LONE STAR COLLEGE-KINGWOOD
GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT ATHLETES

I. CONDUCT POLICY STATEMENT

Student-athletes at the Lone Star College-Kingwood are expected to represent themselves, their team and College with honesty, integrity, and character whether it be academically, athletically or socially. Participation on a Sport Club team is a privilege, not a right, and should be treated as such. It has many benefits and brings with it a responsibility to be positive and effective members of the team, department, college, and broader community.

The Department of Sport Clubs, along with the student-athletes who represent our sport club programs, are a window to the College. Student-athletes often are in the spotlight and, fair or not, their behavior is subject to scrutiny by their peers, members of the campus, local and national communities and by the media. The actions of one student-athlete may result in a generalization to all student-athletes and reflects on the individual, team, department and College, whether it be positively or negatively. It is expected that all student-athletes abide by team, department and College policies. A written or electronic copy of student-athlete guidelines and policies will be provided to all student-athletes on an annual basis.

Student-athletes who do not conform to this code may be subject to consequences for their actions that may include but are not limited to: a warning, dismissal from the team, and discipline from the Dean of Students and/or dismissal from the College. In addition to all College policies, student-athletes are responsible for following the league standards, good sportsmanship as well as all local, state, and federal laws.

II. CONDUCT GUIDELINES

A. Student-Athletes Are Expected To:

1. Be respectful of all others and to treat people as they would want to be treated.
2. Communicate with their teammates, coaches, faculty, and other members of the campus community with respect, honesty, and timeliness.
3. Follow all College, Team, & League rules and guidelines.
4. Attend all academic classes as scheduled.
5. Complete their academic coursework in a timely fashion and make progress towards a degree each semester.
6. Give their best effort academically, athletically, and in life.

B. Alcohol/Drug Consumption

The use of alcohol or drugs by student-athletes while involved in any team-related practices, competitions, banquets, travel, or other activities is prohibited, regardless of age. Student-athletes under the legal age to consume (21 years of age) in Texas are expected to abide by city, state and
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Consequences for violating this policy may include being referred to the Dean of Students. Additional consequences may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Verbal and written warning
2. Suspension from the team
3. Loss of eligibility and dismissal from the team
4. A fine and financial hold being placed on your school account
5. Dismissal from the College

Additionally, it is expected that the consumption of alcohol by student-athletes who are of legal age will be within the parameters of team, department and College policies and will be handled responsibly. Consequences for underage alcohol use, inappropriate alcohol use by student-athletes of legal age to consume, or illegal drug use will be determined on a case by case basis. The head coach and Director of Sport Clubs will be involved in determining the sanctions for violating this policy.

C. Local, State and Federal Laws

Student-athletes who are alleged (including arrested or charged) to have broken local, state and federal laws will be subject to team and department sanctions upon a case by case review. Violations involving physical and/or sexual violence, use of illegal weapons, or driving while under the influence will be subject to immediate suspension from team activity pending further investigation. The head coach, in consultation with the Director of Sport Clubs, will impose sanctions.

Team or Department of Sport Clubs disciplinary sanctions may be imposed in advance of any campus disciplinary and/or criminal actions. Disciplinary sanctions may include, but are not limited to: admonishment; written reprimand; suspension from the team; and dismissal from the team. Additional sanctions may be imposed by the broader College, including probation, suspension from school, or expulsion.

For the purposes of this code of conduct, suspension from the team means that student-athletes may not practice, compete or travel with any college sport club team.

D. Sexual Harassment Policy

The Department of Sport Clubs is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all of its student-athletes. Sexual harassment is unlawful and unethical and may subject those who engage in it to department, College and legal sanctions. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, sex-based conduct that is intimidating, hostile or offensive, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is prohibited by the College. Complaints of sexual harassment by a student-athlete will be promptly addressed and should be
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reported to the Director of Sport Clubs. Consequences for harassment may include:

1. Verbal and written warning and participation in educational sessions
2. Suspension from the team
3. Loss of eligibility and dismissal from the team
4. Dismissal from the University

Examples of prohibited conduct:

a. Unwelcome sexual flirtation, advances or propositions.
b. Continued or repeated verbal abuse of a sexual nature
c. Sexually degrading language to describe an individual
d. Unwelcome remarks of a sexual nature to describe a person’s body or clothing
e. Display of sexually demeaning objects or pictures
f. Offensive physical contact, such as unwelcome touching
g. Coerced sexual intercourse
h. Sexual assault
i. Rape, date or acquaintance rape, or other sex offenses either forcible or non-forcible

E. Hazing Policy

Hazing by any member of the College community is prohibited at the Lone Star College-Kingwood. Hazing is prohibited whenever it occurs on College premises or in connection with any College-affiliated group or activity. Student-athletes who violate the prohibition against hazing are subject to discipline. Any criminal complaints will be reported to law enforcement.

Hazing is an act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of an individual (including, without limitation, an act intended to cause personal degradation or humiliation), or that destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation in, admission to, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization.

Such activities and situations include but are not limited to:

1. Physical punishment, contact, exercise, or sleep deprivation that causes excessive fatigue and/or physical or psychological shock;
2. Forced or coerced consumption of food, drink, alcohol, tobacco, and/or illegal drugs;
3. Forced or coerced transportation of individuals;
4. Public humiliation, ridicule, indecent exposure or ordeal;
5. Coercing or forcing illegal acts;
6. Coercing or forcing acts that are immoral or unethical;
7. Blocking an individual’s academic, athletic, health or person success;
8. Personal servitude;
9. Mental harassment;
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10. Sexual harassment;
11. Deception;
12. Threat of social exclusion;
13. Any activity that involves the use of alcohol or any controlled substance,
14. Any activity that is not in accordance with the University’s established policies.

A person commits a hazing offense if the person:

1. Engages in hazing;
2. Solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in hazing activities;
3. Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur;
4. Has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student and fails to report the plan to the athletics department to prevent the hazing;
5. Has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report it to the Director of Sport Clubs or other appropriate official of the institution.

Typically, hazing has occurred in connection with initiation activities. Even if an initiation activity is optional, an individual may not feel empowered to refuse participation. Individuals involved in any form of hazing will be held accountable for their actions and will be subject to disciplinary action by the Department of Sport Clubs as well as the College. Disciplinary action may include immediate suspension from the team, permanent dismissal from the team, or dismissal from the College.

If a student-athlete chooses to file a hazing grievance against an individual or group, it should be reported to the Director of Sport Clubs. If requested, every effort will be made to protect the identity of the person reporting the grievance, where permissible under the law. It is possible that a student-athlete may initially voluntarily agree to participate in an initiation activity, and that he or she may later decide within a reasonable period of time that it was an unacceptable hazing activity. A grievance need not be filed for a disciplinary action to occur.

III. STUDENT HEARING & APPEAL PROCESS

1. The Director of Sport Clubs has final approval regarding a student-athlete’s dismissal from the team. This decision is not appealable.
IV. LONE STAR COLLEGE-KINGWOOD SPORTSLIKE CONDUCT POLICY AND STATEMENT

STUDENT-ATHLETES ARE EXPECTED TO:

1. Treat opponents with respect.
2. Play hard but within the rules.
3. Exercise self-control at all times setting the example for others to follow.
4. Respect officials and accept their decisions without gesture or argument.
5. Win without boasting, lose without excuses and never quit.
6. Always remember that it is a privilege to represent the school and community.

ACTS OF UNSPORTSLIKE CONDUCT SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

1. Striking or attempting to strike or otherwise physically abusing an official, opposing coach, spectator or athlete.
2. Intentionally, or with careless disregard for one’s conduct, inciting participants or spectators to violent or abusive action.
3. Using obscene gestures or profane or unduly provocative language or action toward an official, student, coach or spectator.

V. COMMITMENT TO THE TEAM

As a condition to joining a team at Lone Star College-Kingwood, the Student Athlete is making the following commitments:

1. Will attend ALL scheduled meetings, practices, games, and community service projects.
2. Will get the coaches approval to miss a scheduled practice or games ahead of time.
3. Academic classes take priority over sports.
4. The College invests approximately $1,300.00 to $1,900.00 per player per year so students do not have to pay to participate in Sport Clubs. If a player either quits the team or is dismissed from the team, they will be subject to a monetary fine. Failure to pay this fine will result in a hold being placed on your account and being referred to the Dean of Students Office.
5. Understand I need to conduct myself and present myself in and out of the classroom in a positive way and be in compliance with all team and departmental policies and guidelines at all times.