

**Bellarmine University Athletic Department
2005-06 Student-Athlete Handbook**

Section 2: Code of Conduct and Sportsmanship

Participation on an athletic team representing Bellarmine University is a privilege that comes with responsibilities and expectations. As a student-athlete you are expected to conduct yourself with honesty, pride, sportsmanship and integrity on the playing field as well as off the playing field.

Your behavior as a student-athlete is subject to the Bellarmine University Code of Student Conduct and the Code of Conduct and Sportsmanship for Student-Athletes while you are on university premises or when you are involved with off-campus university activities. In addition, student-athletes are subject to all rules and regulations that are required by the NCAA and conference, as well as those required by coaches for individual participation on a specific team.

Rules of Conduct

Student-athletes shall be guided in all their relations by the highest standards of integrity and honesty in the classroom, on the practice field and in competition.

Student-athletes:

- Shall avoid any act tending to promote their own interests at the expense of the dignity and integrity of the institution or their fellow student-athlete.
- Shall not compete unfairly on the practice field, in competition, or in the classroom.
- Shall not attempt to malign, directly or indirectly, another student, coach or instructor. Respect for the intrinsic dignity and worth of all persons, regardless of race, ethnic origins, religious preference, or gender, is expected in the athlete's actions. Discriminatory or harassing behavior will be dealt with through the university's disciplinary system.
- Shall give credit to their fellow players and coaches when such credit is deserving and due.
- Shall not solicit or accept financial aid except when in accordance with rules and regulations of the institution, conference and NCAA.

Student-athletes shall dedicate their primary efforts to the goals and interests of the institution, sport, teammates and the public.

- Student-athletes shall consider academic responsibilities their highest priority.
- Shall hold paramount the safety of teammates and their opponents
- Shall abide by the rules and regulations of their coaches and institution.
- Shall not permit the use of their names in advertising and ventures with any person or firm.
- Student-athletes in public statements or in interviews with the press shall make statements in a truthful and factual manner.
- Shall not be influenced in their competition by conflicting interests, financially or personally, including bribes and wagering.

Student-athletes shall always conduct themselves as good sports-persons and as responsible citizens. Student-athletes:

- Shall respect their coaches and instructors.

- Shall maintain good appearance, good conduct appropriate language and good sportsmanship.
- Shall show respect toward opposing players, opposing coaches and officials.
- Shall accept defeat and victory gracefully.
- Shall participate within the rules of the game and shall reject the attitude of "It's all right to play outside the rules if you don't get caught".
- Shall contribute to the spirit of team play and leadership.
- Shall deport themselves with honesty and sportsmanship so that the sport shall be an example of honor, dignity, and fair play.
- Shall exercise self-discipline, cooperation, self-confidence, leadership and initiative.
- Shall accept the decisions of coaches and the instructors; however, in matters of questionable ethics, student-athletes may direct their questions to the coaches or instructors in private, and if not satisfied, shall direct them to the appropriate superiors

Student-athletes shall represent the institution as loyal students and in accord with school spirit.

- Shall strive for the highest degree of excellence.
- Shall uphold all standards and regulations of the university.
- Shall accept criticism from coaches as being constructive and in their best interest.
- Shall accept criticism by the press and the public without rancor or bitterness.
- Student-athletes who become aware of violations of institution or governing associations by any supporter of an athletic program have an obligation to report them to the appropriate coach or athletics director.