Student-Athlete Code of Conduct Policy I.

I. PREAMBLE

Participation in ASU Sun Devil athletics is a privilege, not a right. Student-athletes have a special responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner which reflects well on the university, the athletic program, and themselves. This policy covers behavior both on- and off-campus. If a violation of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct occurs, athletic privileges may be suspended or cancelled. Sanctions may include loss of scholarships, as well as restrictions in practice and competition.

Student-athletes are expected to comply with the following rules of conduct: the university’s Student-Athlete Code of Conduct; the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) Student Code of Conduct policy that applies to all students enrolled at any of the public universities in Arizona; and all applicable provisions of the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws and the rules of the Pacific 10 Conference.

Student-athletes are also responsible for all ASU policies, including but not limited to: the Student Code of Conduct in the University Student Initiatives Policies and Procedures Manual—USI 104–01, the Student Academic Integrity Policy, and the hazing prevention policy, SDA 404, “Hazing.”

Taken together, these policies are intended to promote and protect an environment that encourages reasoned discourse, intellectual honesty, openness to constructive change, ethical conduct, and respect for the rights of all individuals.

The vice president of university athletics administers the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, with the advice of an Advisory Committee comprised of persons, who shall be faculty and professional staff, from outside of the Sun Devil Athletics Department. The Advisory Committee shall be chaired by the faculty athletics representative. The other members of the Committee are the faculty chair of the SDA Board and the dean of student affairs, Tempe campus, in the Office of University Student Initiatives. The Advisory Committee may consult with other university administrators and faculty as needed.

Each student-athlete is responsible for reporting to his or her head coach and/or the senior associate athletics director who oversees that sport if he or she is involved in any action that could reasonably constitute a violation of law or university policies. Self-reporting an incident immediately (this means within 24 hours) may help reduce any sanctions that may be imposed for the violation. If an incident is not self-reported, additional penalties can be imposed.
II. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

A. A “general university conduct rule” is a rule or regulation of Arizona State University, any of its colleges, schools, or departments, or the Arizona Board of Regents, that applies to conduct of students who are enrolled at Arizona State University. This includes duly established policies on sexual harassment and academic dishonesty. It also includes other duly established university policies and regulations including but not limited to those dealing with the following subjects: Residence Hall Policies, Alcohol Consumption Policy and Regulations, and Hazing Policies.

B. “Student Code of Conduct” includes the Student Code of Conduct (1990), Student Disciplinary Procedures (1989), Code of Conduct (1983), and any successor code of conduct promulgated by the Arizona Board of Regents or the university that is in effect at the time of the violation.

C. The terms “ASU” and “university” are used interchangeably in this document, and refer to the same institution. These terms refer to Arizona State University.

D. “Advisory Committee” means the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct Advisory Committee on student-athlete discipline established by this framework.

E. “Dangerous Instrument” means anything that under the circumstances in which it was used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury.

F. “Explosive” means any dynamite, nitroglycerin, black powder, or similar explosive material including plastic explosives, and/or any breakable container that contains a flammable liquid with a flash point of 150 degrees Fahrenheit, or less, and has a wick or similar device capable of being ignited.

G. “Weapon” means any object or substance designed to inflict a wound, cause injury, or incapacitate, including all firearms (loaded or unloaded), air guns, BB guns, pellet guns, switchblade knives, knives with blades five or more inches in length, and chemicals such as “mace,” tear gas, or pepper spray.

H. An “SDA Policy” is any written policy of the Sun Devil Athletics Department, including policies published in the Sun Devil Athletics (SDA) Policies and Procedures Manual and other materials in the Student-Athlete Handbook, but not including team rules.

I. “Possession” means having physical possession (with or without knowledge) or exercising dominion and control over property.

J. “Student-athlete” means an ASU student who is a member of an ASU Sun Devil athletics team. These are university “students” as defined by the ABOR Student Code of Conduct, who practice and compete in NCAA-sanctioned and regulated Sun Devil athletic events that represent the university.
K. “University Academic Integrity or Conduct Policy” is any ABOR or ASU policy, including any policy of an ASU college, school department, or residence hall, which governs the conduct of students who are enrolled at ASU. Examples include, but are not limited to, policies on student conduct, sexual harassment, academic integrity, alcohol, gambling, and hazing.

L. The term “vice president of university athletics” refers to the athletics director/senior administrator of the Sun Devil Athletics Department.

M. The “SDA Board” is the committee of faculty, administrators, students, and alumni, appointed by the president of the university to work with the Sun Devil Athletics Department on issues affecting student-athlete welfare.

III. SCOPE

A. This policy applies to:

1. “student-athletes,” including student-athletes participating in pre-season practice or competition;

2. misrepresentations made by, or on behalf of, a student-athlete during the student-athlete’s recruitment, whenever that recruitment takes place, to a coach or other university officer, about the student-athlete’s involvement in a violation of a criminal law;

3. participation in the Sun Devil Athletics program at Arizona State University. The university may prohibit a student-athlete who violates this policy from participation in athletics practice and competition, utilizing athletically related services (e.g., use of the weight room or training room in the Carson Student-Athlete Center), or receiving any athletically related financial aid and athletic awards at the university; or

4. a student-athlete who is a member of an Arizona State University Sun Devil sports team, including student-athletes participating in preseason practice or competition, for conduct

   a. that is a major or secondary offense under this framework, if such conduct occurs after the student-athlete

   i. signs a National Letter of Intent to attend Arizona State University, or

   ii. initially enrolls at Arizona State University, whichever date is first, or

   b. is the subject of a criminal proceeding, if the proceeding occurs after the student-athlete

   i. signs a National Letter of Intent to attend Arizona State University, or
ii. has enrolled at Arizona State University, whichever occurs first.

B. All state, federal, and university rules regarding confidentiality of student records apply to all procedures adopted and decisions made under this policy.

C. Sanctions and penalties administered under this policy are in addition to, and separate from, any action that may be taken by

   1. a court or other public agency, for violation of a criminal law;

   2. a university officer, for violation of a “general university conduct rule” regarding student conduct;

   3. an Sun Devil Athletics Department head coach, for violation of a team rule; or

   4. by the university, the NCAA, or the Pac-10 Conference for violation of the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws on eligibility, compliance, drug testing, or other requirements for participation in Sun Devil athletics, or for violation of Pac-10 Conference rules.

D. The university may prohibit a student-athlete from participation in Sun Devil athletics under this policy even though a criminal proceeding or another university proceeding involving the same conduct or incident is pending. A student-athlete has no claim of double jeopardy because sanctions for the same incident may be or have been imposed for the same or related conduct as part of another university or criminal proceeding. In addition, sanctions under this framework may be imposed although the criminal or university charges have been reduced or dismissed.

E. In administering this policy, the university shall apply the principle that, to the extent possible and appropriate, similar sanctions shall be imposed on different student-athletes, regardless of athletic ability, who commit the same or similar violations of this policy.

IV. MAJOR OFFENSES

Any one of the following acts by a student-athlete is a major offense:

A. A violation of any criminal law of the State of Arizona that is classified as a felony.

B. A violation of a criminal law that is classified as a felony where the court reserves the decision on whether to reduce the charge to the level of a misdemeanor at a later time. The action by the court may be taken into account as a mitigating factor; however, the offense shall continue to be considered a major offense until the charges are actually reduced to a misdemeanor.

C. A violation of a criminal law in another jurisdiction that would have been classified as a felony under the laws of Arizona if it had occurred in the State of Arizona.

D. A violation of a term of probation or other condition imposed by a court in a criminal
case involving a major offense by the student-athlete that the vice president of university athletics, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, determines constitutes a substantial failure to satisfy a term or condition imposed by the court.

E. Two or more secondary offenses within a 12-month period that the vice president of university athletics, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, determines involve aggravating circumstances that substantially outweigh any mitigating circumstances.

F. The student-athlete admits to, is convicted of, or pleads guilty or no contest to, a violation of a criminal law in another jurisdiction that would have been classified as a felony under Arizona law if it had occurred in the State of Arizona.

G. The student-athlete admits to, is convicted of, or pleads guilty or no contest to, any criminal offense involving a “dangerous instrument,” an “explosive,” or a “weapon,” as defined in section II, including criminal offenses involving manufacture, transport, sale, transfer, possession, or use.

H. The student-athlete admits to, is convicted of, pleads guilty or no contest to, or is found to have violated any statute, ABOR or university policy, or NCAA rule regarding gambling.

I. The student-athlete acknowledges responsibility to the vice president of university athletics, or other appropriate university official, for having engaged in conduct that would constitute a major offense.

J. The student-athlete has been suspended or expelled from the university for any reason.

V. SANCTIONS FOR A MAJOR OFFENSE

When a student-athlete is determined to have committed a major offense, the vice president of university athletics will prohibit the student athlete from participation in practice, competition, and student-athlete services provided by SDA, and may terminate student-athlete financial aid. The minimum sanction for a major offense will be suspension from practice and competition for one year, subject to the appropriate reinstatement procedures (refer to section VII, “Reinstatement of a Student-Athlete Who Has Committed a Major Offense”).

VI. DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR A MAJOR OFFENSE

A student-athlete is responsible for having committed a major offense under this policy when

A. the student-athlete is convicted or pleads guilty to a crime that is a major offense under this framework, or does not contest (pleads nolo contendere) the charge of committing a crime that is a major offense under this framework; or
B. the student-athlete is found by a court to have violated a term of probation or other condition and the vice president of university athletics, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, determines that such a violation is a major offense under this framework; or

C. an appropriate university official or civil authority duly decides the student-athlete has committed a secondary offense, and the vice president of university athletics, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, determines that this is the student-athlete's second such offense within the preceding 12-month period involving aggravating circumstances; or

D. the student-athlete acknowledges to the vice president of university athletics or other appropriate university official responsibility for having engaged in conduct that is a major or secondary offense.

VII. REINSTATEMENT OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE WHO HAS COMMITTED A MAJOR OFFENSE

A. A student-athlete may be reinstated to participation in competition and/or practice, and to the use of the services provided by the Sun Devil Athletics Department, only in accordance with the procedures in this framework for reinstatement.

B. Participation in Practice and Services Provided by the Sun Devil Athletics Department: In a case where there are substantial mitigating circumstances and no substantial aggravating circumstances, the vice president of university athletics, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, may provide that the prohibition on participation in practice activities will be reviewed after a stated period of time. The vice president of university athletics, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, also may authorize the student-athlete to have access to departmental services, under specifically stated conditions, when such access would be useful as part of a program of rehabilitation for the student-athlete. A student-athlete may be reinstated for participation in practice and for access to athletic department services prior to reinstatement for participation in competition.

C. Participation in Competition: In a case where there are substantial mitigating circumstances and no substantial aggravating circumstances, the vice president of university athletics, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, may provide that the prohibition on participation in competition will be reviewed after a stated period of time. Normally a review for reinstatement for competition will not occur until one year (a 12-month period) after the prohibition on participation in competition became effective.

D. Factors for Consideration: In determining whether to reinstate a student-athlete for participation in practice, competition, or athletically related financial aid, the vice president of university athletics, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, may consider all the circumstances, including the nature of the offense, any aggravating or mitigating circumstances, the extent of the student-athlete's cooperation and acceptance of responsibility, and the conduct of the student-athlete since the offense. The student-
athlete will be expected to demonstrate satisfactory compliance with the terms of any prohibition or other condition to reinstatement.

E. Credit for Prior Suspension: In determining the period of time before a student-athlete may be considered for reinstatement, the vice president of university athletics may credit the student-athlete for the period of time when he or she was suspended from participation in competition and/or practice as a result of preliminary action taken with the respect to the offense.

F. Consultation with the Advisory Committee: The vice president of university athletics, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, will make the appropriate determination based on any aggravating and/or mitigating circumstances.

G. Notice to the Student-Athlete: Before prohibiting a student-athlete from practice, competition, or receipt of financial aid, the vice president of university athletics shall gather the facts regarding the matter and consult with the Advisory Committee. The vice president of university athletics shall notify the student-athlete of his or her decision. However, a student-athlete can be suspended from participation in any competition by the vice president of university athletics in accordance with the vice president of university athletics’ authority and responsibility to take preliminary action under this framework.

VIII. NOTICE OF DECISION

A. Notice to the Student-Athlete: The vice president of university athletics shall notify the student-athlete of any action taken to prohibit the student-athlete from participation in practice, competition, receipt of financial aid, any conditions established with respect to possible reinstatement after a stated period of time, and the procedures available to the student-athlete for appeal.

B. Public Announcement: When final action has been taken to sanction a student-athlete for a major offense, the vice president of university athletics shall make a public announcement of the action. Unless the student-athlete specifically consents to the release of additional information, the announcement shall be limited to information relating to the student-athlete’s eligibility for participating in competition in the future at the university, information of a public nature, and information that does not constitute a student-athlete record entitled to privacy under federal or state law, or university rules.

IX. PRELIMINARY ACTION BY THE VICE PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS TO SUSPEND A STUDENT-ATHLETE FROM PARTICIPATION PENDING DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR A MAJOR OFFENSE

A. A student-athlete will be suspended from participation in practice and competition prior to a final determination (refer to section VI, “Determination of Responsibility for
a Major Offense”) that the student-athlete is responsible for a major offense, in the following circumstances:

1. Automatic Suspension: The vice president of university athletics shall immediately suspend a student-athlete from participation in competition when the vice president is reliably informed that an appropriate public authority has determined there is probable cause that the student-athlete has committed a felony. The issuance of an indictment by a grand jury or a criminal complaint by a judicial officer after a preliminary hearing is probable cause.

2. Discretionary Suspension: The vice president of university athletics, at his or her discretion, is authorized to take preliminary action suspending a student-athlete from participation in practice or competition, and/or access to athletic department services when there is a reasonable basis from the available information (e.g., arrest records, statements of law enforcement officers, university records) for believing that the student-athlete has committed a major offense as specified under this framework.

3. The vice president of university athletics, at his or her discretion, is authorized to immediately suspend from the athletics program any student-athlete who is credibly alleged to: be in possession of a “dangerous instrument,” “explosive,” or “weapon” as those terms are defined in section II; has used or threatened to use a “dangerous instrument,” “explosive,” or “weapon”; or has threatened violence or used violence against another student/person, whether or not the threat or act took place on- or off-campus. All allegations involving a “dangerous instrument,” “explosive,” or “weapon,” or a threat or act of violence, must be reported to the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will then make a recommendation of final action to the vice president of university athletics.

B. Notice to the Student-Athlete and Review of Preliminary Action by Advisory Committee

1. When the vice president of university athletics takes preliminary action under this framework to suspend a student-athlete from participation, the vice president shall notify the student-athlete of the suspension and the procedures available to the student-athlete for review of the suspension.

2. A student-athlete who has been suspended from participation as a result of preliminary action under this framework shall be provided an opportunity for a review of the suspension by the vice president of university athletics.

3. Changed Circumstances: When there is a substantial change in circumstances affecting a student-athlete who has been suspended from participation as a result of preliminary action under this framework, the student-athlete who is affected by the change may petition the vice president of university athletics to review the circumstances. The student-athlete may submit a written statement in support of the request. The dismissal or reduction of a criminal charge is a change of circumstances that may or may not justify revision of the preliminary action that was taken.
X. **SECONDARY OFFENSE**

A violation by a student-athlete of one or more of the following constitutes a secondary offense, provided it does not also constitute a major offense:

A. A violation of a criminal law of the State of Arizona that is not classified as a felony.

B. A violation of a criminal law of another jurisdiction that is not classified as a felony.

C. A violation of a criminal law in another jurisdiction that would not have been classified as a felony under the laws of Arizona if it had occurred in the State of Arizona.

D. A violation of the university *Student Code of Conduct* as determined by the appropriate university officer under the established procedures for determining responsibility for such violations.

E. Academic dishonesty in violation of duly established university, college, school, or department standards as determined by the appropriate university officer under the established procedures for determining responsibility for such violations.

F. A violation of a general university conduct regulation as determined by the appropriate university officer under the established procedures for determining responsibility for such violations that the vice president of university athletics reasonably believes substantially interferes with the interest of another student, visitor to the university, or university employee in educational opportunities, peaceful enjoyment of residence, physical security, or terms or conditions of employment at the university.

G. Knowingly giving false and misleading information to a university official.

H. A violation that, under this policy, is not a major offense of a warning, a term or condition of probation or other requirement previously imposed by:

1. a court in a criminal proceeding; or

2. a university officer or the vice president of university athletics for a prior major or secondary offense.

I. A violation of a duly promulgated policy of the Sun Devil Athletics Department.

J. The student-athlete admits to, is convicted of, or pleads guilty or no contest to, an Arizona criminal law that is not classified as a felony.

K. The student-athlete is found, by applicable university process, to have violated a University Academic Integrity or Conduct Policy, or an SDA policy.

L. The student-athlete admits to, is convicted of, or pleads guilty or no contest to, a violation of a warning, a term or condition of probation, or other requirement previously imposed by either a court, a university officer, or the vice president of university athletics for a prior major or secondary offense.
M. The student-athlete fails to comply with a sanction imposed under the student-athlete drug testing policy (SDA 405, “Student-Athlete Drug Education and Testing”), or another SDA policy.

XI. DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF A SECONDARY OFFENSE

A. The vice president of university athletics may determine from the available information that a student-athlete has committed a secondary offense. Before making this determination, the vice president of university athletics shall notify the student-athlete of the information under consideration and will provide the student-athlete with an opportunity to explain the circumstances and to submit a written statement. The vice president of university athletics shall consult with the Advisory Committee as part of this process and may impose interim sanctions as appropriate.

B. Determination of Responsibility: A student-athlete is responsible for having committed a secondary offense under this framework when any of the following occur:

1. the student-athlete is convicted or does not contest (e.g., enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere) the charge that he or she committed a crime that is a secondary offense, or acknowledges responsibility for having committed such an offense, to the vice president of university athletics or other appropriate university official;

2. a university official or hearing body (including a college standards committee with respect to cases of academic dishonesty) has determined, in accordance with official university procedures, that the student-athlete has violated a university or college regulation and the violation is a secondary offense under this policy; or

3. the student-athlete acknowledges responsibility for, or does not contest, having committed a secondary offense.

XII. SANCTIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR A SECONDARY OFFENSE

A. The vice president of university athletics shall determine the appropriate discipline in a case involving a secondary offense, and shall consult with the Advisory Committee for its recommendations and advice in accordance with procedures and guidelines established by the Advisory Committee for handling secondary offenses.

B. Sanctions for a secondary offense may include, but are not limited to, any one or more of the following:

1. Warning, reprimand, probation with or without conditions, requirements for restitution, conditions intended to encourage personal rehabilitation such as counseling and community service activities, conditions relating to satisfactory academic performance, suspension from practice activities for a definite period of time, restriction from Sun Devil Athletics Department services, and suspension from competition for a definite period of time.
2. In determining the sanctions for a secondary offense, the vice president of university athletics shall consider any aggravating or mitigating circumstances affecting the student-athlete.

3. Aggravating Circumstances: An athletics sanction under this framework normally will be appropriate when one or more aggravating circumstances are present. This list is intended to be illustrative and other factors may also be considered. The following factors may be taken into account as aggravating circumstances:

   a. a violation which resulted or could have resulted in significant damage to persons or property or which otherwise posed a substantial threat to the stability and continuance of normal university or university-sponsored activities (refer to "aggravated violation" in the ABOR Student Code of Conduct - 5-302, “Definitions”);

   b. a violation involving willful academic dishonesty;

   c. a record of prior offenses, including any previous positive drug test (including an offense or drug test that for any reason is not itself considered a secondary offense);

   d. failure to cooperate with university officers in reporting the offense and during the investigation and processing of any offense involving the student-athlete;

   e. disregard of a warning or condition of behavior established for the student-athlete by the vice president of university athletics or head coach because of prior conduct by the student-athlete in violation of team or departmental rules or an offense under this framework; and/or

   f. conduct that is an intentional violation of a university regulation or criminal law or that exhibits substantial personal dishonesty.

4. Mitigating Circumstances: The following factors may be taken into account as mitigating circumstances:

   a. a record of good citizenship and exemplary behavior;

   b. self disclosure of the violation (particularly when it would not otherwise have come to the attention of the vice president of university athletics), cooperation during the investigation and processing of the case, and acceptance of responsibility for wrongful conduct;

   c. satisfaction of disciplinary conditions imposed for the same conduct by other university or public authorities; and/or

   d. the student’s willingness to make amends.

5. In a case involving a secondary offense where the mitigating factors are judged by the vice president of university athletics to outweigh the aggravating circumstances, if any, and the matter has been reviewed by a public authority or university official with
jurisdiction to impose discipline for the behavior, the action of such authority or official may be accepted by the vice president of university athletics as sufficient.

6. The vice president of university athletics will notify the Advisory Committee when a student-athlete has been determined to be responsible for a secondary offense and of any sanction imposed under this framework.

XIII. WHEN A SECONDARY OFFENSE IS ALSO A VIOLATION OF TEAM RULES

A. In a case involving a secondary offense, where the conduct is also a violation of the student-athlete’s team rules which are administered by the team’s head coach, if the head coach determines that the mitigating circumstances outweigh any aggravating circumstances, and if a public authority or university official with jurisdiction to impose discipline for the behavior has reviewed the matter and either imposed disciplinary sanctions or not, the head coach may accept the action of that authority or official as sufficient and need not impose any additional sanctions on the student for the violation of team rules. Nothing in this policy is intended to alter a sanction imposed under another ABOR, university, or SDA policy. This policy permits but does not require the head coach to impose additional sanctions.

B. If a head coach determines that a student-athlete’s conduct violates team rules and constitutes a secondary offense under this policy, the head coach will notify the appropriate SDA administrator and advise him or her of any sanction imposed by the head coach. The appropriate SDA administrator will provide notice of the offense and the sanction in writing to the Advisory Committee.

C. Each September, the vice president of university athletics will provide a list to the Advisory Committee of all major and secondary offenses that occurred, and sanctions that were imposed, during the previous academic year.

XIV. ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

A. The vice president of university athletics will meet with the Advisory Committee on a regular basis, and may communicate with the Advisory Committee at any time, either directly or through staff, to inform it of any conduct by any student-athlete that might constitute a violation of this policy as either a major or secondary offense. The vice president of university athletics may bring to the meetings of the Advisory Committee such other SDA administrators and/or coaches as he or she thinks will be helpful to the process. The vice president of university athletics, or his or her designee, may also consult with the Advisory Committee at the regularly scheduled meetings of the Advisory Committee, or at any other time in an emergency situation, about any other subject or incident affecting or involving the conduct of a student-athlete.

B. In addition to their meetings with the vice president of university athletics, the members
of the Advisory Committee may meet among themselves at any time. The Advisory Committee shall recommend to the vice president of university athletics what action to take with respect to a student-athlete who has violated this policy or whose conduct violates other applicable laws, rules, or policies. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee are not binding on the vice president of university athletics. They are advisory only.

C. Meetings and proceedings of the Advisory Committee shall be confidential. All recommendations sent from the Advisory Committee to the vice president of university athletics shall be in writing. When a case involves a major offense, the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and the decision of the vice president of university athletics shall also immediately be reported to the Office of the President of the university.

D. The Advisory Committee may consider any information it regards as reasonably reliable and, at its discretion, may consider information from public authorities, court records, law enforcement officers, university officers and agencies, and other persons, including student-athletes, appropriate and knowledgeable SDA administrators, and/or coaches. The rules of evidence that apply in judicial proceedings do not apply to proceedings in the Advisory Committee.

E. ASU’s Office of General Counsel shall serve as legal advisor to the Advisory Committee. The lawyer from that office assigned to assist the Advisory Committee shall meet with the committee as necessary to provide advice.

XV. STUDENT-ATHLETE APPEALS

A. A student-athlete who is subject to suspension from athletics participation as a result of preliminary action relating to a major offense, or who is subject to a final sanction relating to a major or a secondary offense, shall be given an opportunity, at his or her request, to meet with the vice president of university athletics, if feasible under the circumstances. The student-athlete will be provided the opportunity to make an oral and written statement about the circumstances surrounding his or her conduct and whether suspension or any other sanctions should be imposed.

B. A student-athlete who disagrees with a decision made by the vice president of university athletics, or by his or her head coach, which results in termination of his or her athletic financial aid, may appeal that decision through the existing university appeal procedures that apply when a student’s athletics financial aid has been terminated.

XVI. AMENDMENTS

Amendments: This policy may be amended by a majority vote of the SDA Board. An amendment becomes effective upon the approval of the president of the university.