

SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE

STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

Welcome to Southwestern Illinois College and the Blue Storm intercollegiate athletic program! Our goal is to execute a well-respected athletic program. We achieve this goal by striving for excellence:

1. An insistence that athletes are students first, with graduation rates that compare favorably to other full-time, degree seeking students.
2. Participation in a range of sports with balance between men's and women's sports.
3. Teams that are well-coach, competitive, and representative of high standards and personal conduct.

Southwestern Illinois College is a member of the Great Rivers Athletic Conference (GRAC). Members of this conference associate with NJCAA through Region XXIV.

Your Responsibility as a Student-Athlete

You are the athletic teams and individuals that represent Southwestern Illinois College and the communities of the seven counties in our district. We expect each student/athlete to maintain a high-quality profile. You are expected to take responsibility for your actions, interact appropriately with the community, and represent Southwestern Illinois College with class and respect. Inappropriate behavior in the community, classroom, or on the field will not be

CODE OF CONDUCT

*In addition to the institutional Code of Conduct, student-athletes are responsible for adhering to the Code of Conduct specific to athletics.

Student conduct on or off Campus, at all College-sponsored activities and at all Athletic Housing complexes is governed by the rules of the community. Violations of federal, state, and local laws on or off-campus, will be considered a violation of the Student Conduct Code and violators will be subject to disciplinary action. **Rules that govern athlete housing are as follows:**

Southwestern Illinois College, through its designated agents, may enter the student-athlete's apartment in

Criminal issues (theft, vandalism, assault, etc.) on or off campus are serious offenses that will result in severe consequences up to dismissal from team, dismissal from housing, and possible forfeiture of scholarship after review by the Athletic Director and Vice President.

Absolutely no dogs, cats, birds or other pets are permitted during your occupancy of this apartment.

By entering into this Housing Agreement, student-athletes are liable for the rent payment either through housing scholarship or personal means for the entire academic year.

Rules governing substance abuse screening/procedures are as follows:

Substance abuse screening will be conducted as part of these procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of the student-athlete and to uphold the ideals of this institution.

Screening of the athletes shall be conducted on a random basis. Reasonable suspicion and/or evidence of substance abuse may also support the necessity for the drug test.

The determination of individual or team testing will be the decision of the Athletic Director.

Failure to submit to a drug test will cause the athlete to be removed from athletic participation and may result in forfeiture of scholarship.

Screening will be conducted by a certified health organization with qualified personnel as selected by the Athletic Director. It will be the responsibility of this organization to collect and document the specimens to ensure a valid drug screening.

The results of the screening will be reported immediately to the Athletic Director and Head Coach for further course of action. All records of the screening are to be kept on file in the Athletic Office and remain confidential. The release of any information regarding the drug screenings is solely at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

Any incident thought to involve substance abuse shall be reported to the Athletic Director, Vice President for Student Development and the President of the College. Investigative procedures will follow to determine the validity of the reported incident. The Director of Public Safety will also be notified. The college reserves the right to notify law enforcement officials as appropriate, and to remove the athlete from athletic participation while allegations are under investigation.

Information concerning confirmed incidences may be reported to the NJCAA office and become a part of the student-athlete's disciplinary records.

Substance Abuse Sanctions/Procedures:

Student-athletes are prohibited from possessing, using, buying, selling, or participating in the distribution of illicit drugs. Violation of possessing or using at any time will result in an automatic two week suspension.

Reinstatement to the team is at the discretion of

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suspension for the first offense and a two game suspension for the second offense. Subsequent violations will result in further discipline, including but not limited to indefinite suspension and possible forfeiture of scholarship.

ACADEMICS

All student-athletes are responsible for:

Making appointments with the Academic Advisor to ensure the proper scheduling of classes and enrollment in a minimum of 16 credit hours, changes in enrollment status, keeping track of ongoing requirements for graduation and transfer.

Passing a minimum of 12 credit hours with a 2.0 GPA to maintain NJCAA athletic eligibility and Financial Aid guidelines.

Attending your scheduled classes. Your instructors may drop you from the class for excessive absences.
Student-