

# The University of the District of Columbia Student-Athlete Code of Student Conduct

## HAZING

There is a zero-tolerance policy for hazing at the University of the District of Columbia. Actions and activities which are prohibited include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

- ☐ Any type of initiation or other activity where there is any expectation of individuals joining a particular team to participate in behavior designed to humiliate, degrade, or abuse them **regardless of the person's willingness to participate.**
- ☐ Forcing, requiring, or pressuring an individual to consume alcohol or any other substance.
- ☐ Forcing, requiring, or pressuring an individual to shave any part of their body, including the hair on their head.
- ☐ Any requirement or pressure put on an individual to participate in any activity which is illegal, perverse, publicly indecent, contrary to his/her genuine morals and/or beliefs, e.g., public profanity, indecent or lewd conduct, or sexual gestures in public.
- ☐ Required eating of anything an individual would refuse to eat otherwise.
- ☐ Any activity or action that creates risk to the health, safety, or property of the University or any member of its community.
- ☐ Forcing or requiring calisthenics, such as push-ups, sit-ups, and runs.
- ☐ Assigning or endorsing pranks such as stealing or harassment of others.
- ☐ Awakening or disturbing individuals during normal sleeping hours.
- ☐ Expecting or pressuring individuals to participate in an activity in which the full membership is not willing to participate.
- ☐ Physical abuse of any kind.
- ☐ Forcing, encouraging, or pressuring someone to wear in public apparel which is conspicuous and not within the norm of what is considered to be in good taste.
- ☐ Engaging in public stunts and buffoonery.
- ☐ Nudity at any time, or forced reading of pornographic material.
- ☐ Paddling, beating or otherwise permitting a member to hit other members.
- ☐ Having substances such as eggs, mud, paint, honey, etc., thrown at, poured on, or otherwise applied to the body of a member.
- ☐ Morally degrading/humiliating games or other activity that makes a member the object of amusement, ridicule, or intimidation.
- ☐ Subjecting a member to cruel and unusual psychological conditions

The Department of Athletics at UDC endorses only activities that promote unity and team spirit while respecting others.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

**Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to** activities and behavior defined below.

Notwithstanding the definitions contained in this article, the university reserves the right to determine that academic misconduct has occurred in any particular situation.

1. **AIDING OR ABETTING:** Knowingly helping, procuring or encouraging another person to engage in academic misconduct.

2. CHEATING: Includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisitions, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the University faculty or staff.

3. FABRICATION: Any dishonesty or deception in fulfilling an academic requirement including, but not limited to transcripts, identification, birth certificates or visas.

4. PLAGIARISM: Includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

a.) Use or possession of unauthorized material or technology during an examination (any written or oral work submitted for evaluation and/or grade), such as tape cassettes, notes, tests, cell phones, pda's, iPods, calculators, programmed calculators, other technological aid, or computer programs not permitted for classroom use.

b.) Obtaining or furnishing assistance with or answers on assignments for which collaboration is not specifically allowed from another person with or without that person's knowledge.

c.) Representing as one's own an examination taken by another person.

d.) Taking an examination in the place of another person.

e.) Obtaining unauthorized access to the electronic or paper files of another person or agency, or altering and/or destroying those files.

f.) Possession, use, distribution, or sale of unauthorized copies of an examination, or computer program.

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## **NON-ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

**Non-academic misconduct** is all misconduct that is not academic. It includes, but is not limited to, the activities and behavior defined below. Notwithstanding the definitions contained in this Article, the University reserves the right to determine that non-academic misconduct has occurred in any particular situation. The University's complete code of student conduct can be found in the Student Handbook located on the university's Student Development and Success web page or [http://docs.udc.edu/student\\_life/student\\_handbook\\_2015\\_2017.pdf](http://docs.udc.edu/student_life/student_handbook_2015_2017.pdf).

1. **AIDING AND ABETTING:** Helping, procuring, or encouraging another person to engage in non-academic misconduct.
2. **ALCOHOL AND DRUG UNAUTHORIZED USE:**
  - a.) Consuming or possessing alcoholic beverages on University premises to include failing to comply with local laws governing the transporting or sales of alcoholic beverages which has not been authorized by a University official.
  - b.) Exhibiting behavior which indicates intoxication or drug use while on University owned or controlled property or while attending a University sponsored event.
  - c.) Unauthorized use or possession of any controlled substance other than one duly prescribed by a licensed physician.
  - d.) Knowingly violating the University of the District of Columbia Drug and Alcohol Abuse policy whether the intoxication or drug use has occurred on campus or off-campus prior to coming onto University property. (See Appendix II)
  - e.) Underage consumption of alcohol is not permitted at any time.
3. **ASSAULT:** Knowingly or recklessly threatening or attempting to cause serious physical harm to another. This includes threats or attempts at physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, coercion and/or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person.
4. **BATTERY:** Refers to an encounter where physical contact or abuse occurs or is threatened between two or more persons with weapons, blows or other personal violence and that may include pushing, shoving, and other acts of physical abuse.
5. **ASSAULT/SEXUAL MISCONDUCT:** Refers to any unwanted touching or physical contact, directly or indirectly, of a sexual nature. In addition, this includes verbal or explicit verbal attacks such as lewd comments towards the victim in a sexual nature. Sexual misconduct may occur without regard to the gender of the actor or the victim. Violations of the University sexual harassment policy may also be considered misconduct under this section.
6. **HARASSMENT:** Conduct, which has the foreseeable effect of unreasonably interfering with an identifiable individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work or learning environment for an individual or a group of people. Also, refers to a form of verbal, visual, written, or physical act directed at intimidating any member of the University community, either on or off-campus. This includes creating an environment that demeans and inflicts psychological or emotional harm, or results in undue stress to an individual. This also applies electronically through the use of technology (e.g. telephone, text-messaging, computer, electronic mail, faxes and iPods or other electronic devices/media).
7. **DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY:** Damaging, destroying, defacing, littering, or tampering with the property of the University or the property of another person or organization while on University property or while attending a University-sponsored event.
8. **DISHONESTY AND MISREPRESENTATION:** Knowingly or recklessly furnishing false written or oral information including, but not limited to, false identification to University officials, or forging, altering, or misusing University documents or records.

9. **DISRUPTION/OBSTRUCTION:** Disrupting, obstructing, or interfering with University functions, activities, or the pursuit of the University mission, including but not limited to research, teaching, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other University activities or events.

10. **DISTURBING THE PEACE:** Disturbing the peace of the University, including but not limited to, disorderly conduct, failure to comply with an order to disperse, fighting, quarreling, and /or being in a state of intoxication or impairment due to unlawful alcohol or drug usage.

11. **FAILURE TO COMPLY AND IDENTIFY:** Failing to comply with the directions of University officials, administrators, campus police, or the Judicial Board acting pursuant to their duties or the written rules of the University.

12. **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SANCTIONS:** Failing to comply with sanctions imposed in accordance with the procedures herein.

13. **FALSE CHARGES OR STATEMENTS:** Knowingly furnishing false information, allegations, or reports, including testimony at University judicial hearings to any University official.

14. **GAMBLING:** Participating in games of chance that are prohibited by law or applicable policy.

15. **HAZING:** Includes, but is not limited to, an action taken or a situation created by an individual, or group organization, that can possibly impart any form of physical or emotional distress (e.g. generally an act or situation which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with or as a condition of continued membership in a group organization), embarrassment, harassment or ridicule. Groups are held responsible for the actions of their members, including but not limited to pledges, pre-initiates, and associates. Page 12 of 40

16. IDENTIFICATION, MISUSE OF: Unauthorized transferring, lending, presenting borrowing or altering University identification or any record or instrument of identification, including the unauthorized use of such to change, alter, and deter grades or University records, and the unauthorized use of another individual's password.

17. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, MISUSE OF: Theft or abuse of information, (e.g. computer, electronic mail, voice mail, telephone, fax, iPods, or any other electronic devices/media), including but not limited to:

a.) Abuse of authorized entry into a file, computer system, or database to use, read or change the contents, or for any other purpose.

b.) Unauthorized transfer or distribution of a file.

c.) Unauthorized use of another individual's identification and password.

d.) Unauthorized use of information technology to send or receive obscene, threatening, or sexual messages (i.e. pornographic images) in a public display (e.g. computer labs, classrooms, libraries, etc.).

e.) Unauthorized use of information technology to interfere with the work of another student, faculty member or University official.

f.) Unauthorized use of information technology to interfere with the normal operations of the University's systems.

g.) Unauthorized use of information technology to destroy data or files through tampering, creating viruses or other systems that impede access to the system.

h.) Unauthorized use of any other form of information technology which violates the Office of Information Technology's Internet Access and Use Policy, which can be found online at <http://oit.in2.udc.edu/docs/internet.pdf>.

18. LAW, VIOLATION OF: Violating criminal laws (federal, state, or local) on campus where the foreseeable effect is to interfere with the University's organizational objectives, mission, or responsibilities, or to violate any portion of this Code.

19. MENACING: Knowingly causing another person to believe that the offender will cause serious physical harm to another, a member of their immediate family or their property.

20. PROPERTY OR SERVICES, UNAUTHORIZED USE: Unauthorized use or possession of property or resources of the University or of a member of the University community or other person or entity.

21. PROBATION, VIOLATION OF: Violating the Code of Student Conduct while on University disciplinary probation or violating the specific term of that probation will be cause for additional sanctions.

22. SAFETY EQUIPMENT, MISUSE OF: Unauthorized use or alteration of firefighting equipment, safety devices, fire alarms, fire extinguishers or other emergency devices. Failing to conform to safety regulations, such as falsely reporting an incident or failure to evacuate facilities in a timely manner in emergency situations or in response to fire alarms.

23. SMOKING POLICY, VIOLATION OF: Violating the smoking policy of the University, possessing a lit tobacco product or other illegal tobacco type substance anywhere inside a University building according to the UDC Board of Trustees Resolution No. 93-4 and DC Law 3-22.

24. STOLEN PROPERTY, POSSESSION OF: Unauthorized possession of property that has been stolen or that may be identified as property of the University or any person or entity.

25. THEFT: Unauthorized possession of property or materials of the University or member of the University community.

26. **TRESPASS OR FORCIBLE ENTRY:** Unauthorized trespass or forcible entry into any University building, structure, or facility or onto University property.

27. **UNIVERSITY KEYS, MISUSE OF:** Unauthorized use, distribution, duplication, or possession of any keys issued for any University building, laboratory, facility, or room.

28. **UNIVERSITY POLICIES OR RULES, VIOLATION OF:** Any violation of published University of the District of Columbia policies or rules is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

29. **WEAPONS:** Unauthorized possession or use of a firearm or explosive device of any description and anything knowingly used to threaten or harm including, but not limited to, firecrackers, compressed air guns, pellet guns, BB guns, paint guns, bow and arrow(s), knives, box cutters, sharp instruments, biological agents, dangerous chemicals, stun guns, brass or metal knuckles, and water guns will result in an immediate suspension from the University. This includes any object which can be used as a dangerous weapon and any items used that pose a potential threat to others.

30. **DISORDERLY CONDUCT:** Refers to a form of lewd and indecent behavior, of peace, or aiding, abetting, or procuring another person to breach the peace on the University's premises or at functions sponsored by or participated in by the University.

31. **HARBORING:** Knowingly harboring on, or transporting to, University-owned or operated property a fugitive, student, employee, or any other individual who has been officially barred from the University or for whom there is an outstanding warrant.

32. **THREAT:** Knowingly to intend harm verbally or cause bodily harm to another person on campus either by that particular individual or by someone else who will bring harm onto that person as a second party.

33. **TERRORISTIC THREATS:** Any act including, but not limited to, the use of force or violence and/or threat thereof against any person or group(s) of persons whether acting alone or on behalf of, or in connection with, any organization(s) or government(s) committed for political, religious, ideological or similar purposes, including the intention to influence any government and/or to put the public or any of the public in fear. Also includes falsely reporting the presence of a bomb or any other dangerous device or condition. These acts will result in immediate suspension from the University. Page 13 of 40

34. **RETALIATION:** Harassment of complainant or other person(s) alleging misconduct, including, but not limited to, intimidation, threats, or unwanted physical contact. Person(s) found in violation of this section will receive an immediate suspension from the University.

35. **ARSON:** The malicious or fraudulent burning of property, creating fires or open flames, and/or lighting flammable materials in a building or facility on University premises. Causing or creating a fire or any other condition that jeopardizes the safety of individuals. These acts will result in immediate suspension from the University.

36. **OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT BEHAVIOR:** Individuals and groups sponsoring activities off-campus have a responsibility to conduct such activities within the laws and ordinances of the community. The University expects that students will conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates their respect for the rights of others; this expectation is paramount when students are representing the University off-campus. The University reserves the right to take appropriate action when behavior of an individual group and/or organization interferes with the mission of the University and presents a danger to the health, safety, and well-being of others.

The Code of Student Conduct shall apply to all lands leased or owned by the University, as well as to any location where students are engaged in University activities. Examples of such coverage include, but are not limited to:

1. University athletic and academic teams traveling to off-campus events;
2. Student government associations off-campus activities;
3. Student clubs and/or student teaching programs;
4. Off-campus student internships;
5. Community service and/or student internship programs;
6. Study abroad programs; and
7. Participation in Consortium Program of Colleges and Universities.

### **STUDENT-ATHLETE CONDUCT**

The University of the District of Columbia and the Athletics Department will hold all student-athletes to the same Code of Conduct as all students. If a student-athlete violates this code on or off campus during academic, athletic participation or in University Housing he/she will be subject to penalties imposed by University Judiciary proceeding as well as Athletic Department penalties. Student-athletes may lose their scholarships, team membership etc. as the Athletic Director deems appropriate with regards to conduct violations. The University's complete code of student conduct can be found in the Student Handbook which on the Student Development and Success web page or at [http://docs.udc.edu/student\\_life/student\\_handbook\\_2015\\_2017.pdf](http://docs.udc.edu/student_life/student_handbook_2015_2017.pdf).

### **STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS**

**Personal Conduct by Student-athletes:** Student-athletes are, at all times, representatives of the University and Department of Athletics. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student-athletes to conduct themselves in a manner deemed appropriate to faculty, coaches, and the athletic administration. Disruptive or unacceptable behavior that, in the opinion of coaches and/or administrators, is determined to be detrimental to a student-athlete, the sport program in which they participate, the Department of Athletics and/or the University will be addressed, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. Such action may include the gradation or cancellation of current or future athletically related financial aid and/or team probation, suspension, or expulsion. Furthermore, all student-athletes will follow all UDC, NCAA and East Coast Conference rules and regulations.

1. **Travel:** Alcoholic beverages are not to be possessed or consumed by student athletes, student managers, or student trainers, despite age, during UDC athletics-related travel, competition,

practice, or activity. Specifically, while on a team trip, all team members must travel with the team unless special permission is obtained from the head coach and Director of Athletics.

2. **Athletic Grants-in-Aid:** Athletic grants-in-aid are awarded on a one-year basis, as required by NCAA regulations. During the period of the award, an athletic grant may be reduced or eliminated only if the student-athlete voluntarily withdraws from his or her team; or is removed from the team for disciplinary or academic ineligibility reasons. It is upon the recommendation of the head coach that an athletic grant is renewed for the ensuing year; however, UDC's philosophy is to renew athletic grants at equal or greater levels as long as the student-athlete has athletic eligibility remaining, is academically eligible to participate, has been exemplary team member, and is a contributing member of the program. Some grants are renewed but reduced.

3. **Academic Expectations:** Student-athletes are expected to **regularly attend all academic classes**, to **notify instructors** in a timely manner when they will be away from class for scheduled athletic contests, and to **complete all course requirements**. Failure to do so may jeopardize continued participation in the UDC Athletic Program.

4. **Hazing:** Team members may not participate in any form of hazing or initiation. The term —hazing‖ is defined as any action taken or situation created by a member(s) of a student-athlete or student organization toward one or more organization members or toward prospective members (as a part of the new member selection process), that occurs on a University –owned or leased property or at a University sponsored function or at the local residence of any University student, faculty member, or employee that is designed to ridicule. Such activities are include, but are not limited to, excessive physical/psychological shock, fatigue, stress, injury, or harm. Any activity of this nature is strictly prohibited, and allegations will be thoroughly investigated. If it is found that the policy was breached, involved student-athlete(s) may be suspended form the team for a specified time. The University has a



policy regarding hazing and the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs will be notified if the Department has determined the hazing has occurred.

**5. Destruction of Property:** Damaging, destroying, defacing, littering, or tampering with the property of the University or the property of another person or organization while on University property or while attending a University sponsored event is prohibited.

**6. Drugs and Alcohol:** The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on University property or as part of any University activity is prohibited. Federal and District of Columbia laws prohibit the unlawful use, manufacture, possession, control, sale and dispensation of any illegal narcotic, dangerous drug, or alcohol. The health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol include physical and mental impairment, emotional and psychological deterioration, fine and gross motor degeneration, and death. Students who unlawfully possess, use, or distribute illicit drugs or alcohol shall be sanctioned. Sanctions may include referral for criminal prosecution, expulsion, suspension, reprimand, or requiring the student to complete an appropriate rehabilitation program. The University of the District of Columbia provides confidential counseling and referral services to students with problems related to drug use and alcohol abuse. The University also provides information about substance abuse and treatment programs available to UDC students. Students who desire information regarding substance abuse or treatment programs should contact the University Health Services at (202) 274-5030 or The University Counseling Services 202-274-6000. Student-athletes will receive information regarding alcohol use and abuse. At no time is any student-athlete, including those who are of legal age to drink, permitted to use alcohol while participating in any on or off-campus university athletic event.

**7. Tobacco:** The use of tobacco products is prohibited by all game personnel (e.g., coaches, trainer, managers, and game officials) in all sports during practice and competition. The use of tobacco products by any individuals on the field of play — as well as during other championship activities such as banquets, autograph sessions, media conferences and postgame interviews — at NCAA championships is prohibited. Violations of this policy shall be dealt with by the appropriate sports committee in accordance with the misconduct provisions of Bylaw 31.1.10. The Athletics Department opposes all uses of tobacco by student-athletes. Student-athletes may not consume tobacco during any athletically related activities. The Athletic Department may take serious actions to penalize the use tobacco during these times.

### **Online Social Networking Policy (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Myspace, etc.)**

**All official University of the District of Columbia communication for faculty, staff and students is through [udc.edu](http://udc.edu). Athletic Department personnel will not communicate with student-athletes via their personal email. Student-athletes are responsible for frequently checking [udc.edu](http://udc.edu) email for important messages.**

**The IT help desk (202) 274-5941 or [support@udc.edu](mailto:support@udc.edu) is available for any issues accessing or managing university email.**

Publicly accessible media includes technology many of us use every day to communicate, inform, express opinions, and share entertainment which serve or are available to the general public. These include: print- such as newspapers, magazines, books, posters, fliers, newsletters, etc.; broadcasts-as in video and radio; digital-as in the internet, email, cyber profile websites (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest,

myspace), podcasting, chatrooms, skype, AIM, twitter and blogs, and emerging communication technologies.

When using any form of publicly accessible media, student-athletes are expected to adhere to the conduct befitting a Firebird representative with thought given to their respective team, the Athletic Department, the University, and their community.

**Social networks** can be great fun and serve a definite purpose. However, it is important that all student-athletes be responsible for what they and others post and realize the importance of private accounts; ***if you do not make a concerted effort to keep your information and pictures private they will be PUBLIC.*** Student-athletes who make Student Code of Conduct, Student-Athlete Code of Conduct and NCAA violations (e.g. alcohol and drug policy, harassing language, and other violations) public will be investigated and may be penalized by the Athletic Department. Student-athletes are not prohibited from membership to social networks. The Athletic Department reminds you of your duty to conduct yourself as a POSITIVE representative of the UDC community and this Department. You are a representative of UDC Athletics, even when you are on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, etc. If you do not want everyone to see what you are doing – then do not do it, and do not put it on the internet.

### **Guidelines**

1. It is not advised to share your full birth date, social security number, address, residence hall, phone number, class schedule, whereabouts, or daily schedule. These can lead to identity theft or stalking.
2. Remember that your profile is everlasting on the internet. You will eventually graduate and seek employment. Always think, —Would I want my future employer to see this? before you add information or pictures.
3. Always be suspicious of emails and those contacting you who ask for personal information. Do not share personal information with strangers, web-based, or other.
4. Just as the printed and spoken word is subject to Federal law concerning harassment, etc. so too is your on-line profile.

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