activity outside of the declared playing season and you will not be required to report any information related to the activity. Your participation/attendance in the activity will not be reported to coaching staff or other student-athletes. In addition, you will not be subject to any penalty or benefit based on your attendance, or lack of attendance, at any such activity. Also our secondary insurance policy does not cover any injuries for voluntary activities.
Exceptions to this include certain administrative and academic activities that are non-athletics in nature.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES:

Equipment
All equipment and uniforms issued to a student-athlete become the responsibility of the student-athlete. At the conclusion of the season head coaches will announce when and where equipment and uniforms are to be returned. Student-athletes who have items missing or damaged due to their own carelessness will be charged for those items.

Food Service
Information on campus food service, including hours and menus, can be found at [www.aurora.edu/students/dining](http://www.aurora.edu/students/dining). Students can use a “meal exchange” to eat in The Spot or LaCarte in the event they cannot attend the regular dining hall hours.

Nutritional Supplements
Many nutritional/dietary supplements contain NCAA banned substances. In addition, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not strictly regulate the supplement industry; therefore purity and safety of nutritional dietary supplements cannot be guaranteed. Impure supplements may lead to a positive NCAA drug test. The use of supplements is at the student-athlete’s own risk. Student-athletes should contact Aurora University’s team physician or head athletic trainer for further information.

**BE ADVISED:** All nutritional supplements carry some risk of containing an NCAA banned substance because they are not well regulated and may be contaminated. Failure to check out any supplement with your sports medicine staff prior to use may result in a failed appeal for a drug test. **Student-athletes are responsible for anything they ingest.**

The National Center for Drug Free Sport’s Resource Exchange Center (REC) can provide information on various nutritional supplements. The REC can be reached at [www.drugfreesport.com/REC/default.asp](http://www.drugfreesport.com/REC/default.asp); password is ‘ncaa3’.

Off-Campus Housing
A significant number of Aurora University students, many of whom are student-athletes, live off-campus in rental properties in residential neighborhoods. Maintaining AU’s positive presence in the community and projecting a positive image for AU student-athletes is one of the highest priorities for our University. The integration of college students into a residential community creates interesting dynamics which require understanding, civility, and respect for one another. Most issues which lead to problems have to do with noise and noise levels. Sometimes the issues associated with noise are related to the time of day or night. Activity which might not get much attention or be disruptive at 2 p.m. may seem different at 2 a.m. How you arrive and leave an off campus residence late at night is an opportunity to show respect and consideration for the neighbors. Parking can also be an issue in residential neighborhoods. Most off campus residences have multiple cars parked in the driveway and on the street. When guests arrive, the parking issue becomes even more acute. Knowing the parking concerns of your immediate neighbors can be helpful in directing both residents and guests to an acceptable arrangement that meets city ordinances.

Many times issues with AU students involve guests at off campus residences. Residents must take responsibility for their guests - their behavior is your behavior. Students who are guests need to take individual responsibility for their actions. Guests should adhere to the same consideration and civility we ask from our students who are the residents in off campus properties.

AU students and student-athletes can and will be sanctioned for incidents off campus. University officials, athletic administrators, and coaches will investigate reports of incidents off campus as they relate to their area of responsibilities, and will impose sanctions as necessary.
ATHLETIC TRAINING

It is our goal to treat the student-athlete with dignity and respect throughout the injury/illness process and return the student-athlete to full participation as quickly as possible without sacrificing their health, well-being or safety.

The athletic training room is located in the basement of Alumni Hall and is available for injury evaluation, pre-practice preparation, rehabilitation and treatments. Typically, morning appointments are for injury evaluation by a Certified Athletic Trainer, rehabilitation and treatments; midday is reserved for “open” rehabilitation and treatments; and the afternoon is for pre-practice/game preparation and coverage. Additional weekday hours are scheduled as needed and weekend hours will coincide with practice/event times.

Athletic Training Room Rules
- The athletic training facility and its professional staff serve the needs of Aurora University intercollegiate athletics and its student-athletes only. The athletic training facility operates on a first-come, first-served basis and appointments are strongly encouraged. Out of season athletes will have to schedule an appointment for evaluations and treatments.
- Students must be appropriately dressed at all times (shirt and shorts minimum); please leave your shoes, bags and equipment outside the athletic training room when receiving services.
- Please use appropriate language at all times; swearing, profanity, racial or ethnic slurs are not tolerated.
- There is no food or beverage allowed in the training room; per NCAA guidelines, tobacco products are also prohibited.

Responsibilities of the Student-Athlete
- It is your responsibility to report all injuries and illnesses to the Athletic Training Staff. While it is appropriate to tell your coach, it does not absolve your responsibility to communicate with the Athletic Training Staff.
- If you are ill or injured and seek medical care with a Physician other than one of the Aurora University Team Physicians, you must provide documentation allowing you to resume participate in intercollegiate athletics.
- Please keep all scheduled appointments or cancel them in a timely fashion.
- If injured or ill, please be active in the rehabilitation/recovery process; know your limitations.

Yearly Athletic Training Paperwork and Athletic Training Policies:
Please refer to the Athletic Training website (Click Here) for all of this key information.
Athletics.aurora.edu/athletictraining

Important Campus Locations and Phone Numbers

For any life-threatening emergency, please dial 911 from any campus phone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Support Center</td>
<td>SE Corner Phillips Library</td>
<td>630-844-5520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Office</td>
<td>2nd Floor, Alumni Hall</td>
<td>630-844-5110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletic Training Room</td>
<td>Lower Level, Alumni Hall</td>
<td>630-844-6173</td>
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<td>Aurora University Student Association</td>
<td>The Spot, Stephens Hall</td>
<td>630-844-3847</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bookstore</td>
<td>1st floor, Dunham Hall</td>
<td>630-844-5524</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Safety (emergency)</td>
<td>1408 Southlawn Place</td>
<td>x 555</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Safety (non-emergency)</td>
<td>1408 Southlawn Place</td>
<td>630-844-6140</td>
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<td>Counseling Center</td>
<td>1400 Southlawn Place</td>
<td>630-844-5416</td>
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<td>Crouse Center for Academic Success</td>
<td>3rd floor, Eckhart Hall</td>
<td>630-844-6870</td>
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<td>Dean of Students</td>
<td>1st floor, Eckhart Hall</td>
<td>630-844-6515</td>
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<td>Emergency Closing Information</td>
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<td>630-844-7800</td>
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<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>2nd floor, Eckhart Hall</td>
<td>630-844-5533</td>
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<td>Service</td>
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<td>Fitness Center</td>
<td>1st floor, Jenks Hall</td>
<td>630-844-6513</td>
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<td>Intramurals</td>
<td>2nd floor, Alumni Hall</td>
<td>630-844-5137</td>
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<td>Phillips Library</td>
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<td>630-844-7583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mailroom</td>
<td>435 Randall Road</td>
<td>630-844-7823</td>
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<td>Residence Life</td>
<td>423 S. Gladstone Ave.</td>
<td>630-844-5446</td>
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<td>Student Accounts</td>
<td>1st floor, Eckhart Hall</td>
<td>630-844-5470</td>
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<td>Student Employment</td>
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<td>630-844-6880</td>
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<td>Wackerlin Center for Faith and Action</td>
<td>430 Evanslawn Ave.</td>
<td>630-844-6864</td>
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<td>Weightroom</td>
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<td>Wellness Center</td>
<td>1400 Southlawn Place</td>
<td>630-844-5434</td>
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