Student-Athlete Handbook
2018-2019
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MISSION
Wheaton College Athletics exists to develop Christian faith, character, and leadership through competitive sports programs that run the race to win.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRST DAY OF CLASSES</td>
<td>AUGUST 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LABOR DAY (NO CLASSES)</td>
<td>SEPTEMBER 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMECOMING</td>
<td>OCTOBER 5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FALL BREAK</td>
<td>OCTOBER 20-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY WEEKEND</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 9-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THANKSGIVING BREAK</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 21-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASSES END</td>
<td>DECEMBER 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL EXAMS</td>
<td>DECEMBER 17-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRISTMAS BREAK</td>
<td>DECEMBER 21-JANUARY 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASSES BEGIN</td>
<td>JANUARY 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLK HOLIDAY (NO CLASSES)</td>
<td>JANUARY 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO CLASSES (FACULTY DEV'L DAY)</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENTS DAY (NO CLASSES)</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>END A QUAD</td>
<td>MARCH 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
<td>MARCH 9-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEGIN B QUAD</td>
<td>MARCH 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY (NO CLASSES)</td>
<td>APRIL 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASSES END</td>
<td>MAY 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL EXAMS</td>
<td>MAY 6-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMENCEMENT</td>
<td>MAY 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Staff</td>
<td>Athlete Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Associate Athletic Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equipment Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Athletics Communication Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Information Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Head Athletic Trainer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asst. Athletic Trainer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chrouser Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball - Men</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball - Women</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country/Intramurals</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Offensive Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Defensive Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf – Men</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf – Women</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer - Men</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer - Women</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball/Club Sports</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming - Men</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming - Women</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis - Women</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track &amp; Field - M/W</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ATHLETIC TRAINING**

*Tricia Deter, Head Athletic Trainer 630.752.5738 Tricia.Deter@wheaton.edu*

Wheaton College provides athletic training services to all varsity student-athletes. Our staff provides services of injury and illness prevention, evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation in conjunction with the team physicians. All athletes experiencing an injury or illness that affects their athletic participation are asked to notify an athletic trainer.

**Athletic Training Staff:**

- **Head Trainer**: Tricia Deter ATC/L
- **Asst. Trainer**: Allan Prasil ATC/L
- **Part-Time Asst. Trainer**: Tonya Baker ATC/L
- **Part-Time Asst. Trainer**: Mark Demchak ATC/L
- **Part-Time Asst. Trainer**: Lance MATHieu ATC/L

**Athletic Training Room Phone#:** 630-752-5738

**Athletic Training Room Hours:**

- Open daily from 9am until 6:45pm
- During athletic events.
- Athletes needing treatment before 2pm are asked to make an appointment.

**Athletic Training Room Rules & Guidelines:**

- Taping, treatment, and evaluations are done on a first-come, first-served basis in order of the sign-in to the ATS injury tracking system.
- Please wait outside the training room door for pre-practice taping and treatments until your name is called from the list.
- Please wear shirts in the training room.
- Do not wear cleats inside training room.
- Over-the-counter medications (Advil, Tylenol, Sudafed, etc.) are available on a very limited basis and will be given out only for the first 24 hours of an injury or illness. They will not be available on a continual basis.
- Equipment that is checked out from the training room must be returned at the end of the semester or a fine will be given through student accounts.
- Athletes are prohibited from setting up their own modality (stim, ultrasound) treatments.

**Insurance Coverage Guidelines:**

All athletes must carry personal health insurance. This may be a family policy that includes the athlete as a dependent or a personal policy that the athlete has taken out
for him/herself. Any athlete who does not have health insurance coverage will not be permitted to participate in intercollegiate athletics at Wheaton.

An athlete’s personal insurance is always considered primary, and will be billed first for coverage of all athletic-related injuries and illnesses necessitating medical treatment outside of the training room. Costs for such treatments that are not covered by the athlete’s personal insurance may be eligible for coverage under the Wheaton College athletic insurance policy.

- Athletes must report any injuries to the certified athletic training staff at Wheaton College and file a claim form in order for the secondary insurance coverage to be applied.
  - The injury must be reported within 90 days from the date of injury.
  - The statue of limitations of the policy is 2 years after the date of injury.
  - Failure to report an injury will result in the secondary policy not being applied.

- The policy only covers athletic injuries that occur during the NCAA sanctioned 18/19 week practice and playing season for a varsity sport.
  - It does NOT include student led practices, individual work-outs, and conditioning sessions outside of season.
  - Injuries outside the 18/19 week season are not covered by this policy.

- The secondary policy functions to help cover that which hasn’t been covered by the student-athlete’s primary insurance policy.
  - Any claim for benefits must first be filed with the student’s primary insurance carrier before the secondary insurance will consider medical benefit payments. A student’s primary insurance must have some coverage to be eligible for benefits under the secondary policy.

- The secondary policy will be applied only after $500 dollars has been paid by the primary insurance or the student-athlete.
  - After the first $500 dollars of the claim and the primary policy has paid all costs it covers, the Wheaton College secondary insurance policy will then cover remaining amounts based on its terms of coverage.

**NOTICE: All athletic injuries and illnesses must first be reported to a certified athletic trainer. Injuries not reported appropriately may be ineligible for coverage under the Wheaton College athletic insurance policy.**

Bills that are not paid by either the athlete’s personal insurance policy or the Wheaton College athletic insurance policy are the athlete’s responsibility.

The NCAA provides a catastrophic injury insurance policy for all athletes who are catastrophically injured while participating in a covered intercollegiate athletic event. The policy has a $90,000 deductible and provides benefits in excess of any other valid and collectible insurance. Please reference the NCAA Catastrophic Injury Insurance Program available on the NCAA web site at: [http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/insurance/student-athlete-insurance-programs](http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/insurance/student-athlete-insurance-programs) for further details including payment limits.
Equipment & Facilities Guidelines

Tex Ritter, Equipment and Operations Manager  630.752.5748
Tex.Ritter@wheaton.edu

Equipment Service

- Each athlete is responsible for equipment issued to him/her throughout the season. Fines will be charged for missing equipment.
- Athletes are not to exchange equipment without permission of the equipment manager.
- All missing or damaged equipment should be reported to the equipment manager.
- Towel service and laundry service will be provided during each team’s regular playing season only.

Laundry Service: All daily practice laundry will be washed in laundry bags. No personal items are to be placed in laundry bags at any time. At no time should game uniforms, football practice uniforms, or sweats be placed in laundry bags. These items will be collected separately as instructed. Clean laundry will be returned by practice time the next day.

- All lockers must be cleaned out at the end of the school year. Fines will be issued for failure to clean out lockers.

Locker Room Rules

- Entrance and exit to and from practice fields is to be through the east doors.
- Do not stick anything on the lockers.
- Keep Locker Room clean. Use trash containers.
- Mud must be knocked off shoes onto grass before entering the Locker Room.
- Locks are the property of Wheaton College and should not be removed from the locker to which they are assigned.
SPORTS AND RECREATION COMPLEX

Sydney Westrate, Chrouser Operations Manager  630.752.5745
Sydney.Westrate@wheaton.edu

- Please be respectful of the SRC staff and SRC policy.
- Student ID's are required to enter the SRC except for attending classes & scheduled varsity practices.
- The north hallway doors will be locked at all times. Athletes may use their I.D. card for access from 2pm to 7pm. Please use Main SRC Entrance at all other times.
- King Arena is not a hallway, so please do not walk through the gym. Use the west hallway near the tennis courts.
- No cleats are to be worn outside of the locker rooms.

Weight & Fitness Room Guidelines

- Please wear clean shoes in the fitness room.
- Please do not step behind weight room monitor counter. Ask monitor for equipment or specific music selections.
- Tennis shoes are appropriate workout shoes. However, sandals, flip-flops, or similar shoes are prohibited. Men should keep shirts on and ladies clothing must cover midriff when in weight room.
- Please wipe down machines and return all weights and equipment to their original location after use.
- Use of Weight & Fitness Room during 'non-peak' hours is encouraged.
- The following are available from the fitness room Control Desk or the Eckert Hall Service Desk:
  a. Jump Ropes
  b. Ladders

- During 'peak' fitness room hours, please limit time on cardiovascular machines to 30 minutes.
SPORTS INFORMATION

Brett Marhanka, Athletics Communications Director  630.752.5747
Brett.Marhanka@wheaton.edu

The goal of the Wheaton College Sports Information Department is to serve the Wheaton College community by providing information on varsity sports team. This is accomplished in the following ways:

- Update and maintain the Wheaton College Athletics Website.
- Write and design media guides, game programs and other materials.
- Compile team rosters and team information.
- Compile statistics and records.
- Report statistics to the NCAA and CCIW.
- Nominate athletes for various awards (All-American, Academic All-American, Player of the Week, etc.).
- Write press releases for local media and athletes’ hometown media.
- Distribute information to radio, websites, newspapers, television and all other forms of media.
- Update Wheaton Sports Hotline.
- Work with WETN on scheduling, background information, etc.
- Update and maintain Facebook and Twitter for Wheaton Athletics.

Notable Information:

- Wheaton College Sports Hotline (630) 752-5125
- Thunder Athletics website athletics.wheaton.edu
- NCAA www.ncaa.com (includes Division III statistics and other organization information)
- CCIW www.cciw.org (includes statistics, standings and conference records)
To be eligible for intercollegiate competition, student-athletes must comply with the following guidelines:

1. Meet the **GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING** criteria for Wheaton College and the CCIW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours Attempted *</th>
<th>Good Standing GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-19</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-39</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-59</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-above</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Including transfer credits

2. Meet the CCIW rule of satisfactory progress towards graduation. No contestant shall be eligible to compete:
   - In a second season of a sport unless they have completed 24 semester hours or its equivalent toward graduation;
   - In a third season of a sport unless they have completed 48 semester hours or its equivalent toward graduation;
   - In a fourth season of a sport unless they have completed 72 semester hours or its equivalent toward graduation.

3. Carry and pass a minimum of 12 credit hours for the semester.

4. **ACADEMIC WARNING**: when a student's GPA for a semester is below 2.00 but their cumulative average is above the academic status scale requirement, the student will be placed on ACADEMIC WARNING for the following semester. Student-athletes on ACADEMIC WARNING will be permitted to participate in intercollegiate athletics. However, if they should have another poor semester, it could lead to being placed on ACADEMIC PROBATION.

5. **ACADEMIC PROBATION**: when a student's cumulative GPA falls below the appropriate level of good standing on the academic status scale, the student will be placed on ACADEMIC PROBATION for the following semester. Any student-athlete who does not pass 12 semester hours or fails to make a 1.25 GPA in any semester is subject to being placed on ACADEMIC PROBATION. Students on academic probation cannot participate in intercollegiate athletics. Participation in other extracurricular activities shall be subject to the approval of the Student Development Office.
6. **CHAPEL PROBATION**: Chapel attendance is required of all undergraduate students. Students who exceed the allowable number of absences will be placed on CHAPEL PROBATION. This means that you will not be permitted to participate in any co-curricular activities such as intercollegiate athletics, ministries, music groups, arena theater, etc. without the permission of their head coach or a Dean. Successive semesters on chapel probation could jeopardize a student's enrollment at Wheaton College.

7. **COMMUNITY COVENANT**: The goal of campus life at Wheaton College is to be a Christian educational community. While living and learning in such a community bring privileges, they also carry responsibilities. Students, by virtue of their enrollment at the College, agree to accept the responsibilities of membership in the College community. Failure to adhere to these responsibilities could lead to disciplinary action or dismissal from the College.

For further information regarding probation and dismissal, consult the Wheaton College Student Handbook.

8. **NCAA REGULATIONS**

   1. **Eligibility Summary**
   - Enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, but no less than 12-credit hours. NCAA rules allow for a student athlete to be part-time in their final semester only if the institution can certify that they are taking all courses they need to graduate in that term. The only way for Wheaton to certify this is if students are taking all of those classes at Wheaton. Student Athletes in their last semester are not permitted to take courses needed for graduation at another school while maintaining only part-time hours at Wheaton. To participate in intercollegiate athletics while enrolling in less than full time hours, the Student Athlete needs to be completing their requirements at Wheaton College.
   - Maintain satisfactory progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.
   - Be in good academic standing as defined by the College;

   2. **Satisfactory Progress**
   - No contestant shall be eligible to compete unless:
     - In a second season of a sport unless they have completed 24 semester hours or its equivalent toward graduation;
     - In a third season of a sport unless they have completed 48 semester hours or its equivalent toward graduation;
     - In a fourth season of a sport unless they have completed 72 semester hours or its equivalent toward graduation.

   3. **Good Academic Standing**
   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours Attempted *</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-19</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-39</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-59</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-above</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Including transfer credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   4. **Academic Warning**: 
• Semester GPA falls below a 2.00, but cumulative GPA still meets the academic status scale requirement.
• On Academic Warning student-athletes are permitted to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

5. Academic Probation:
• GPA falls below the required criteria to be considered in good standing on the academic status scale
• Student-athlete who does not pass **12 semester hours** or fails to make a **1.25 GPA** in any semester
• Students on academic probation **cannot participate in intercollegiate athletics**.

9. TEAM GUIDELINES: Individual varsity teams may have policies that are in addition to the Wheaton College Community Covenant. These policies may be stricter than those for the general student body. It is the responsibility of each athlete to make sure he/she is fully informed of and fully complies with all such policies that may affect his/her eligibility as an athlete at Wheaton College.

10. HAZING: Any act likely to compromise the dignity of a student; cause embarrassment or shame, cause them to be the object of ridicule is strictly prohibited.

11. SUNDAY PLAY POLICY:
• **Formal practice or competition** is **not permitted** on Sundays.
• This includes rescheduling games due to inclement weather, team banquets, departmental/team sponsored study halls, and any other required team activities.

12. ETHICAL CONDUCT
• You may not participate in any gambling activity in NCAA sponsored sport
  ■ Examples: fantasy leagues, bracket contests

13. AMATEURISM
• You are ineligible if you have ever
  ■ Agreed or participated professionally
  ■ Used athletics skill for pay in any way
  ■ Because of athletic skill, been paid for work you did not perform or paid at a higher rate

14. SEASON OF PARTICIPATION
• Eligibility counts after the first contest or practice after the first contest. (Pre-season scrimmages are exempt)
• You are permitted 4 seasons of participation and must be enrolled full time and degree seeking Student Athletes in their last semester are not permitted to take courses needed for graduation at another school while maintaining only part-time hours at Wheaton. To participate in intercollegiate athletics while enrolling in less than full time hours, the Student Athlete needs to be completing their requirements at Wheaton College.
• You may not participate on any other outside team during your season.
15. MEDICAL HARDSHIP
   • NCAA Bylaw 14.2.5 allows Division III student-athletes to petition for eligibility after a season ending injury. Division III does not allow athletes a "red-shirt" year.
   • Not allowed to have the "benefit of practice" after such injury

16. FINANCIAL AID
   • You may not receive any money from Wheaton College based on athletic ability or participation on athletic teams.

17. TRANSFERS
   • If you want to talk with other NCAA schools (Division I or II), you must seek permission from an athletic administrator.
   • To talk with other Division III schools, you may complete a self-release form found on the NCAA website that allows you to talk with other Division III schools for 30 days without seeking permission.

18. Recruitment
   • While being recruited:
     o Can't receive money or other benefits from institution (employment, living expenses from coach, free camp attendance)
     o Can't do a tryout for college coach
     o Can't receive benefits from "friend of the college"

19. EXTRA BENEFITS
   • No Extra Benefits May Be Given to Current Student-Athletes: Unless the benefit (meals, transportation, tickets to professional sports contest, etc.) comes from a family member or close friend, ASK before accepting the offer.
   • You are responsible to know the rules

20. ILLEGAL DRUGS
   • See list of banned substances
   • Always check with ATC
   • A positive test result equals a 365 day suspension

10. ROLE OF BOOSTERS: As a community committed to following Christian principles in every aspect of College life, Wheaton College pursues excellence in athletics within the framework of institutional control and operational integrity. According to NCAA rules that govern Wheaton athletics, compliance extends beyond students and faculty at Wheaton to include alumni, parents, friends and other boosters who have any stake in the institution as indicated by status as a former athlete, donors to the College's athletic program, arranger of employment for athletes, or promoter of athletics. Once identified as institutional representatives of athletic interests, those individuals retain the status for life. Members of the athletics staff and representatives of the athletics interest are prohibited from providing any extra benefit to a prospective or current athlete or acquaintance which is not available to the general student body of Wheaton. Ultimately, Wheaton College is responsible for actions by those who are classified as institutional representatives.
Hazing Policy

As a Christian community, we want to honor Jesus Christ in our relationships with one another. Each member of the College community, who acts in a covenant bond with others, should consciously strive to maintain relationships which support, encourage, and help others. Hazing is a perversion of Christian community and may be a crime under Illinois law.\(^1\) Wheaton College will not tolerate hazing, and the consequences for hazing will be determined through the Student Conduct Policy. Participation or failure to intervene in hazing activities may lead to appropriate disciplinary action with individuals, groups, or teams. The College’s Hazing Policy applies to all student groups, regardless of official recognition.

Hazing Definition

Hazing is defined as any act on or off Wheaton College property by one student acting alone or with others, directed against any other student(s) in a group to subject that student or students to abusive, humiliating, harassing, degrading, or dangerous activities or behavior, which may include pranks. A complete list of activities that would constitute hazing would not be possible, but the College classifies hazing into three broad categories. Some hazing conduct may fall under multiple categories.

- Subtle hazing: Behaviors that emphasize a power imbalance between prospective or new members and current members of the group or team. Such behaviors are referred to as “subtle hazing” because they are often viewed as inconsequential or harmless acts that members tolerate or participate in in order to be part of the group or team. These activities can cause embarrassment or humiliation. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - Requiring prospective or new members to perform undesirable activities or duties not assigned to other members
  - Personal servitude of others
  - Deprivation of privileges granted to other members
  - Assigning degrading, humiliating, or crass names or name calling
  - Socially isolating prospective or new members or setting rules for members’ social interactions

\(^1\) 720 ILCS 5/12c-50 states:

(a) A person commits hazing when he or she knowingly requires the performance of any act by a student or other person in a school, college, university, or other educational institution of this State, for purpose of induction or admission into any group, organization, or society associated or connected with that institution, if:
  (1) the act is not sanctioned or authorized by the educational institution; and
  (2) the act results in bodily harm to any person.

(b) Sentence. Hazing is a Class A misdemeanor, except that hazing that results in death or great bodily harm is a Class 4 felony.
• Expecting certain items to always be in the prospective or new members' possession
  • Coercive blindfolding

  • Harassment hazing: Behaviors or activities, in which members tolerate or participate in order to be part of the group or team, that cause or are likely to cause emotional distress and/or physical discomfort. Examples include, but are not limited to, expecting or pressuring members to participate in or be subjected to:
    • Wearing embarrassing or humiliating attire
    • Stunts or skits with humiliating or degrading acts
    • Verbal abuse, embarrassment, humiliation, or ridicule
    • Being expected to harass others
    • Sleep deprivation or disruption
    • Deception or fear of the unknown
    • Threats or implied threats
    • Altering body appearance (e.g. shaving of the head or any other part of the body)
    • Degrading, embarrassing, or humiliating games or activities
    • Unwanted restraint
    • Mob activity that intimidates others

  • Dangerous or severe hazing: Behaviors or activities, in which members tolerate or participate in order to be part of the group or team, that cause or are likely to cause physical, emotional, and/or psychological harm. Examples include, but are not limited to:
    • Branding, tattooing, or piercing
    • Forced, coerced, or pressured consumption of alcohol or drugs
    • Forcible kidnapping
    • Expecting participation in illegal activity
    • Public nudity
    • Forced exposure to the elements
    • Beating, paddling, or other forms of physical assault
    • Forced, coerced, or pressured ingestion of vile substances or concoctions or other food or drink

Any student-initiated activity that has not been reviewed through the consultation process described below, which falls into one of the three categories of hazing that prospective, new, or current members of a group or team are required or encouraged to participate in by virtue of their status as a prospective, new, or current member presumptively constitutes hazing. Given the pressure to participate in an activity that may be explicitly or implicitly present, an individual's consent does not constitute permission to engage in hazing activities or behaviors. Perceived, implied, or expressed consent of any person toward whom an act of hazing is directed will not be an excuse to an allegation of hazing.

Student groups and teams should strive for welcoming activities that are positive, affirming, and consistent with Wheaton's Christ-centered expectations of its community. In planning activities, the following questions should be considered:

  • What purpose does the activity serve?
How does the activity contribute to Wheaton’s mission to educate whole people to serve Christ, church, and society as well as benefit the participating students?

Is there a risk of physical harm or emotional distress?

Has anyone ever been injured by this activity or a similar activity?

Will the activity affect anyone outside of the group or team, including on social media?

How could the activity be interpreted by individuals outside the group?

If rituals and/or symbols are used in the activity, how could they be interpreted by individuals outside the group?

Consultation Process for Activities to Ensure They Are Not Hazing

Recognizing that some traditions can be positive and affirming, but also that others have the potential for perverting Christian community by crossing the line into activities that emphasize a power imbalance or cause discomfort or even harm to group or team members, Wheaton has established a consultation process for student groups and teams to ensure that student-initiated traditions or other activities do not constitute hazing.

Student Development and the faculty or staff leader for each student group/team have a joint responsibility to communicate the expectation of and the instructions for completing the consultation process outlined below.

In order to engage consultation, a student group or team leader must submit a request in writing, at least one month prior to the date of the proposed activity, and include the following information:

- The student/group/team making the request
- The date and time of the proposed activity
- Who will participate in the activity (e.g., only freshman, all members of the group/team, or other subgroups)
- An explanation of all activities that will take place and how the event will be executed, including the role(s) of current members or nonmembers

Requests may be submitted to reslife@wheaton.edu.

A three-member Consulting Panel (the Panel) including the Dean of Residence Life and two additional employees who are faculty and/or staff members (one from outside and one from within the department making the request) will serve as the consulting resources. Panel members will come from the standing Hearing Panel for student conduct (See Appendix B section D in the Student Conduct Policy for more information) but will not include any staff or faculty members who directly supervise or advise the student groups or teams requesting consultation.

The Panel will review the written requests and will contact the request-maker with any questions and/or a request for resubmission with modification if the initial request is not supported. The Panel will examine the nature of the activity, its purpose, its potential impact, and whether it is consistent with Wheaton’s Christ-centered expectations of the Wheaton community. The Panel’s feedback is expected to be followed.
The Panel’s guidance applies only to the activities as described in the request and does not constitute support for any modification of, deviation from, or addition to the activities included in the request. Consultation will only need to be requested and received once as long as future implementation does not deviate from the scope of the original request.

**Reporting Hazing Incidents**

It is a violation of the Hazing Policy for any student to fail to report a known or suspected incident of hazing.

A known or suspected incident of hazing may be reported to the Dean of Residence Life in person at the Residence Life Office (Student Services Building, 501 College Avenue), by phone at 630-752-5427, in writing to reslife@wheaton.edu, or anonymously online at www.wheaton.edu/ethicscomplaints (click “Risk and Safety Matters” on the bottom right).

**Limited Amnesty for Self-Reporting Hazing**

**Individual Self-Reporting:**
A student who reports activities and/or behaviors, including pranks, that may fall within the definition of hazing and who cooperates fully in providing information related to hazing activity will be granted amnesty for conduct related to the hazing even if his or her own conduct violated the hazing policy, unless the conduct the student engaged in violates the dangerous hazing category or the College’s policy on sexual misconduct. A decision to grant amnesty for a self-report of a violation of the hazing policy means that Wheaton will not independently pursue disciplinary action against the self-reporting individual. Wheaton may, however, choose to require the student to engage in educational or restorative action. But if any individual who is harmed by the hazing makes a complaint or if the College previously learned of the incident from another source, the College will follow the process set forth in section III. of the Student Conduct Policy.

**Group or Team Self-Reporting:**
Members of a group or team who are concerned that some of their activities and/or behaviors, including pranks, may violate Wheaton’s hazing policy should consult the Dean of Residence Life. A group or team that fully discloses past or recent behavior in violation of the Hazing Policy will receive assistance as the group or team develops a new plan to replace the activities in question. With this disclosure, the group or team will be granted amnesty for the activities disclosed, unless the conduct engaged in violated the dangerous hazing category or the College’s policy on sexual misconduct. A decision to grant amnesty for a self-report of a violation of the hazing policy means that Wheaton will not independently pursue disciplinary action against the self-reporting group or team. Wheaton may, however, choose to require the group or team to engage in educational or restorative action. But if any individual who is harmed by the hazing makes a complaint or the College previously learned of the incident from another source, the College will follow the process set forth in section III. of the Student Conduct Policy.

Individuals, groups, or teams may only be granted amnesty for prior activities one time.
Wheaton College also offers amnesty for a student who seeks professional emergency assistance for him- or her-self, or for another student experiencing a medical emergency. For more information, see the Medical Amnesty Policy.

Questions about amnesty from the Hazing Policy may be directed to the Dean of Residence Life.

Investigation and Conduct Resolution Process

Reported complaints of hazing will be investigated and resolved promptly as described in the Student Conduct Policy. The investigation may include interviews with any complainants and witnesses and will provide an opportunity for the accused student to share relevant information and evidence.

Wheaton requires that students comply with a spirit of cooperation, honesty, and integrity when asked to participate in investigations and conduct meetings about alleged violations of College policy. Students found to have lied, deceived, or obstructed the truth in an investigation or conduct meeting will be considered in violation of the Noncompliance Policy and may be subject to disciplinary action. For more information, see the Noncompliance Policy.

Wheaton strictly prohibits retaliation against any person who in good faith reports a hazing incident or in good faith participates in a hazing investigation or report resolution process. Encouraging or assisting others to engage in retaliation also violates this Policy. Retaliatory acts may include, but are not limited to: acts or comments that are intended to discourage a person from engaging in activity protected under this Policy (e.g., self-reporting) or that would discourage a reasonable person from engaging in activity protected under this Policy; adverse changes in employment status or opportunities; adverse academic action; adverse changes to academic, educational, and co-curricular opportunities; harassment; intimidation; acts or comments intended to embarrass the individual; and seeking to influence the participation or statements of parties or witnesses. Retaliatory conduct is prohibited regardless of whether it occurs on or off campus, in person, or through social media, email, or other form of communication, or whether it is committed by parties to the investigation, their friends, their representatives, or any other person. Retaliation may be present against a person even when the person’s allegations of hazing are not substantiated. Any concerns of retaliation should be reported to the Dean of Residence Life. An individual that engages in retaliation will be subject to disciplinary action.

If Wheaton determines at any stage of the conduct process that a student poses a serious threat to the complainant, to self or others, or to the stability and continuance of the College’s operations, the College may, in its sole discretion, require the student to move out of College housing, stop working as a student employee on campus, withdraw or take an involuntary leave of absence, or otherwise restrict the student’s access to and movement about campus, which could include class attendance and/or the opportunity to complete coursework. For more information, see the Student Conduct Policy section III.B on Interim Action.
Disciplinary Action

Following the completion of the conduct review process as described in the Student Conduct Policy, individuals found to be organizers of, or participants in, hazing will be subject to disciplinary action. Witnesses and/or bystanders who fail to intervene to stop the hazing incident from occurring and/or individuals who fail to report a known or suspected incident of hazing may also be subject to disciplinary action. The Dean of Residence Life, the Vice President for Student Development, or a Hearing Panel for a sensitive matter has authority to impose sanctions including, but not limited to: fines/restitution; community service; an oral warning; confiscation of prohibited property; a written warning; behavioral requirements such as counseling, reflection papers, and letters of apology; educational requirements; restrictions/reassignments; loss of participation and/or recognition; suspension of activity; probation; withdrawal, suspension; and expulsion. For more information, see the Student Conduct Policy section VI on Sanctions in Response to Student Misconduct.

In addition, an incident of hazing may result in discipline for an entire group or team. Group or team sanctions include, but are not limited to, loss of Wheaton privileges (including the use of Wheaton facilities), educational requirements for group or team members, required additional oversight of group or team activities, and temporary or permanent suspension of all team or group activities. Factors for determining whether to discipline a group or team include, but are not limited to, the percentage of the group or team who participated in the incident, the percentage of the group or team who had knowledge of hazing and did not report it, whether the members of the group or team cooperated with the College during the investigation, and the impact of and harm caused by the activity.

In determining the appropriate discipline for an individual or student group or team, Wheaton will consider the following factors:

- the seriousness of the alleged offense;
- the student’s or students’ response when confronted; and
- the student’s, group’s, or team’s conduct history.

Although not outcome determinative, Wheaton will also consider the impact of the incident on the participating students as well as on the larger community.