

Faculty Reference for NCAA/Wagner Athletics Standards

General Principles*

I. COMPLIANCE MISSION STATEMENT:

As a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), Wagner College is responsible for ensuring that the faculty, staff, administrators, student-athletes, alumni, booster, and friends of the College abide by NCAA regulations & guidelines. We are committed to striving for excellence in our athletics program while remaining compliant with NCAA guidelines.

II. ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY:

At Wagner College, the student-athlete is encouraged to develop both academic and athletic abilities in an environment where the foremost goal is the successful completion of the College's academic requirements for graduation within four years. To that end, the Wagner athletic program and operating principles is consistent with the "Wagner Plan". As such, all Wagner College intercollegiate athletes are degree-seeking college students in good academic standing as well as amateur athletic competitors. The Wagner College athletic program pursues a philosophy that intercollegiate athletics is an important part of a well-rounded and broad-based undergraduate college education and is thereby dedicated to the service of a broad range of student, faculty and public interests. At all times, the athletic program strives to develop character, maturity, and fair play as well, as athletic and physical excellence. Like all aspects of Wagner College, the athletic program is non-discriminatory in accordance with equal opportunity and equity law.

III. ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

Being a student-athlete at Wagner is a privilege and not a right. The purpose of intercollegiate athletics is to provide an opportunity for an individual to develop his or her academic and athletic skills. The intercollegiate athletics experience provides opportunities for student-athletes to grow emotionally, socially, and intellectually. Additionally, athletics gives the participants an opportunity to travel, represent his or her school and learn the art of being a team member. All this gain is not without sacrifice. Each player loses some individual rights and privileges as he or she accepts the policies of the program and becomes a member of the team.

IV. YOUR OBLIGATION AS A STUDENT:

- Maintain NCAA "Progress-Towards-Degree Requirements" for eligibility and Wagner College standards for good academic standing. Avoid academic probation, suspension or expulsion.
- Set academic goals and work diligently toward completing your degree within four years.
- Follow all college and athletic department policies regarding class attendance and study hall.
- Be respectful toward faculty; remind professors of travel schedules in advance; arrange make-up work in an appropriate manner; and follow through with assignments on time.
- Seek assistance when your academic success is in jeopardy. Utilize athletics' academics advisors and the peer tutors.
- Meet with your Faculty Advisor for pre-registration advisement.
- Abide by the college's honor system regarding cheating, plagiarism, and dishonesty.

*as made available in the Wagner Athletics Student-Athlete Handbook

Student-Athlete Academic Policies

TEAM TRAVEL

Student-athletes representing Wagner College who travel individually or as a team to a regularly scheduled intercollegiate athletic contest must do so under the direct supervision of the head coach or other designated athletics department staff member. Staff members assume responsibility for the traveling party from the point and time of departure until return. Thus, all members of the team return to campus as a team. Special circumstances will be considered on a “case by case” basis, and must be pre-arranged with the head coach and the team’s sport administrator. Permission must be obtained prior to the team’s departure from Wagner’s campus through the completion of a travel release request. Consideration will only be given for releases to parents and family members. In the event that a travel release request has been granted, Wagner College is relieved of all responsibility upon the student-athlete’s release. As a representative of the College on away trips, student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves with the highest ethical, moral, and behavioral standards. The use of alcohol or illegal substances is expressly prohibited at all times.

Before departing for competition, a student-athlete should reconfirm missed class time. It is the student-athlete’s responsibility to make-up missed class assignments, quizzes, presentations, and exams. Be proactive and not reactive by making arrangements prior to the date of departure.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Student-Athletes should note that the NCAA requires that “no class time shall be missed for practice activities exception when a team is traveling to an away-from-home contest and the practice is in conjunction with the contest. (Bylaw 17.1.5.5.1)

You are expected to attend every class meeting unless competition, serious injury or illness prevent you from attending. If you do not attend class, do not be surprised if you may be benched, suspended from the team, or lose your athletic grant-in-aid.

If you do miss a class, explain to your instructor what happened and make up the missed work as soon as possible. Remember, you are accountable for your actions. At the beginning of each semester you will be given a “class excuse” letter to hand to your professors. The letter outlines the classes that you may miss because of competition and must be shared with your professors during the first week of classes during Add/Drop. It is imperative that you compare the missed class dates with your class syllabus to identify potential conflicts. By providing the class excuse letter during Add/Drop, it allows you and your professor to discuss the conflicts and to identify whether it would be better to enroll in a different class.

Faculty Interactions

1. *Prospective Student-Athletes*

There are NCAA Rules Pertaining to Faculty & Staff Involvement with Student-Athletes and Prospective Student-Athletes. The NCAA provides guidelines for faculty interaction with currently enrolled student-athletes as well as prospective student-athletes being recruited to Wagner College. It is very important that university faculty be informed of the basics of these rules to ensure that no violations occur that might affect the reputation of the university and jeopardize any student's educational and athletic endeavors. As a basic principle, enrolled student-athletes are not permitted to receive any extra benefits from faculty or other university employees.

The NCAA defines an extra-benefit as any special arrangement by an institutional employee provided to an enrolled student-athlete (or a student-athlete's relatives or friends) that is not available to the general student body of that institution.

However, faculty members are permitted to have on-campus contact with recruits, and may write or telephone a prospect about academic progress or issues. In the case of such meetings, faculty members should notify the Department of Athletics about any contact they have with prospective student-athletes. It is never permissible for any university employee to provide prospects with any improper benefit or inducement to attract them to Wagner College.

2. *Coaching Staff Members and Faculty Interaction*

It is impermissible for coaching staff members to contact university faculty regarding the academic progress or standing of their enrolled student-athletes. This prohibition extends to the registration and enrollment of prospective or currently enrolled student-athletes.

These activities and all specific academic progress requests must be conducted through the Office of Student Services for Student-Athletes and the Compliance Office and come from the Assistant Athletic Director for Student Services or the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance. Any faculty member who is approached by a coach regarding academic progress should notify the Department of Athletics.

Wagner faculty and staff members (F/SM) may be asked to assist in the recruitment efforts of prospects due to their academic expertise and enthusiastic support of our athletics program and institution. Therefore, the Athletic Compliance Office is charged with making sure they are aware of NCAA recruiting regulations so as to avoid any potential for inadvertent institutional violations. Please take a moment to review the following NCAA rules relative to faculty and staff member's involvement in recruiting:

- F/SM may have only on-campus contact with prospects. Unavoidable, incidental off-campus contact is permissible provided no discussion relevant to Wagner athletics takes place.
- F/SM may receive calls from prospects at any time. F/SM may telephone prospects, subject to institutional limits and the coach is responsible for assuring that this limitation is not exceeded.
- F/SM may not be present at a meal with a prospect unless it is on-campus or within 30 miles of campus, on only one occasion during the visit or in the home of an institutional staff member.
- F/SM may write prospects, in sports other than men's basketball, following September 1 of the prospect's junior year in high school.

If you have any questions regarding these rules or any other situation regarding Wagner student-athletes, please feel free to contact the Compliance Office or Student Services.

NCAA Bylaws Related to Academic Policies

3.2.4.11 Standards. Active members agree to establish and maintain high standards of personal honor, eligibility and fair play.

3.2.4.13 Missed Class-Time Policies. Active members are obligated to establish policies in all sports concerning student-athletes' missed class time due to participation in intercollegiate athletics and in athletics competition scheduled during final examination periods. In men's basketball, an institution's athletics participation schedule, which shall include the anticipated amount of missed class time due to athletics participation, shall be approved by the institution's faculty athletics representative or faculty oversight committee prior to the beginning of each regular academic term. (Adopted: 4/29/10 effective 8/1/10)

Bylaw 20: Division I Membership

20.9.1.7 The Commitment to Sound Academic Standards. Standards of the Association governing participation in intercollegiate athletics, including postseason competition, shall be designed to ensure proper emphasis on educational objectives and the opportunity for academic success, including graduation, of student-athletes who choose to participate at a member institution. Intercollegiate athletics programs shall be maintained as an important component of the educational program, and student-athletes shall be an integral part of the student body. Each member institution's admission and academic standards for student-athletes shall be designed to promote academic progress and graduation and shall be consistent with the standards adopted by the institution for the student body in general. (Adopted: 1/19/13 effective 8/1/13)

Bylaw 17: Playing and Practice Seasons

17.1.7.1 Daily and Weekly Hour Limitations -- Playing Season. A student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week. (Adopted: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/91)

17.1.7.6 Required Day Off -- Playing Season. [A] During the playing season, all required athletically related activities (per Bylaw 17.02.14) shall be prohibited during one calendar day per week, except during participation in one conference and postseason championship and any postseason bowl games or National Invitation Tournaments, and during participation in NCAA championships. Health and medical activities (e.g., medical evaluations or treatment for prevention and/or rehabilitation of injuries) or activities that are academically related (e.g., meetings with academic advisor, tutoring sessions) are permitted on the day off. (Adopted: 1/20/17 effective 8/1/17)

17.1.7.9.2 No Class Time Missed for Practice Activities. No class time shall be missed at any time (e.g., regular academic term, mini term, summer term) for practice activities except when a team is traveling to an away-from-home contest and the practice is in conjunction with the contest. (Adopted: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/91, Revised: 5/13/10)

17.1.7.9.2.1 Exception -- Championship Practice. At any conference or NCAA championship, student-athletes from the team representing the host institution shall be permitted to miss class time to attend practice activities conducted the day before the competition. (Adopted: 4/27/00, Revised: 4/26/01)