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## 5-209 Athletic Policies

### A. Purpose

The purpose of the program of intercollegiate athletics is to provide the following important educational experiences to both men and women:

1. To train in legitimate methods of good sportsmanship, competition, and the will to win.
2. To aid in character development, which includes cooperation and teamwork, leadership qualities, group loyalty, and clean living.
3. To contribute to the development of institutional morale, loyalty, and school spirit.
4. To supply wholesome recreational activity for the participants and other students.
5. To enhance the skill and physical fitness levels of the participants.
6. To serve as a laboratory for the professional courses of those interested in physical education instruction and coaching as a career or in lifetime participation in athletic activities.
7. To provide an additional means through which the public at large and the institutional alumni will identify themselves with the universities for mutually beneficial purposes and for continuing support of the institutions.

### B. Authority

Jurisdiction and control over the universities of the State of Arizona are vested by law in the Arizona Board of Regents. These athletic policies are promulgated by the Board in the exercise of such powers, which the Board cannot surrender. Nevertheless, the Board fully recognizes the desirability of promoting and sustaining viable, uniform, and constructive programs of intercollegiate athletics and, therefore, consents that the institutions remain members of the national and conference athletic associations to which they respectively belong, that they may hereafter join such other

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and different athletic associations as this Board may approve, and that they abide by the rules and regulations of such associations, always providing, however, (1) that this Board retains plenary jurisdiction over the universities' athletic functions and may hereafter exercise continuing rule-making and amendatory powers, and (2) that in the event of conflict between any, all, or any combination of the policies or regulations of such associations and those of this Board, the latter shall prevail. The provisions of this section are continuing and pervasive; they need not be reiterated.

C. Admission and Retention

1. Standards for admission to and retention in student status apply equally and without variation to all persons alike, whether athlete or non-athlete, and shall be supervised, administered, and uniformly applied by the respective registrars and/or directors of admissions.
2. All individuals who participate in intercollegiate athletics shall be eligible to receive any assistance necessary to achieve satisfactory academic performance and to progress toward graduation at a satisfactory rate.
3. University-wide programs for minority and other disadvantaged students shall be coordinated with special programs to assist minority group student athletes.
4. Tutorial programs for student athletes shall be provided by the universities and graduation rates of student athletes shall be continually monitored by the universities.
5. The committee of the Board of Regents responsible for intercollegiate athletics shall monitor the academic progress of student athletes in football and men's basketball and, if necessary, other sports. The monitoring will be conducted as follows: each university president or president's designee shall submit to the Executive Director of the Board on or before September 15 of each year a copy of all reports the university intercollegiate athletics committee regarding the academic progress of student athletes. The Executive Director may request additional information from the presidents as needed. The Executive Director will submit a

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summary of the university reports to the members of the Board and will advise the Chair of the Board's oversight committee regarding any Board actions needed.

D. Eligibility for Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics

1. The faculty athletic representative(s) at each institution shall determine that each student who participates in an intercollegiate athletic event is eligible to participate under the applicable rules and policies of the Board of Regents, the institution, the conference(s) to which it belongs, and any other organization officially recognized by the institution. The head coaches of the respective athletic teams, the director(s) of athletics, and the registrar shall fully and freely cooperate with the faculty athletic representative(s) and shall immediately communicate any and all information which might tend to affect the eligibility to participate of any student athlete.
2. The principle and practice of amateurism in intercollegiate athletics shall be strictly upheld and applied. Each institution is required to ascertain that every student athlete is in amateur status before entering upon any phase of the intercollegiate athletic program at the institution and to assure that such status continues throughout the entire period of participation in that program at the institution. Conference and national association techniques for ascertaining and assuring amateur status may be employed in effectuating the purposes of this subsection.
3. A student who makes or has made false statements, written or oral, or who engages or has engaged in false or deceptive actions or practices in order to gain admission to an institution, to remain there in student athlete status, or to secure or preserve eligibility for participation in or derivation of benefits from the intercollegiate athletic program shall not be permitted to enter such program, or, if already participating therein, may be suspended therefrom pending prompt and fair investigation and ascertainment of the relevant facts. Upon such ascertainment, restoration to such status may be made, exclusion from further participation may be ordered and carried out, or reasonable conditions may be imposed upon continued participation, as the facts of the situation may warrant. The student athlete is subject to the same procedures and

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penalties as may apply to any student who misrepresents or falsifies status or circumstances either to procure admission to an institution, to continue therein, or to procure a benefit therefrom.

4. To be eligible for competition in intercollegiate athletics, a student must be making satisfactory academic progress and be enrolled in an academic program leading to a degree or other approved curriculum. Standards that apply to student athletes must be no lower than standards that apply to other students in evaluating satisfactory academic progress. No special consideration shall be given student-athletes in determining whether or not their scholarship records warrant continuation in the institution.
5. Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Averages
  - a. Student athletes are required to fulfill all minimum grade point average requirements in accordance with applicable NCAA policies.
  - b. In addition to the applicable NCAA requirements referenced above, all student athletes must have a cumulative grade point average for all credit hours earned at the university of at least 2.0 if: (a) they have at least 96 hours earned or accepted in transfer to the university; or (b) they are entering their final seasons of competitive eligibility. This GPA requirement is to be met on a semester by semester basis, once it is first applied.
  - c. Eligibility in accordance with the applicable NCAA requirements shall be determined on a semester by semester basis once these requirements are first applied.
  - d. The requirements of this section are applicable to all transfer students at the completion of their first semester of enrollment.
  - e. Each university shall adopt an internal policy to ensure that student athletes are provided appropriate notice of all applicable grade point average requirements.

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- f. The Board's prior grade point average requirements shall continue to apply to all student athletes at the university until they become subject to the NCAA requirements.

E. Financial Administration

1. Under the general policies and directives of the Arizona Board of Regents, the presidents of the three institutions are responsible for the administration of the athletic funds of their respective institutions.
2. The financial control of the programs of intercollegiate athletics shall be similar to the control of the other activities of the universities. The regular business authorities of the institution shall supervise collection of revenues, purchase of athletic supplies, and the budgetary procedure of the athletic program. All collections and expenditures for the support of the athletic program must clear through and be accounted for through the business offices of the universities, and all accounts for athletics are to be included in the annual audits.
3. Apart from revenues derived from permitted usage of institutional facilities, proceeds from athletic events may not be shared with or divided between any interests other than those (1) of the participating organizations, or (2) of conferences or conference members in accord with prevalent conference regulations approved by this Board.
4. No athletic department staff member is to receive a salary supplement in cash from an outside organization or source for services to the institution concerned. Athletic department staff members shall have the same rights and privileges with respect to outside work, professional or otherwise, as are accorded other members of the institution's staff and faculty. However, it is recognized that the public's interest in athletic programs provides athletic staff members with opportunities not generally available to other university employees. Athletic staff members must therefore take special care not to imply or give the impression of university endorsement of policies, opinions, programs, or commercial products or services.

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5. All contracts and agreements between a university and any athletic booster group that is not under the direct control and jurisdiction of the university itself must be approved by the Board of Regents. The contract or agreement may provide that annual external audits be required and that copies of these audits be provided to the university administration and the Board of Regents.
6. Any contract or agreement in which a university makes available to an outside group a quantity of 500 or more tickets for an individual game or on a season basis for resale by the group must be approved by the Board of Regents prior to delivery of the tickets to the booster group.
7. The university administrations should remain constantly vigilant in all matters relating to improper collections and/or expenditures of funds in violation of the policies of this Board, the Rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and applicable conference regulations.

F. Enforcement of Athletic Policies

At each institution, the enforcement of the Board of Regents' athletic policies is the responsibility of the president of that institution. In the performance of this responsibility, the presidents shall follow the enforcement procedures prescribed by the institution, the appropriate conference(s), and any other organizations officially recognized by the institution as having jurisdiction. Every effort should be made to resolve disputes between institutions by discussions between the faculty athletic representatives and/or athletic directors of the respective institutions involved in the dispute.

G. Recruiting of Prospective Student Athletes

1. Recognizing that students, members of the faculties and staffs, alumni and "booster" groups may attempt to interest eligible prospective students to enroll at some particular institution, such activity is to be condemned when it includes practices considered inimical to proper educational objectives. Specifically, such improper practices would include the following:

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- a. The recruiting of prospective students solely on the basis of expected athletic prowess without due regard to character, demonstrated scholastic achievement, and other desirable qualities.
  - b. Efforts to secure admission to the institution of applicants with expected athletic prowess on standards different than those applicable to other prospective students.
  - c. Efforts to secure the enrollment of prospective student athletes in any of the institutions by the offering of any inducements that do not conform with the standards and requirements of the institutions and of these policies.
2. All funds for the recruiting of prospective student athletes shall be deposited with the member institution. The institution shall be exclusively and entirely responsible for the manner in which it expends the funds.
  3. The books of booster groups of the three universities shall be open to examination and study by an examiner designated at each institution by its president so that the receipts, expenditures, and/or any other relevant matters pertaining to these organizations may be ascertained.
  4. Each university shall adopt and adhere to a formal letter-of-intent program in the recruiting of student athletes. Such program shall be either on a conference or interconference basis conforming with the corresponding prescribed regulations and procedures. All prospective student athletes and their families shall be made aware of the terms of the letter-of-intent and of the penalties involved if the prospective student athlete fails to observe these terms.

H. Miscellaneous

1. The selection and employment of coaches are functions of the respective administrations, which will apply and adhere to standards of competence and integrity no less rigid than those applicable to other personnel of similar rank. In addition to other

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duties, members of the coaching staff may be assigned to teaching duties for which they are qualified.

2. Each institution shall provide adequate safeguards for the health and physical condition of its intercollegiate athletic squads, including the employment on a part- or full-time basis of a competent physician, who will be available when needed for consultation and treatment, and who will have final authority in deciding whether or not any student might be in proper physical condition to engage in athletic practice or competition. It is recommended that each institution obtain group insurance for accident or hospital benefits for injury or illness related to participation in intercollegiate athletics.
3. In the case of disciplinary problems, no special consideration may be given students because of their athletic ability.
4. The price of admission to athletic events, the policies as to seating and concessions shall be determined by the appropriate university authorities on the basis of the best interests of the institutions and without regard to pressure from outside interests. Radio and television coverage and extra events will be negotiated by the appropriate university authority and will be undertaken by the institution only when the president or the president's delegate(s) determine it to be in the best interest of the institution. Agreements for such events shall be negotiated by the president or the delegate(s).
5. Athletic events are a part of the educational program under the control of the institutions and there is no implication of any obligation or responsibility on the part of the institutions to provide the public at large with entertainment.
6. No football game may be scheduled after the second Saturday in December except by special action of the Board of Regents.
7. The president of each university may appoint one or more committees to advise him, or such university officers as he shall so designate, on matters relating to intercollegiate athletics. Full-time students and alumni may be appointed to such committees, but

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university faculty and staff members jointly should constitute at least a two-thirds majority of any such committee. The president shall advise the Board of Regents if he chooses not to appoint any such committee or if the composition of such a committee is to be different than recommended herein.