POINT UNIVERSITY
SKYHAWKS

POINT UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

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LETTER FROM ATHLETIC DIRECTOR ALAN WILSON

Dear Point Student-Athletes:

On behalf of the Point University Athletics Department, we welcome you into a new phase in your life. We are extremely grateful that you have chosen to be a part of the Point family. Be assured that we do not take that lightly. We trust that your time here will be rewarding athletically, academically, but, most of all, spiritually as you hopefully will experience some of the most rewarding times of your life.

We hope that you will take full advantage of this opportunity to get a college education while participating in intercollegiate athletics. You are an important part of the Point University Athletics Department. We want you to succeed at the highest level in all that you do. As the year ensues please remember that we have many services to assist you. If you have any questions or think that you are getting behind in a course, please seek assistance in our Point learning center. Our academic staff and their tutors can be of a valuable source of knowledge and encouragement.

Also remember that, while at Point, you are representing your family, team, and the Athletics Department at all times. Whether you are interacting with the campus community or attending a social activity off campus, please represent yourself with dignity and class as well as make wise and safe choices regarding your behavior. Because of the age we live in, please check your accounts on social networking websites like Twitter and Facebook to make sure there is no offensive or inappropriate content associated with you, as this can have far-reaching consequences.

Finally, we want to establish high standards for success, including an AAC title for your team and a berth in the NAIA National Championships. If my staff or I can do anything to help you achieve your goals please do not hesitate to ask. Go Skyhawks!

Sincerely,

Alan Wilson
Athletics Director
LETTER FROM FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE

DR. LACEY SOUTHERLAND

Hello, Skyhawks!

Congratulations on securing a spot on an athletic team at Point University! You have undoubtedly worked hard for this achievement. Student-athletes have to balance expectations from coaches, teachers, parents, and teammates. This is a daunting task! As you embark on the school year, I would like to express my excitement at the prospect of coming to watch you in your sport. One of my greatest pleasures as a faculty member is sitting as a spectator at the various athletic competitions. Viewing students in their respective sports shows me a very different side to those same students who sit in my classrooms. I understand why athletics are such an important part of a student’s college experience. While I never played sports at the college level, I recall the joy of fielding a grounder in softball, running down the soccer field, and occasionally making a perfect shot in basketball. I love viewing that same joy in the faces of Point Skyhawks!

As the Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) for Point University, I verify that each athlete has completed all academic requirements for eligibility to play in the NAIA. With the energetic and competent administrative assistance of Ms. Lindsay Rorick – the Athletics Coordinator – each student’s eligibility is reviewed and updated every semester. As you know, your academic excellence is a requirement to maintain your eligibility in your sport, which includes not only your grades, but also the number of hours you complete each year. Attending to your studies must be a priority for you. It will lead to success in your sport and success in your future work after graduation. The student who achieves this balance has an athletic experience that enhances a great academic experience. That is our goal for you at Point University!

If I can be of service to you, please don’t hesitate to contact me at Lacey.Southerland@Point.edu or 706-385-1080.

Go, Skyhawks!
Lacey Southerland, Ph.D.
Professor of Education
INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Point University (Point) Athletics Department Student-Athlete Handbook (Student-Athlete Handbook) is to clarify the policies and procedures pertaining to students participating in intercollegiate athletics. There is no intent for the policies or procedures in the Student-Athlete Handbook to be different from those of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), the Appalachian Athletic Conference (AAC), Mid-South Conference (MIDSOUTH), Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC), or Point. However, if there is a conflict, the policies and procedures of the previously mentioned governing bodies shall prevail. This Student-Athlete Handbook is designed to be a reference tool for student-athletes when questions arise about Athletics Department policies and procedures. Point University reserves the right to alter, amend or modify this handbook at any time without prior notice.

ABOUT POINT UNIVERSITY

Point University was founded as Atlanta Christian College in 1937 by Judge T. O. Hathcock (1879-1966), who served on the bench in Fulton County, Georgia, from 1914 until 1942. He and his wife, Nora Head Hathcock, were members of the independent Christian Church; to this day, the University maintains its affiliation with the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ.

Point University’s main campus is located in West Point, Ga., while its historic campus was located in East Point, Ga., a suburb of Atlanta. The campus is part of a 300-acre farm inherited by Mrs. Hathcock. With a barn, livestock and cultivated fields, the campus in its earliest days had a distinctly rural flavor.

Following its founding, Point University devoted attention primarily to the education of ministers, missionaries and other church-related workers. In 1965, the college became an accredited member of the American Association of Bible Colleges (AABC). In 1990, in conjunction with a broadening of the curriculum, the college was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award the associate and baccalaureate degrees.* The early childhood education program has earned accreditation by the National Council on Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) of the State of Georgia. The University’s curriculum currently offers majors in areas of study ranging from biblical studies to biology. Degree programs are offered for traditional college students, working adults (Access program), and high school students pursuing dual credit enrollment.

In February 2011, the board of trustees announced that the college’s name would change to Point University on July 1. In fall 2012, the traditional, residential campus relocated to West Point, Ga., and the growing Greater Valley area. Satellite locations

*Point University’s early childhood education program has earned accreditation by the National Council on Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) of the State of Georgia.
The University has had seven presidents: Mr. George W. BonDurant (1937-47), Dr. Orvel C. Crowder (1947-55), Mr. James C. Redmon (1955-78), Mr. Paul K. Carrier (1978-84), Dr. James C. Donovan (1984-93), Dr. R. Edwin Groover (1993-2006), and Mr. Dean C. Collins, who began serving as interim president in 2006 and was appointed president in February 2009.

**Academics**

Point University offers **25 majors and 21 minors** in areas of study ranging from biblical studies to biology, with a broad, challenging curriculum designed to prepare students for their chosen professions.

**Traditional Degree Program**

- Accounting
- Biblical Studies
- Biblical Studies and Preaching Ministry (Dual Major)
- Biology (Pre-Med, Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Vet, Pre-Pharmacy)
- Business Administration (Marketing, Accounting and Management)
- Child and Youth Development
- Christian Ministry
- Counseling and Human Services
- Criminal Justice
- Early Childhood Education
- English
- English and Biblical Studies (Dual Major)
- Exercise Science (Pre-Physical Therapy, Pre-Occupational Therapy)
- History
- Human Relations
- Humanities
- Humanities and Biblical Studies (Dual Major)
- Management
- Marketing
- Middle Grades Education
- Music
- Organizational Leadership
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Sociology with Social Work Specialization

**Access and Online Degree Programs**

- General Studies (associate degree only)
- Christian Ministries
- Criminal Justice
Human Relations
Organizational Leadership

**Accreditation**
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
National Council on Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE-CAEP)
Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC)

**DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS PURPOSE**

In addition to supporting the NAIA Champions of Character and the Point University mission statement, the Point University Athletics Department operates according to the following vision statement, mission statement and core objectives.

**VISION STATEMENT**

Point University Athletics shall provide Christ-honoring intercollegiate competition that enhances the student learning environment and the development of student-athletes spiritually, intellectually, socially and physically.

**CORE OBJECTIVES**

- Christian Education
- Academic well-being
- Competing for championships

**SPORTS PROGRAMS**

Point University currently sponsors the following sports:

**Men’s Sports**

1. Baseball
2. Basketball
3. Cross Country/Distance Track
4. Football
5. Golf
6. Lacrosse
7. Soccer
8. Swimming
9. Tennis
Women's Sports

1. Basketball
2. Cheerleading
3. Cross Country/Distance Track
4. Golf
5. Lacrosse
6. Soccer
7. Softball
8. Swimming
9. Tennis
10. Volleyball

Nickname and Mascot

Point University athletic teams are known as the Skyhawks.

Fierce and formidable. Spiritually soaring.

The Skyhawk symbolizes Point University student-athletes, coaches and fans. A fierce bird of prey representing our intense focus on both athletics and academics, the Skyhawk loves to soar among the clouds and feel the sun. The higher the better, because he’s close to his Creator that way.

Athletics offer our students unique opportunities to grow and develop strength of character that will serve them throughout their lives as they serve God. That character is on display whenever they compete. The Skyhawk mascot reflects the attitude and significance of sports at Point University, where student-athletes are Points of influence for Christ on the field, in the classroom and in the world.

Sources of Regulations Pertaining to Student-Athletes

Student-athletes must comply with all applicable Point, AAC, MIDSOUTH & SSAC and NAIA regulations noted in, but not limited to those in the following publications:

NAIA Manual
Point University’s A Covenant for a Christian Community – henceforth referred to in this document as the “Point Covenant.”

Student-Athlete Responsibilities

1. The responsibility for growth, to work diligently for personal, University and team development;
2. The responsibility for loyalty to the team and its members, to the Point Department of Athletics, to Point and the ideal for which they stand;
3. The responsibility for appropriate conduct since personal actions reflect not only
on that individual, but also on the team and coaches, on the entire Point athletics program, on the University, and on family and friends; and

4. The responsibility to respect the rights, convictions and privacy of others, and to work unceasingly to improve relations with all other Point student-athletes, students, faculty, the University and with the general public.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Like all Point students, participants in intercollegiate athletics are bound by the Point Covenant. In addition to that code of conduct, the Point Athletics Department expects student-athletes to conduct themselves, on-campus, off-campus and online in a manner which respectfully represents themselves, their families, their teams, the Athletics Department, and the University. Personal conduct is an important aspect of how the public, fellow students and University faculty and staff will interact with student-athletes. Student-athletes should do their best at all times to demonstrate good judgment and ethical behavior. It is important to remember that student-athletes are highly visible members of the University community.

Student-athletes penalized for violating laws are not exempt from additional penalties by the University and/or Athletics Department if their actions also violate institutional and/or Athletics Department rules.

Some areas of misconduct may directly affect a student’s status as a student-athlete. Therefore, it is important that they be discussed further. This does not mean that the areas discussed below are more important, but simply that student-athletes have additional responsibilities in these areas. In all cases of Point Covenant or local, federal or state law violation, Athletics will cooperate with Student Life for proper University disciplinary response.

BASIC EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

1. Student-athletes will know and understand the ideals expressed in this handbook and Point Covenant and will strive to incorporate them in daily life.
2. Student-athletes will strive for academic achievement and practice academic integrity.
3. Student-athletes will respect the dignity of all persons and therefore will not physically, mentally, psychologically or sexually abuse any human being.
4. Student-athletes will respect their property, the property of others, and all Point facilities therefore, will neither abuse nor tolerate the abuse of property, including but not limited to altering official team uniforms and equipment.
5. Student-athletes will meet their financial obligations in a timely manner.
6. Student-athletes will neither use nor support the use of illegal drugs and will neither abuse nor support the abuse of alcohol.
7. Student-athletes will comply with all NAIA, AAC, MIDSOUTH, SSAC and Point rules and regulations.
8. Student-athletes will challenge each other to abide by these expectations.

ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS

All Point student-athletes are prohibited from engaging in a romantic relationship with any current Point faculty and staff member, regardless of employment status (e.g. full-time, part-time, volunteer, graduate assistant). Such inappropriate relationships will result in suitable disciplinary action by the Athletics Department and/or Point.

SPORTSMANSHIP

All individuals associated with the Point Athletics Department will follow the NAIA Champions of Character guidelines.

AAC Sportsmanship Statement

Point University will set the standard in the Appalachian Athletic and MIDSOUTH & SSAC Conferences and develop a reputation for the exemplary sportsmanship demonstrated by our student-athletes, coaches, staff members and spectators. We expect everyone attending or competing in an event – at home or on the road – to display the highest standards of responsible sportsmanship toward student-athletes, coaching and support staff members, game officials, and among fans. It is important to remember, you are always a representative of the Point University Department of Athletics, both home and away, so do your part to make athletic events involving the Skyhawks safe, wholesome and enjoyable for all in attendance.

Point University is committed to creating a safe, comfortable and enjoyable experience for all fans. When competing in or attending an athletic event, student-athletes and Athletics Department personnel are required to refrain from the following:

- Behavior that is unruly, disruptive, or illegal in nature.
- Use of foul or abusive language, or obscene gestures.
- Interference with the progress of the event (including throwing objects onto the playing surface).
- Failure to follow instructions of event personnel.
- Verbal or physical harassment of participants, officials, fans or event personnel.
Event attendees are also responsible for their conduct. Event staff will promptly intervene to support an environment where fans can enjoy the event free from the above behavior. Event attendees that violate these provisions may be subject to ejection without refund and loss of ticket privileges for future events.

**How the Athletics Department Sportsmanship Statement is demonstrated.**

**Administrators:** It will be a priority that Point administrators create an environment of hospitality for all visiting teams, while allowing Skyhawk sports programs to still enjoy a home-field or home-court advantage. Point administrators are committed to treating a visiting team and its fans in the same manner that they would want their teams to be treated.

The athletics director and all members of the Athletics Department will seek to ensure that those who are employed by the University will treat opponents with fairness and respect.

**Coaches:** Coaches have the greatest amount of influence over whether the student-athletes in their programs are taught and follow the highest principles of sportsmanship. Point coaches will set the standard outlined in the Athletics Department Sportsmanship Statement, disseminate the Statement to their team, and will reinforce that a demonstration of disrespect for opponents may result in removal from competition. This disciplinary measure serves to educate student-athletes about the importance of sportsmanship over participation and winning. Point is committed to teaching the highest standards of sportsmanship.

**Student-Athletes:** Respect for the game in which the student-athlete participates also demands respect for the opponent. Student-athletes at Point University are expected to treat opponents with the highest standards of sportsmanship. There will be no tolerance for taunting and baiting of opponents.

Point student-athletes must understand that they are in many cases the most visible representatives of the University. Also, their behavior is observed and emulated by many who are younger. Our student-athletes must honor the responsibilities that accompany the privilege of representing Point University by behaving with dignity and class on and off the field.

**Spirit Groups:** Like our student-athletes, these groups are visible representatives of Point University. As such, we place high expectations on them for displaying the highest standards of sportsmanship. Cheerleaders, bands and other spirit groups, and the mascot are admitted to contests as integral leaders and participants in creating a fun atmosphere. However, they are not admitted in order to abuse or confront the opponent and such behavior will not be tolerated. Point spirit groups should focus on encouraging the Skyhawks and building positive fan support, while respecting the opposing team.
GAMBLING

While Point University athletes are encouraged to avoid gambling of all kinds, athletes are specifically prohibited from gambling on any athletic activity associated with the University. This should be understood to include an athlete’s own team, as well as any other team that is a part of the Athletic Department of Point University.

ALCOHOL

All student-athletes must comply with the Point Covenant and State of Georgia and Alabama’s alcohol-related criminal laws (e.g. no underage drinking and no driving under the influence of alcohol). Alcohol abuse by all student-athletes is strictly prohibited and cause for disciplinary action by the head coach, sport administrator, athletics director and/or Student Life. In addition to Student Life, the Athletics Department may issue additional disciplinary actions on the student-athlete for violations of the Point Covenant and/or state laws.

DRUGS

Use by Point student-athletes of substances determined to be unlawful by federal, state or NAIA regulations, and substances that have the potential for abuse, or are intended to provide an unfair competitive advantage, or are hazardous to one’s health as determined by the medical advisors of Point and the NAIA (e.g., anabolic steroids, stimulants, diuretics, performance enhancing drugs, marijuana, cocaine, and amphetamines) are prohibited. This prohibition applies to all student-athletes before, during and after each team’s competitive season. As a condition of participation in intercollegiate athletics at Point, each student-athlete participates in the University’s Substance Abuse Program as outlined in the Point Covenant, which includes random drug testing.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Athletics Department Tobacco Policy

Point Athletics Department supports the Point Covenant and prohibits the use of tobacco products during any Athletics Department function (e.g., practice, competition, travel for away contests, team meetings, strength and conditioning workouts, social functions, etc.) and on any property owned or operated by Point University.
HAZING

Point University is concerned about the emotional, psychological and physical health and well-being of its students. Any form of hazing by individuals or groups is unacceptable and is in direct conflict with institutional values related to the rights and dignity of students, all of whom have the right to belong to groups without risk of danger or humiliation. Consent to hazing is never a defense to a violation of the University hazing policy.

There are two primary conditions that create a hazing dynamic:

1. New members often wish to be accepted, either formally or informally, into any group, and will submit to hazing in order to be included. However, consent to be hazed does not excuse hazing. Students have died or been seriously injured as a result of participating in activities to which they have “consented.” The psychological pull to be accepted is so strong that hazing victims cannot be expected to resist hazing, even if the hazing is presented as optional. That this pull can be so coercive should make this need to prohibit this conduct, to any degree, undeniably clear.

2. Any activity that places new or existing members in a subservient position to experienced members creates an unhealthy and unsafe power dynamic in which control has been yielded to the experienced member. New or existing members in any organization may expect to be trained, oriented, or indoctrinated, but membership in any group that puts a new or existing member in a lesser role, unrelated to the original conditions for membership or mission of the group, is inappropriate and unfair to the new or existing members. Any activities of membership should be equally shared among experienced and new members in order to eliminate any possible elements of hazing or the perception of hazing.

The Athletics Department supports the anti-hazing laws of the State of Georgia, the State of Alabama, and Point’s anti-hazing position as outlined in the Point Covenant. All forms of hazing are prohibited. Hazing is any reckless or intentional act, occurring on or off campus, that produces physical, mental, or emotional pain, discomfort, humiliation, embarrassment, or ridicule directed toward other students or groups (regardless of their willingness to participate), that is required or expected of new members and which is not related to the mission of the team, group, or organization. This includes any activity, whether it is presented as optional or required, that places any member in a position of servitude as a condition of membership or continuing membership. Violations of the Point Covenant with regard to hazing may result in University disciplinary response, organization sanctions and may be subject to criminal prosecution. Disciplinary action may also include additional punishment determined by the head coach, sport administrator, and/or athletics director. Any retaliation against any person who reports, is a witness to, or is involved with or cooperates with the investigation or adjudication of hazing is strictly prohibited.
Hazing Examples

Examples of hazing include, but are not limited to:

1. any physical act of violence expected of, or inflicted upon, another;
2. any physical activity expected of, or inflicted upon, another, including calisthenics;
3. pressure or coercion of another to consume any legal or illegal substance;
4. making available unlawful substances;
5. excessive fatigue or sleep deprivation as a result of any activities;
6. forced exposure to the weather;
7. kidnapping, forced road trips, and/or abandonment;
8. required carrying of or possessing of a specific item or items;
9. servitude (expecting a new member to do the tasks of an experienced member);
10. costuming and alteration of appearance;
11. line-ups and berating;
12. coerced lewd conduct;
13. degrading games, activities or public stunts;
14. interference with academic pursuits;
15. violation of University policy; and/or
16. assignment of illegal and unlawful activities.

A person commits an offense if he or she:

- Engages in hazing;
- Solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing;
- Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur; or
- Has first-hand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident or firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report said knowledge to the appropriate Point officials.

CRIMINAL CHARGES

Student-athletes are expected to comply with all federal, state and local laws. In addition to those laws, student-athletes are expected to comply with all University administrative regulations and sanctions. Student-athletes are in no way exempt from penalty if they violate these laws. Students penalized for violating public laws are not exempt from further investigation or disciplinary action by University authorities if their actions also violate University rules.
SANCTIONS FOR MISCONDUCT

The athletics director, head coach and/or sport administrator are responsible for determining, based on reasonable and credible evidence, if misconduct occurred. After taking into consideration the facts surrounding the misconduct, mitigating circumstances, and the prior academic, behavioral and disciplinary history of the student-athlete, the athletics director, sport administrator and/or head coach will determine the appropriate sanction(s). Sanctions may include written warnings and reprimands, educational programs, community service, counseling, academic performance requirements, restitution, suspension from practice, suspension from competition, prohibiting the use of athletic facilities and services, reduction or termination of athletic aid, dismissal from the team and other sanctions as determined by the Athletics Department. Dismissal is communicated to the proper University officials. In all cases of Point Covenant violation the Athletics Department will cooperate with Student Life.

DISCRIMINATION

Point University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and educational institution and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or other veteran status, in the admission to, or participation in, any educational program or activity which it conducts, or in any employment policy or practice. Any complaint arising by reason of alleged discrimination should be directed to the athletics director.

HARASSMENT

All individuals associated with the Point Athletics Department are expected to respect the dignity and sensitivity of all members of the community regardless of their racial, ethnic or cultural background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender, ability, citizenship or creed. Actions that intentionally intimidate, humiliate or demean individuals or groups are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Individuals associated with the Point Athletics Department are expected to contribute to an environment that promotes community spirit and develops positive understanding and interactive relationships. Individuals associated with the Athletics Department are obligated to report incidences of harassment to the appropriate authority (e.g., Student Code).
SEXUAL HARASSMENT

All individuals associated with the Point Athletics Department must comply with federal and state sexual harassment laws and Point University’s sexual harassment policy found in the Point Covenant. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's education or employment;
2. Submission to or rejection of any such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for educational or employment decisions; or
3. Such conduct has the result of unreasonably interfering with an individual's educational or work performance, or creating an intimidating or offensive educational or working environment.

Every member of the University community, including individuals associated with the Point Athletics Department, is prohibited from:

1. Engaging in sexual harassment;
2. Retaliating in any manner against any individual who complains about sexual harassment or who participates in any procedure to investigate or redress a complaint of sexual harassment; and
3. Making an intentionally false allegation of sexual harassment through University channels or knowingly providing false information to or intentionally misleading University officials who are investigating a complaint of alleged sexual harassment.

Any member of the University community who engages in one of these prohibited acts against any other member of the University community shall be subject to disciplinary action and appropriate sanctions, up to and including discharge for employees and suspension for students. Individuals associated with the Athletics Department are obligated to report incidences of sexual harassment to the appropriate authority (e.g., Equal Opportunity Office, police).

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Rape or sexual assault is commonly perceived as a violent and forceful act perpetrated by a stranger. In fact, rape by an acquaintance, known as date rape, is far more common and usually involves the use of alcohol. Typically in date rape or acquaintance rape the two parties are familiar with one another and perhaps even friends. The situation may begin with a date or merely informal socializing at a party, alcohol is consumed and an assorted set of signals sent and received between two individuals,
real or perceived. The end result is a sexual encounter that may have been preceded by a series of consensual activities, at least in the mind of one of the individuals. However, date rape should never be considered a misunderstanding or a communication problem. “No” means “no” at any time.

Student-athletes are expected to behave in a manner where the rights of others are respected. Inappropriate sexual behavior, including verbal harassment, may result in sanctions by the University, Athletics Department and civil authorities. Individuals associated with the Athletics Department are obligated to report incidences of sexual assault to the appropriate authority (e.g., police).

TEAM GUIDELINES

Coaches are encouraged to develop team guidelines for student-athletes. These guidelines will reflect the mission, vision and core values of the Department of Athletics, the University, the AAC, MIDSOUTH, SSAC and the NAIA while supporting the Point Covenant. Sanctions imposed for violating team guidelines are the sole responsibility of the head coach with review by the sport administrator and/or athletics director.

DISMISSAL FROM TEAM

There are no NAIA rules pertaining to dismissal from a varsity athletics team. Such rules and decisions at Point are set by each head coach in conjunction with the athletics director.

TEAM TRAVEL CONDUCT

Any student-athlete and/or student serving in an official capacity for the Athletics Department are a representative of the University. As a representative of the University, such students traveling individually or as a team/group to an intercollegiate athletics contest shall agree to abide by all federal, state and local laws, Point University policies, Athletics Department policies, and team rules (e.g., dress code, nutritional requirements and curfew). Student-athletes and/or students serving in an official capacity for the Athletics Department shall be responsible for acting in accordance with such laws, policies, and rules during the entire period of travel and competition. All student-athletes are expected to depart and return with their team unless they are officially released to their parent or guardian by completing the Transportation Release (except
in the case of extraordinary circumstances). All student-athletes are required to complete this form 24 hours prior to the relevant contest.

**YOUTHFUL OFFENDER STATUS**

Students who are eligible to receive youthful offender status from the court are not absolved from the penalties, sanctions and other provisions of the policies in this handbook and Covenant. The policies will be enforced as written without regard to obtaining youthful offender status.

**FINANCIAL/LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

Point University will not be responsible for financial or legal assistance for any student who has broken any law or policy in this handbook.

**STUDENT-ATHLETE GRIEVANCE**

The Point Athletics Department is committed to resolving complaints or grievances brought to its attention in the most equitable fashion possible for all persons concerned. It is the expectation of the Athletics Department that attempts be made to resolve any complaints or grievances via the informal procedures outlined below. However, if a satisfactory resolution of the problem proves impossible through the informal mechanism, formal grievance procedures may be employed.

NOTE: If you have a complaint about a decision regarding your athletic scholarship, the process for appealing that decision is set forth in the financial aid section of this handbook.

**Informal Procedures**

Any student-athlete with a complaint or grievance involving an athletic team, coach, department official, or policy (e.g., student-athlete discipline, inconsistent treatment of student-athletes by a coach, etc.) should discuss and attempt to resolve the complaint or grievance with the person(s) involved. All persons involved in the process should make every attempt to resolve the problem as promptly as possible. Only after attempting to resolve the issue with the other person(s) and in the event that a satisfactory resolution cannot be reached by the parties involved, the following actions may be taken by the grievant:
• The grievant may consult informally and confidentially with a third party with whom she/he feels comfortable. Among those who might serve as resources are coaches, sport administrators, academic counselors, members of the Athletics Department administration, or other staff members. With the aid of that person, the grievant may attempt to identify other approaches to resolving the problem. After consultation, the grievant should make an additional attempt to resolve the problem with the person(s) involved.

• If no satisfactory resolution of the complaint or grievance can be achieved, the grievant may request that the resource person, acting as an ombudsman, call together the persons involved in an attempt to facilitate an informal resolution.

• If a meeting among those involved is not feasible or if the parties are unable to resolve the complaint or grievance to his or her satisfaction, the grievant may use the formal grievance procedure.

NOTE: The grievant is required to employ the informal procedure prior to taking formal action.

**Formal Procedure**

Should the grievant wish to employ formal means to resolve a complaint or grievance, the following action should be taken:

• The grievant should notify the athletics director of his or her grievance in writing, outlining the complaints, the persons involved and any other pertinent information.

• Within five class days of receiving the written notice of the grievance, the athletics director or his or her designee should conduct a preliminary interview with the grievant. The Director, or his or her designee, may also wish to contact the person(s) about whom the complaint is being lodged.

• Within five class days of the preliminary interview, the athletics director, or his or her designee, shall conduct a formal meeting involving the grievant, the person(s) about whom the complaint is made and any other relevant parties. Each party may also be accompanied by an adviser who must be a member of the University community. During the meeting, advisors may only speak to the individual whom they are advising.

• Within five class days after the formal meeting, the athletics director, or his or her designee, shall notify the grievant, in writing, of his or her decision.

**Formal Appeal**

An appeal of the athletics director’s (or his or her designee) decision may be made only on justifiable grounds including irregularity in the formal procedure, punishment inconsistent with the nature of the offense, or additional pertinent evidence not available
for the formal procedure. To make a formal appeal, the student-athlete should take the following steps:

- Within five class days after receipt of a written decision, the grievant should notify the Chair of the Athletic Oversight Committee (AOC) in writing that he or she wishes to appeal the decision and notify the Chair of the AOC of the reason for the appeal.
- After receiving the request for appeal, the members of the AOC who are available shall conduct a formal meeting to hear the appeal within five class days.
- In the hearing of charges against a student-athlete, the burden of proof is on the representative of the University or the individual presenting the charges. In addition to the right of advisement, the student has the right to testify in his or her own behalf, to present evidence and witnesses, to hear and question adverse witnesses and to rebut unfavorable inferences. The student-athlete shall be informed of all the statements and evidence submitted against him or her and the names of those providing the evidence. The decision of the AOC is to be based solely on evidence submitted in the hearing and improperly acquired evidence should not be admitted. During the meeting, advisors may only speak to the individual to whom they are advising.
- After hearing all such evidence, as is deemed relevant, the committee shall deliberate in private for the purpose of making findings of fact.
- Within five class days after the appeal meeting, the Chair of the AOC shall notify the grievant, in writing, of the AOC's decision. The decision of the AOC shall be final.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

The Athletics Department makes every effort to foster the intellectual development and eventual graduation of Point student-athletes. While several levels of academic support exist at the University, ultimately, responsibility for academic success rests with the student-athlete. As a result, each student-athlete is expected to:

1. Set a primary goal of obtaining a degree from Point;
2. Make satisfactory progress toward a degree as defined by the applicable college and the NAIA;
3. Maintain academic eligibility for practice and competition as defined by the University and the NAIA;
4. Properly inform instructors of expected class absences due to travel to official intercollegiate competitions; Student-athletes are responsible for completing all assignments and/or make up work due to an absence from class.
5. Seek assistance from the course instructor and University support programs when academic difficulties occur;
6. Attend and be prepared for every class. In the case of an absence related to an athletic contest the student is responsible for making arrangements with the professor AT LEAST two class periods before the missed class;

7. Complete all academic assignments on time and take all course examinations;

8. Attend study lab, tutorial, counseling and advising sessions as scheduled;

9. Meet regularly with one’s University academic advisor and Academic Service Coordinator to seek assistance with procedures related to course schedule adjustments and academic matriculation;

10. Gain the approval of academic advisors for course registration;

11. Adhere to the University’s policy regarding academic integrity and the honor code;

12. Maintain full-time academic status per NAIA and University standards; and

13. Participate in diagnostic testing as requested by the academic support program.

The Point University Academic Conduct policy articulates offenses that are considered academic misconduct and may be found in the Point University Catalog.

Cheating, fabrication and plagiarism are regarded as serious academic offenses and may result in expulsion from the University or other disciplinary action by the University and/or Athletics Department.

Student-athletes should be aware that coaches may not:

1. Engage in the completion of student-athletes’ University academic work to enhance their grades (e.g., typing, writing or assignments);
2. Excuse student-athletes from class; or
3. Directly advise student-athletes on matters such as course selection (i.e., classes or instructors), which courses are necessary for their programs toward a degree, courses that count toward eligibility, degree program selection, or summer orientation requirements. Coaches may give instruction or support regarding classes and eligibility, but should ensure the student visits his or her academic advisor and/or the director of academic athletic support services before registering or dropping any classes.

4. Coaches should not be considered the final advisor before registering for courses. Students should ALWAYS see an academic advisor for his/her final review.

SOCIAL NETWORKING WEB SITES

Student-athletes, as members of the Point community, are permitted to have profiles on social networking web sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat provided that:
1. No offensive or inappropriate pictures are posted;
2. No offensive or inappropriate comments are posted; and
3. Any information placed on the website(s) does not violate the ethics and intent behind the Student Code of Conduct and “The Point Honor Code”.

Student-athletes should remember that they are ambassadors of Point and always in the public eye. Content posted by student-athletes at other institutions or even other students on campus may not be acceptable on your profile. Questions regarding acceptable content should be directed to your head coach, the Compliance Office, your sport administrator or the athletics director. The University, including coaches and administrators, has the right to monitor these web sites.

Content posted on social networking web sites is no longer considered private material. Any text or photo placed online is completely out of your control the moment it is placed online, even if access to your site is limited. Content on social networking web sites may be used by the Point Police Department, Student Judicial Affairs, and other law enforcement offices as evidence against a student-athlete if it provides proof of the student-athlete violating University regulations or federal, state or local laws. Student-athletes will face appropriate disciplinary actions for inappropriate use of social networking web sites up to and including possible loss of athletics-related aid and being dismissed from the team.

Be aware of who you add as a friend to your site. Many people are looking to take advantage of student-athletes, while others want to get close to student-athletes to give them a sense of membership on the team. Exercise caution regarding the information you post online about your whereabouts or plans. You could be opening yourself up to predators such as stalkers, rapists and thieves.

Potential employers and internship supervisors also use these sites to screen candidates. Many graduate programs and scholarship committees now search these sites to screen applicants. Point student-athletes should exercise extreme caution when using social networking web sites and are encouraged to use them appropriately.

**BEST PRACTICES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA AND STUDENT-ATHLETES**

- Privacy settings only go so far. Social media is public . . . once you put it out there, you can never take it back.
- The laws of the real world still apply in the world of social media, i.e., underage drinking, drug use, harassment, hate crimes, etc.
- Retweeting profanity or inappropriate comments is no different than using it in your own original tweets. Don’t do it.
- The NAIA has acknowledged that it monitors student-athlete activity on Twitter. Coaches and administrators may monitor student-athletes as well. Don’t be
fooled into believing that nobody is watching.

• Is the person you are presenting yourself to be online how you want the world (coaches, family, fans and potential employers) to see you?
• There are many other teams and student-athletes at Point. Take the time to give them recognition when they succeed.
• Things that are said in private team settings should never find their way onto social platforms.

GENDER EQUITY

Point is committed to complying with Title IX regulations as interpreted to date by the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights (OCR). To help maintain compliance the University established specific goals and objectives in 13 program areas that will help ensure that similar sport programs are treated equitably and student-athletes receive equitable access to resources, regardless of gender. More specifically, the University is committed to providing equitable:

1. Athletics-related aid for male and female student-athletes;
2. Participation opportunities for male and female student-athletes;
3. Equipment and supplies for male and female student-athletes;
4. Game and practice times for male and female student-athletes;
5. Travel and per diem allowances for male and female student-athletes;
6. Access to tutors and other educational resources (e.g., study lab, computer lab, advising) for male and female student-athletes;
7. Number and quality of coaches for like sports up to the NAIA allowable maximum while providing equitable compensation;
8. Locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities for male and female student-athletes;
9. Medical and training facilities and services for male and female student-athletes;
10. Use and availability of housing and dining facilities and services for male and female student-athletes;
11. Public communications and athletics public relations staff coverage of each sport;
12. Administrative support, office space, and equipment for like sports; and
13. Prospective student-athlete recruiting resources for like sports.

DIVERSITY

Point is committed to maintaining substantial conformity with the operating principle of the NAIA regarding equitable opportunities for minority student-athletes and athletics staff. To help maintain compliance in this operating principle, Point established specific goals and objectives in eight program areas that will help ensure that the University
strives toward achieving a diverse environment that is culturally sensitive for all prospective and current staff and students in the athletics program. More specifically, Point is committed to:

1. Promoting Point’s commitment to diversity and equal opportunity among all athletics personnel and student-athletes;
2. Evaluating the Athletics Department’s activities for consistency with goals and objectives set forth in the University and Athletics Department mission and vision statements;
3. Implementing policies, and/or organizational structures, and/or activities of the Athletics Department to help enhance diversity;
4. Supporting the institution’s goals regarding enrollment of minority students and student-athletes;
5. Comparing the percentage of minority students in the general student population and minority student-athletes in the student-athlete population;
6. Involving minority student-athletes in the governance and decision-making processes of the Athletics Department and providing leadership opportunities to minority student-athletes;
7. Supporting Point’s strategic plan goals regarding diversity; and
8. Establishing and promoting programs that address the needs and issues affecting minority student-athletes and staff.

TRANSFER ELIGIBILITY RULES

Student-Athletes wishing to transfer to another two- or four-year institution must adhere to NAIA and Appalachian Athletic Conference, MIDSOUTH Conference and Southern States Athletic Conference requirements as well as any applicable Point University requirements.

Note: NJCAA and NCAA institutions are governed by different transfer eligibility rules. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete wishing to transfer to understand the differing rules. At all times, the Point University Athletic Department will adhere to the NAIA process described below.

NAIA Transfer Release Rules

All student-athletes are encouraged to request and secure a Permission to Contact Letter from the athletics director (or his or her designee) before the student-athlete speaks with coaches or other institutional staff members of another collegiate institution regarding opportunities for athletics participation. In order to receive permission to be contacted, the student athlete must speak with his or her coach and a member of the enrollment team at Point University. If permission to contact is not granted by Point and/or the student athlete makes contact without permission, the student-athlete may
be subject to reasonable consequences as determined by the head coach and/or the athletics director. All NAIA institutions are required to report such contact to our athletics director within 10 days.

A student-athlete that determines to transfer to another NAIA institution must seek from the athletics director, a waiver of the 16 week residency requirement. Without said waiver, the student-athlete will be ineligible to compete. Point is not required to grant a waiver to outgoing Point student-athletes wishing to transfer to another NAIA institution. If the request for the waiver is denied, the student-athlete may appeal that decision to the Athletic Oversight Committee (AOC).

**AAC Transfer Policies**

A student who has participated (used a year of eligibility, as defined by NAIA) in any college sport as a member of a team at an AAC member institution cannot participate in that intercollegiate sport at another member institution for 365 days following the closing date of the student’s last season of competition.

Additionally, a student who has signed a letter-of-intent or a grant-in-aid with a member institution cannot participate for one year at another AAC member institution in the sport which he/she has signed, unless the signing institution will, by written consent (in the person of the athletics director), release the student from the signing of said letter-of-intent or grant-in-aid.

**ACADEMICS**

Point is committed to ensuring that participation in athletics enhances the student-athlete experience by affirming that student-athletes are students first and foremost. Academic integrity violations are governed by the University Academic Conduct Policy which may be found in the Point University Catalog.

**PROGRESS TOWARD DEGREE**

Each student-athlete must meet specific NAIA and Point progress-toward-degree requirements that apply according to the student-athlete’s year of initial collegiate full-time enrollment. The Registrar and the Academic Services staff regularly check each student-athlete for full-time matriculation, minimum credit hour requirements, satisfactory progress toward a degree and designated program of study. The Athletics Department Compliance Office will assist in that process. Student-athletes are ultimately responsible for keeping track of their own eligibility status.
**NAIA Rules for Student-Athletes Eligibility**

First Year Eligibility Requirements- First Two Semesters or Three Quarters  
- a. The student-athlete must graduate from an accredited high school or be accepted as a full-time college student in good standing (defined by the enrolling institution)  
- b. The student-athlete must meet two of the three entering freshman requirements:  
  - Minimum score of 18 on the ACT or 860 on the SAT (Critical Reading and Math)  
  - Cumulative high school GPA of 2.00 or higher on a 4.0 scale; OR  
  - Graduate in top half of the student athlete’s graduating class.  
- c. The student-athlete must maintain enrollment in 12 institutional credit hours to compete.  
- d. During the first term of attendance, a student-athlete must earn a minimum of nine institutional credit hours in order to be eligible for the second term of attendance.

Continuing Eligibility Requirements- Second Season of Competition  
- a. The student-athlete must maintain enrollment in 12 institutional credit hours.  
- b. The student athlete must meet the 24/36 hours rule.  
- c. The student athlete must meet the Progress Rule.  
  - Must have passed a total of 24 hours before participating in second season of competition.

Continuing Eligibility Requirements-Third Season of Competition  
- a. The student-athlete must maintain enrollment in 12 institutional credit hours.  
- b. The student athlete must meet the 24/36 hours rule.  
- c. The student athlete must meet the Progress Rule, including a 2.0 GPA to compete in the third season of competition.  
  - Must have passed a total of 48 hours before participating in third season of competition.  
- d. The student athlete must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA if they would be considered to have met junior academic standing per institutional standards.

Continuing Eligibility Requirements-Fourth Season of Competition  
- a. The student-athlete must maintain enrollment in 12 institutional credit hours.  
- b. The student athlete must meet the 24/36 hours rule.  
- c. The student athlete must meet the Progress Rule, including a 2.0 GPA to compete in the fourth season of competition.  
  - Must have passed a total of 72 hours before participating in fourth season of competition.  
- d. The student athlete must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA if they would be considered to have met junior academic standing per institutional standards.
In order to compete in a fourth season of competition, all students must have accumulated at least 72 semester institutional hours, and at least 48 semester hours must be in general education and/or in the student’s major of field of study.

**Full-Time Enrollment**

NAIA rules require student-athletes to be full-time students in order to participate in competition. Full-time enrollment is defined as 12 credit hours at Point. Student-athletes may not drop or withdraw from a course at any time during the semester unless they are enrolled in more than 12 credits.

Student-athletes who drop below 12 credits will jeopardize their scholarships and will be immediately ineligible for competition. The only exception to this rule is if student-athletes are in their last semester of college and will graduate at the end of the term. If they are, they must attain written approval from the Registrar to carry less than 12 hours.

**Repeated Credits**

NAIA rules state that credit for courses that are repeated may be used by a student to satisfy the minimum academic progress requirements only under certain conditions. Failure to follow these conditions may cause a loss of eligibility in subsequent semesters. Please consult with the Athletic Academic Support Services director for guidance if planning to repeat a course.

The University allows a student to retake a course with the goal or replacing a low grade with a higher grade. Student-athletes considering retaking a course should refer to the Point University Retakes policy (found in the Point University Catalog) for additional information.

**GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING**

Point student-athletes must be in good academic standing to be eligible for competition. If, at any time during the year, a student-athlete is dismissed for academic, NAIA eligibility rule violations or disciplinary reasons, the student may not compete in intercollegiate athletics. Please refer to the Point University Catalog for minimum GPA requirements to be considered in good academic standing at the University.

**OFF-CAMPUS SUMMER SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

Student-Athletes are encouraged to consult with the Registrar to take summer courses at other institutions if the courses are to be utilized in determining the student-athlete’s
academic status. A Transient Form will need to be filled out before the student begins attending class at any other institution. If prior approval from the Registrar is not obtained, the course might not be transferrable when determining athletics eligibility. The student-athlete is also encouraged to meet with the director of academic athletic support services to verify the class will count towards his or her eligibility needs. The Student Services staff can assist student-athletes with selecting transferable courses and initiating the approval process.

GRADUATION

The requirements for graduation are articulated in the Point University Catalog under the heading “Requirement for Graduation”. It is the student-athlete’s responsibility to ensure that all requirements for graduation have been met. All students must make application for graduation to the registrar by the appropriate deadline for that graduation and accompanied by the graduation fee. Please see the “Requirements for Graduation” section of the Point University Catalog for a full listing of graduation requirements. A REGISTRATION HOLD will be placed on the student’s account until the student has completed the graduation application process. Please be sure to meet with your Adviser to make sure you are on track to meeting your graduation requirements.

DECLARATION AND CHANGE OF MAJORS AND MINORS

All student-athletes are expected to declare a major field of study while enrolled at Point University. In addition, a minor in biblical studies is required of all bachelor’s degree programs that do not have a Biblical Studies major. A complete listing of majors and minors and information on dual majors and/or adding a second minor may be found in the Point University Catalog under the heading “Degree Programs: Majors, Minors and Specializations”.

GRADING SYSTEM

Point uses a standard 4.0 grading scale. This grading system can be found in the Point General Catalog.

REGISTERING FOR CLASSES

Each student-athlete is responsible for registering individually. All students must meet with their academic advisors each semester prior to registering for classes to receive course selection approval. The director of academic athletic support services is also able to meet with athletes after they have met with their advisors to advise further
regarding athletic eligibility." Student-athletes must review their degree requirements and check with their coaches before registering to determine what time they need to block out for practice. After meeting with their academic advisors and talking with their coach about practice times, student-athletes must develop a schedule for the upcoming semester, keeping the following in mind:

1. A student-athlete’s primary goal is to obtain a degree;
2. Student-athletes must register for a manageable course load (considering all of their activities combined);
3. Practice schedule requirements;
4. NAIA minimum course hour requirements per semester; and
5. Future goals that may be affected by undergraduate performance and choice of course study.

Any student-athlete wishing to register for more than 17 hours in a semester must have the circumstances for his or her request reviewed by the Director of the Student-Athlete Academic Services and the student-athlete’s sport administrator so they can provide a recommendation to the student-athlete.

DROPPING/WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES

Students are able to drop classes during designated drop/add periods as well as withdraw from classes through the student portal on CampusVue. Please keep in mind that you will need to maintain the credit hours needed for eligibility and dropping or withdrawing from a class could affect your eligibility. Student-Athletes MUST consult with their coach before dropping or withdrawing from a class.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

In accordance with the Point Catalog and 20 percent absence policy, the Athletics Department affirms the value and role of intercollegiate athletics participation within higher education. Accordingly, the University must safeguard academic integrity by ensuring that athletics participation by student-athletes does not compromise or unduly interfere with classroom attendance and satisfactory academic performance. To that end, the following procedures regarding athletics-related absenteeism have been established.

1. Student-athletes are expected to attend all meetings of all classes, laboratory periods and drill sessions of the courses in which they are enrolled. It is impermissible for student-athletes to miss class for a regular, on-campus practice.
2. It is the responsibility of student-athletes to confirm with each of their instructors the date(s) on which they will miss class. Student-athletes should give their
instructors a schedule of their team travel at the beginning of the semester.

3. Instructors may be sent a letter via email detailing travel information for away trips for student-athletes.

4. It is also the responsibility of student-athletes to make arrangements with their instructors for missed class work or assignments. If student-athletes have difficulty making arrangements with instructors to complete course requirements missed due to team travel, they should contact the Academic Services Director. An athletics contest is not viewed as an excuse for missing class, but as a legitimate and compelling reason to negotiate the fulfillment of class obligations.

5. Student-athletes are governed by the provisions of the department or instructor’s attendance policy as set forth in the course syllabus.

6. Should a student-athlete falsely claim a class absence due to an athletics contest, it will be considered a violation of the University’s Academic Integrity Policies and could result in suspension from the team.

7. Student-athletes who will be away from class for any prolonged length of time due to hospitalization, injury or family emergency, must notify Academic Services. The staff will notify the student-athlete’s instructors but it is the student-athlete’s responsibility to contact the instructors and arrange to complete the assignments that were missed.

Periodically, Academic Services may ask for general feedback about a student-athlete’s class performance and attendance. This information is shared with the coaching staff (and administrative staff as necessary) and provides an added measure of accountability. Failure to attend class may have an adverse impact on playing time or scholarship eligibility.

**FINAL EXAMS**

Most classes have examinations at the close of each term according to a published schedule. Each student-athlete is responsible for taking final examinations as scheduled. No rescheduling, excuse for absence, and/or provision for making up final examinations will occur without the approval of the student’s course instructor. Such approval shall be made only for illness certified by a physician, participation in authorized University activities, and/or personal emergencies.

**ACADEMIC ADVISING AND TUTORING**

**Tutoring Labs**

There are tutoring labs available as a free resource for Point students. Tutoring is available for a variety of subjects.
Academic Services

Academic Services staff assists student-athletes with achieving their academic and career goals.

Academic Advising

Academic Services will advise all undeclared student-athletes and serve as secondary advisors for all student-athletes who have declared a major (student-athletes who have declared a major are assigned a primary faculty advisor within that department). The advisor assists the student-athlete within course selection and class scheduling, as well providing general degree program assistance. Academic advising is a participatory process. Student-athletes must be prepared and actively participate with their advisors for the process to work. It follows then, that part of the role of an advisor is to educate student-athletes on how to effectively receive and use the advising resources that are available to them.

Student-athletes:

1. Are responsible for their own behavior and academic programs;
2. Are successful or unsuccessful as a result of their individual goals and efforts;
3. Have varied learning needs according to individual skills, goals and experiences; and
4. Deserve dependable, accurate, respectful, honest, friendly and professional service.

Academic Advisors:

1. Are responsible to the student-athletes they serve;
2. Are knowledgeable about institutional rules and apply them when advising student-athletes;
3. Are responsible for involving others, when appropriate, in the advising process; and
4. Are responsible for generating and disseminating timely and accurate information to coaches and administrators.

Quiet Study Area and Computer Lab Rules

1. Student-athletes using the computer lab computers must adhere to the Computer Lab Rules referenced in the Traditional General Catalog.
2. Computers are to be used for legitimate class assignments only. Student-athletes may be asked to show proof of their work. Excessive use of e-mail, social networking sites, any game playing, non-course related Internet use, and any use associated with pornography or other obscene material will not be tolerated and may result in suspension from the computer lab.
3. No cell phones or texting is allowed during study lab hours. These should be
turned off or set to silent mode and put away during study time.
4. Study lab hours must be completed by Friday afternoon at 4pm.

Tutoring
Student-athletes who need a tutor for a course should first ask their instructors for help
during office hours, if possible. If the course instructor cannot meet with the student,
then student-athletes should ask for assistance in Academic Services. Tutoring can be
arranged and made available in the Academic Services and may be scheduled for
consistent appointments.

Tips for a Successful Tutoring Experience
Utilize the services of a tutor effectively. Adherence to the guidelines below will ensure
that you have a successful tutoring experience, one that will provide you with the
assistance and encouragement you need to excel academically.

1. **Be Prepared.** Bring your syllabus, books, notes, homework, papers, and past
   exams to each of your tutoring sessions. It’s a good idea to keep a separate
   folder with these items for each of your classes.
2. **Attend All of Your Classes and Workshops.** It’s much easier to keep up with a
class than it is to catch up. Your tutoring sessions will be more productive when
you have been to class.
3. **Schedule Appointments With Your Tutors – and Keep Them.** You will benefit
   most from regular meetings with your tutor. You will not benefit from crisis or last
   minute tutoring the night before an exam is scheduled or a paper is due.
4. **Actively Participate in Your Tutoring Sessions.** Be prepared to take notes, to
   revise a paragraph, to do sample problems. You will learn more from doing than
   from just listening. Talk, and keep up your end of the dialogue. This is your time
to talk about your work.
5. **Remember That Improvement Takes Time.** Skills improve with practice.
   Expect to be asked tough questions. Expect to work hard and think critically.
6. **Cooperate With Your Tutors and Bring A Positive Attitude To Your Tutoring
   Sessions.** Tutors know many approaches and are familiar with many resources
that enhance learning. If you are open to their suggestions, you will be surprised
at what you can accomplish. However, your tutor is not a miracle worker. In the
final analysis it is your effort and willingness to work that will contribute the most
to your success.

S.O.A.R. Program
The Seeking Out All Resources (S.O.A.R.) Program is designed to connect students
with resources available to them on campus, and to empower students to the
responsibility for their own education. With this program, student-athletes will be
rewarded for utilizing these resources and given the tools to succeed both on and off the field.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY

Students must notify their coaches and officially withdraw via the registrar as per Point guidelines.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

University Academic Awards

Dean’s List

The Dean’s List is one of several ways in which the University recognizes students who achieve academic excellence. The Dean’s List is published after each regular semester. Eligibility requirements for the Dean’s List are as follows:

12 hours attempted = 3.75  13 hours attempted = 3.65  14 or more hours attempted = 3.5

Students attempting fewer than 12 semester hours under the regular grading system are not eligible for the Dean’s List. Courses below the 100 level will not be counted in determining eligibility for the Dean’s List.

Point Student-Athlete Awards

Skyhawk Scholar

This award recognizes student-athletes who obtain a 3.75 GPA or better during either of the previous two semesters.

Talon Award of Excellence

This is awarded to the student-athlete on each team with the highest GPA during the past two semesters.

Athletic Director’s Leadership Award

This is awarded to one or more student-athlete(s) who excel academically, athletically and socially while demonstrating outstanding leadership qualities.
NAIA Academics-Related Awards

For information on NAIA national office administered academics-related awards refer to the awards section of the NAIA web site.

Children of Student-Athletes

Children of student-athletes are not allowed to travel with the team on any mode of transportation paid for by the Athletics Department (e.g., team bus, van, or airplane). Children of student-athletes are also not allowed to stay in a hotel room, or any form of lodging, paid for by the Athletics Department. The Athletics Department will not pay for any food for any child of a student-athlete while the student-athlete is on a road trip paid for by the Athletics Department. This policy is adopted in compliance with NAIA Bylaw 16.01 which prohibits students-athletes from receiving any extra benefit not specifically authorized by NAIA legislation.

OUTSIDE COMPETITION

During the academic year student-athletes may not participate as a member of any team outside the University’s varsity team without jeopardizing their eligibility in that sport for the current and subsequent year. As such, student-athletes are required to discuss possible outside competition with their head coach prior to participation.

ORIENTATION TEAM MEETING

Prior to participating in intercollegiate competition, an orientation team meeting will be held for each team. At this meeting student-athletes complete and sign a variety of forms and receive a variety of information in the areas of NAIA rules, academics and sports medicine. Student-athletes are also given an opportunity to ask questions at this time. Student-athletes cannot be certified to participate in intercollegiate athletics unless signed and completed NAIA eligibility forms and appropriate medical forms and statements are submitted.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) ensures confidentiality of student educational records and restricts disclosure to or access by third parties, except as permitted by law. Supporting parents are accorded full access by the University to educational records with certain exceptions. Students have the right to inspect their educational records with certain exceptions. The University does not release personally
identifiable information contained in student educational records, except as permitted by law. At the beginning of every academic year student-athletes will be asked to sign a form authorizing the Athletics Department and the NAIA to release or publish relevant personally identifiable information.

At the beginning of each year, as part of NAIA eligibility, student-athletes are required to have a current consent form signed and on file. By signing the consent form, the student-athlete grants permission for authorized representatives of the University, the AOC, and the NAIA access to the following documents or information:

- NAIA Student-Athlete Statement;
- Transcripts from all high school, junior college or four-year institution attended;
- Pre-college test scores and supporting documentation;
- Records concerning financial aid; and
- Any other documents pertaining to NAIA eligibility. It is understood that these records may only be accessed to determine athletics eligibility, eligibility for athletically related aid, and for NAIA research and/or statistical purposes.

FINANCIAL AID

There are a number of financial aid opportunities available to student-athletes who have distinguished themselves in athletics, the community, and/or in the classroom. Student-athletes interested in applying for financial aid are encouraged to stop by the Division of Financial Assistance for additional information.

UNIVERSITY AID

Visit the Division of Financial Assistance for information about these five types of financial aid:

1. Grants,
2. Loans,
3. Employment (work study, part-time job program),
4. Entitlements, and
5. Scholarships.

To determine how much money a student qualifies for, he/she must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year.
Student-Athlete Employment

Student-athletes are allowed to work during the academic year. There are, however, limitations placed upon student-athlete employment and a Student-Athlete Employment Form must be completed and submitted to the Compliance Office prior to beginning employment. Student-athletes who desire to work during a semester should contact their head coach and the Compliance Office for approval. Student-athletes should not, under any circumstances, take a job or continue a summer job during the school year, or take a summer job while enrolled in summer classes without first contacting their head coach and the Compliance Office. Employment opportunities must meet the following conditions:

1. The student-athlete may not receive any remuneration for the value or utility that the student-athlete may have for the employer because of the publicity, reputation, fame or personal following he/she has obtained because of athletics ability;
2. The student-athlete is compensated for work actually performed;
3. Payment in advance of hours worked is not permitted;
4. The student-athlete is compensated at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services; and
5. The student-athlete does not endorse or promote any commercial product or service.

Non-Athletics Related Aid

Non-athletics related aid is financial aid that is not based in any way on a student-athlete’s athletics participation or ability. Student-athletes should always check with their head coach and the Compliance Office before accepting any non-athletics related aid. This is because aid that a student-athlete receives up to the value of a full grant-in-aid may impact a student-athlete’s equivalency value.

Athletics-Related Aid

Point offers athletics-related aid (scholarships) to student-athletes. The number of scholarships and the dollar amount are restricted by NAIA rules and athletics department budget constraints. Any student-athlete who receives financial aid other than that permitted by the NAIA shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics.

Athletically-related aid awarded to student-athletes shall be on the basis of athletic talent and a realistic promise of academic competency. All institutional athletics aid shall be awarded by Admissions and Financial Aid and as recommended by the athletics administration and the head coach. In all cases, the Committee on Student Loans, Scholarships and Fellowships shall give the recipient a written statement regarding the award.
Per NAIA rules, Point awards financial aid to a student-athlete that does not exceed the tuition and fees cost of attendance that normally is incurred by students enrolled in a comparable program at Point. A full grant-in-aid is financial aid that consists of tuition, room, board and fees. The period of award begins when the student-athlete receives any benefits as part of the student’s grant-in-aid on the first day of classes for a particular academic term, or the first day of practice, whichever is earlier, until the conclusion of the period set forth in the financial aid agreement.

Athletics aid, in accordance with NAIA regulations, shall be awarded for no less than one academic year or for a period that would exceed the student’s five-year period of eligibility. An offer of athletics aid must be for the entire academic year when accompanied by a Point University Letter of Intent. Athletics aid must be offered for a period of at least one regular academic year except in the instance of a student-athlete enrolling midyear, graduating midyear or if the one-time exception is used. An athletics department staff member may inform a prospect that the athletics department will recommend to the Committee on Student Loans, Scholarships and Fellowships that the prospect's financial aid be renewed each year for a period of four years and may indicate that the committee has always followed the athletics department’s recommendations in the past. However, the prospect must be informed that the renewal will not be automatic.

The renewal of institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability shall be made on or before July 1 prior to the academic year in which it is to be effective. Point shall promptly notify in writing each student-athlete who received an award the previous academic year and who has eligibility remaining in the sport in which financial aid was awarded the previous academic year whether the grant has been renewed, cancelled, increased or decreased for the ensuing academic year. Notification will come from the Committee on Student Loans, Scholarships and Fellowships and not from the Athletics Department.

Athletics-related aid is provided to student-athletes to fulfill the requirements of a baccalaureate degree to be completed within eight semesters and approved summer school. Student-athletes who have not exhausted their eligibility in four years may receive athletically-related aid in their ninth and/or tenth semesters with the approval of the athletics director.

Financial aid awarded to a prospect may be conditioned on the recipient reporting in satisfactory physical condition. If a student-athlete has been accepted for admission and awarded financial aid, Point shall be committed for the term of the original award, even if the student-athlete’s physical condition prevents him or her from participating in intercollegiate athletics. It is not permissible for Point to assure the prospect that it will automatically continue a grant-in-aid past the one-year period if the recipient sustains an injury that prevents him or her from competing in intercollegiate athletics, but an Point representative may inform the prospect of the regular institutional policy related to renewal or continuation of aid past the one-year period for recipients who become ill or
injured during their participation.

Financial aid awarded to student-athletes based on academic performance or other non-athletics based criterion must be approved by Admissions.

**University Charges Not Paid By Your Scholarship**

The expenses listed below are examples of what is not covered by an athletics scholarship. Student-athletes who incur charges that are not covered by their athletics scholarship or other forms of permissible financial aid must pay them before being able to register for the next academic term.

- Cost of treatment for non-athletically related injuries;
- Library fines;
- Fines for damage to Point property, including the residence halls;
- Key deposits or replacement of lost residence hall key;
- “Consumable charges” which can be anything from fees for breakage to non-required field trips, art supplies, and photography supplies;
- Replacement fee for lost identification card;
- School supplies, pens, notebooks, paper, calculators, etc.;
- Class fees/supplies for elective courses;
- Parking fines;
- Copying costs;
- Elective course fees;
- Dropped course fees;
- Charges for lost Athletics Department issued equipment; and
- Any fees related to residing off campus.

**Scholarship Increase**

A yearly scholarship increase is not an automatic function of a yearly increase in the cost of tuition. By contrast a potential scholarship increase may occur if the following conditions have been met.

1. A student-athlete must have conducted him/herself in accordance with Department of Athletics, Point, AAC and NAIA rules and regulations,
2. A student-athlete must have significantly contributed to the team’s success, and
3. A student-athlete must be academically eligible to compete and be in good standing with Point.

The athletics director must review, in advance, any written communication regarding scholarship increases to student-athletes.
Scholarship Reduction or Cancellation

Student-athletes who are not fulfilling their academic and/or athletic obligations must be properly warned and provided an opportunity to correct their situations. Student-athletes who do not fulfill the obligations of any applicable rules and regulations may be removed from the team and be recommended for a reduction or non-renewal of their athletics-related aid.

For information on reductions, cancellations or increases of athletic related aid, refer to the student’s original Letter of Intent.

Athletics Aid for Injured Student-Athletes

If a scholarship student-athlete is permanently unable to compete due to an injury sustained during officially sanctioned athletically-related activities, the student-athlete’s scholarship may be continued until the student-athlete receives a baccalaureate degree or until eligibility for athletics aid would have been exhausted. This is not applicable for injuries occurring prior to enrollment at Point or injuries sustained outside of participation in countable athletics-related activities. To qualify for this type of aid, a referral must first be made by the head athletic trainer. The referral must include documentation from an Athletics Department physician that the injury or condition is incapacitating and that the student-athlete may no longer participate in intercollegiate athletics. Approval for this aid must be made by the athletics director. Student-athletes must maintain academic eligibility to compete to receive this aid. If an injured student-athlete has recovered sufficiently to compete according to the Point medical staff and chooses not to participate, Point’s decision to provide medical care and/or athletics aid may be terminated.

Ten Semester Rule

Student-athlete eligibility will expire at the conclusion of their tenth semester of full time college enrollment. Unlike the NCAA the NAIA has no “running clock”.

Redshirt

If a student-athlete does not compete in outside competition representing Point during the entire school year, they are considered a redshirt. Outside competition includes scrimmages, exhibitions, regular-season matches, post-season play and intersquad practices. Redshirts may practice, travel to away games (if eligible to compete), and “sit on the bench” during competitions throughout the year.

Medical Hardship Waiver

The medical hardship waiver is also commonly known as a medical redshirt. For student-athletes who have competed in less than the number of contests that constitutes the NAIA proscribed hardship waiver cap, and suffer a season ending injury
may be eligible for a medical hardship waiver. Application for the waiver, including contemporaneous medical documentation, may be made to the appropriate authority for final determination with the assistance of the athletics director.

SPORTS MEDICINE

Vision

The Point University Sports Medicine Department seeks to provide all university sponsored athletic teams with comprehensive, high quality athletic training resources. We aim to treat athletes with a holistic view, focusing on all levels including physical, emotional, mental and spiritual aspects of an injury. The Sports Medicine Department is continuously working towards staying up to date in evidence base studies, and practicing within new, updated and modern care. We will work towards providing time efficient rehabilitation for each athlete we work with. The focus of the department is on strengthening the relationships with our community, physicians and collegiate competitors. Point University’s Sports Medicine Department aspires to be the leader in athletic training within the NAIA division.

Mission

The Point University’s Sports Medicine Department’s primary mission is to provide quality athletic training services to all the university sponsored athletic teams. These services include prevention, evaluation, treatment, rehabilitation and management of injuries and/or illnesses. We are also committed to providing athletes with the tools that they need to grow spiritually, athletically, academically, and professionally. The purpose of our department is to:

- Promote excellence in a Christian environment
- Reduce the risk of injury
- Assure that efficient and safe emergency procedures are in place
- Allow easy access to sports medicine services
- Provide immediate first response to athletic related medical emergencies
- Encourage healthy lifestyle behaviors
- Enable our student-athletes to return to participation quickly and safely
- Educate athletes and coaches on proper techniques in strengthening and flexibility

We are committed to providing the highest standard of care for our student-athletes. In addition, we stand behind the values and beliefs of Point University, the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Code of Professional Practice, and the regulations set forth by the State of Georgia.
Requirements for Athletic Participation

Point University requires all student athletes have a completed physical exam from a physician and that they possess and maintain primary health insurance before they are able to participate in any school sponsored athletic event. The following forms must be completed prior to any participation in intercollegiate athletics at Point University:

1. Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation – Health Questionnaire
2. Pre-Participation Physical Exam
3. Student-Athlete Information Form
4. Medical Insurance Form – Copy of Insurance Card (front and back)
5. Consent to Treat/Assumption of Risk/Medical Information Release From
6. Concussion Statement Agreement/Substance Abuse Consent Form
7. Sickle Cell Trait Testing Waiver
8. Sickle Cell Results (Recommended)

These forms can be found on the Point Athletics website under the Sports Medicine tab. There is a link for both Returning Student-Athletes and New/Transfer Student-Athletes. Point University also requires all incoming athletes to complete ImPACT testing with their athletic trainer prior to participation in intercollegiate athletics. ImPACT testing will be done upon arrival at school. For returning athletes who sustained a concussion, ImPACT testing will be repeated with their athletic trainer prior to participation for a new baseline measure.

MEDICAL CARE

The Point University Sports Medicine Department is comprised of team physicians, a head athletic trainer, assistant athletic trainers, graduate assistant athletic trainers and intern athletic trainers. This staff provides medical coverage for all student-athletes and cares for the sports-related injuries that are sustained while participating in athletic sanctioned events. The consulting team of physicians include the specialties of general medicine, orthopedics, general surgery, rehabilitative medicine, cardiology, emergency medicine, chiropractic medicine and counseling.

Treatment of Illness or Injury

Student-athletes must report to the Sports Medicine Department all injuries or illnesses that might interfere with their ability to participate in their perspective sports. Student-athletes are required to see the athletic trainer assigned to their team within 72 hours of the initial time of injury/illness. An evaluation will be performed to determine the extent of the injury or illness and the ability of the student-athlete to practice or compete. If necessary, an outside medical referral will be made. All return-to-play decisions will be made by the Point Sports Medicine Staff. While treatment may originate in the athletic
training room that does not automatically mean that the Athletics Department is responsible for medical bills incurred.

**Referrals and Second Opinions**

Referrals can be made by the team physicians or full time athletic trainers. If the student-athlete wishes to seek a second opinion they should discuss this with his or her athletic trainer. If the student-athlete seeks a second opinion without approval, the student-athlete will be responsible for all bill incurred. **It should be noted, that the Sports Medicine Department will NOT create appointments for non-athletic related issues including general medical conditions.**

**Transportation to Medical Facility**

Transportation to and from medical facilities (e.g., MD appointment, MRI, x-ray, etc.) for services related to participation in intercollegiate athletics is the responsibility of each student-athlete. In the event the student-athlete does not have his or her own transportation or is physically unable to drive himself/herself (cast, surgery, post-operative appointment), it is the student-athlete’s responsibility to make arrangements for transportation with a member of the Point Sports Medicine Department at least three days prior to the appointment.

**Dental Care**

Student-athletes are responsible for their own dental care unless the need for such care is the result of an athletics-related injury. Dental injuries received during countable athletics-related activities are covered under the Athletics Department secondary insurance policy. **If a mouthpiece was provided to the student-athlete, it must have been worn at the time of the injury for the Athletics Department to accept financial responsibility for the dental care.** With that being said, if your mouthpiece is damaged due to wear and tear, it is your responsibility to get a replacement. All dental injuries should be reported to the Sports Medicine Department as soon as possible.

**Physical Exams**

All student-athletes at Point must have a pre-participation physical exam (PPE) administered by a physician prior to participation in any sport related activity. The attending physician must certify the student-athlete is fit to practice and compete. Students will not be allowed to practice without a completed physical exam performed by a physician. Physical exams will be required upon entrance into Point athletics and will only need to be updated if a traumatic injury has occurred and/or the athletic trainer has deemed a new physical necessary for the athlete’s safety.
Medical Insurance

Point Athletics Department requires all student-athletes to have **active** primary health insurance at all times during the academic year. Proof of insurance must be supplied to the Sports Medicine Department.

Point Athletics Department will provide secondary medical insurance coverage to student-athletes participating in supervised (i.e. by a regularly employed coach, athletic trainer, or other official designated by the Athletics Department) countable athletics-related activities.

HIPPA

Under the federal health privacy law known as HIPPA, medical/treatment records created and/or maintained by the University’s Sports Medicine Department are designed as education records subject to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA). Sports Medicine medical/treatment records are subject to HIPPA. The Athletic Department may need to obtain copies of student-athlete medical records from outside medical providers, or may need to release medical/treatment records to outside providers. This is to ensure that student-athlete treatment providers have pertinent background information on any medical conditions that may affect the student-athlete’s treatment and athletic performance.

To obtain copies of student-athlete medical records, each student-athlete must sign a release form authorizing each health care provider to send copies of medical records to the Sports Medicine Department. Most external medical providers must comply with the requirements of HIPPA and therefore releases or authorizations regarding medical/treatment records must meet the requirements of HIPPA. Questions regarding medical/treatment records should be directed to the head athletic trainer.

ATHLETIC TRAINING ROOM

The Sports Medicine Department operates through two athletic training room; the primary athletic training room is located in the Valley Fieldhouse and the secondary athletic training room is located in the West Point Gym. Sports that primarily work through the Valley Fieldhouse include football, cheerleading, swim, tennis, golf, track, and men’s and women’s lacrosse. Volleyball, men’s and women’s soccer, cross country, men’s and women’s basketball, baseball and softball practice and compete out of the West Point Gym. It is encouraged to get evaluated and treated in the athletic training room that you primarily practice through (see above for locations). This helps with streamlining paperwork and communication among the Sports Medicine Department.
Athletic Training Room Rules

- Report injuries the day that they happen
- Use of cell phones are prohibited at all times
- All athletes must sign in prior to treatment and/or rehabilitation
- Ask, do not tell athletic trainer what you may need
- Clean area getting prior to modality use
- No use of foul language or swearing
- Ask and receive permission before taking anything
- No loitering or lounging in the athletic training room or on treatment tables
- Athletes must shower and bring their own towel to use the whirlpool
- No eat or drinking in the athletic training room
- No shoes on the treatment tables
- Be patient

CONCUSSIONS

In the event of a head injury the on-site medical personnel will need to first rule out a serious head injury that will require immediate advanced medical care. Once immediate advance medical care is ruled out the on-site medical personnel will proceed through a series of evaluation steps. The potential for advanced medical care is still a possibility as the on-site medical personnel proceeds through the evaluation steps.

What should I do if I think I have a concussion?

- Don’t hide it. Tell your athletic trainer and coach. Never ignore a blow to the head. Also, tell your athletic trainer and coach if one of your teammates might have a concussion.
- Report it. Do not return to participation in a game, practice or other activity with symptoms. The sooner you get checked out, the sooner you may be able to return to play.
- Get checked out. Your team physician, athletic trainer, or health care professional can tell you if you have had a concussion and when you are cleared to return to play. A concussion can affect your ability to perform everyday activities, your reaction time, balance, sleep, and classroom performance.
- Take time to recover. If you have had a concussion, your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is still healing, you are much more likely to have a repeat concussion. In rare cases, repeat concussions can cause permanent brain damage, and even death. Severe brain injury can change your whole life.
Concussion Protocol

- Prior to participation in Point Athletics, all student-athletes are required to complete a baseline test through ImPACT.
- Report any signs or symptoms to your athletic trainer.
- Concussion evaluation will be performed using sideline techniques and a modified SCAT3.
- Diagnosis of concussion and return to play decisions should be made by certified athletic trainers and licensed physicians only.
- Student-athletes will need to remain out of physical activity and potentially mental activity (academic classes) until the athletic trainer and Office of Disability Services deems safe for return.

If a student-athlete goes outside of the Point University Sports Medicine Department for evaluation and diagnosis of a concussion the student-athlete will be required to bring documentation of the visit including diagnosis and treatment. In addition, if you are interested in a second opinion, you will be required to schedule and pay for any bills received for the visit. The earliest you will be able to return will be at the conclusion of the time specified in the doctor’s note. The Sports Medicine Department will have the final say in full return to sport participation.

Return to Play Protocol

At Point University, in order for athletes to return to organized sport, they are required to go through an exertion protocol. Once the athlete is symptom free for 24 hours, they will take a post injury ImPACT which will be compared to their baseline administered previously by a certified athletic trainer. If the athlete does not have recurring symptoms after taking ImPACT as well as no concerning results from the test, they are able to begin monitored exertion. The exertion protocol requires the student-athlete to be symptom free through all stages and will increase in intensity until full return to play. If at any point the athlete reports the return of symptoms, they will discontinue any type of exertion until they return to symptom free for 24 hours. The athlete will then resume return to play progression at the most recent stage that they successfully completed with zero symptoms.

The athlete is not cleared to full play until a new ImPACT baseline has been taken and both the athlete and athletic trainer sign the exertion completion form and notify the coach that this has been completed.
SICKLE CELL SCREENING

What Is Sickle-Cell Trait (SCT)?

SCT is an inherited condition of the oxygen carrying protein, hemoglobin, within the red blood cells. SCT is most predominant in African-Americas and those of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Indian, Caribbean, and south and Central American ancestry, although persons from all races and ancestry may test positive for SCT.

What Are The Risks Associated With SCT?

SCT is usually benign, but during intense, sustained exercise, hypoxia (lack of oxygen) in the muscles may cause sickling of the red blood cells (red blood cells changing from a normal disc shape to a crescent or sickle shape). This sickling effect can accumulate in the bloodstream and logjam blood vessels, leading to collapse from the rapid breakdown of muscles starved of blood and oxygen. This breakdown of muscles starved of blood and oxygen is called rhabdomyolysis or rhabdo for short.

Why Are Student-Athletes Tested For SCT?

Incoming student-athletes are encouraged to be tested for sickle cell trait, show proof of a prior test or decline the test and sign a release before they can participate in intercollegiate athletics. Participation includes strength and conditioning sessions, practices and competitions.

For the student-athlete’s safety, Point is recommending all student-athletes to be tested, provide proof of their SCT status, or sign the SCT waiver. A religious exemption may be granted to a student-athlete if the testing conflicts with a genuine and seriously held religious belief.

Have I Already Been Tested?

Student-athletes were possibly tested at birth and the results may be found with either the student-athlete’s family physician, pediatrician or at the hospital where they were born.

What If I Test Positive For SCT?

If a student-athlete tests positive for the SCT there are specific recommendations for modified conditioning programs. The Athletics Department will follow those guidelines in all of the athletic programs. Testing positive for SCT does not render a student-athlete ineligible for participation. However, adjustments may need to be made to ensure the student-athlete’s health and safety. Positive test results will be reported to the Sports Medicine Staff, and the head coach. If a student- athlete tests positive for SCT, he/she will be required to review all material provided by the NAIA and the Point Sports Medicine Staff.
DRUG SCREENING AND COUNSELING

Purpose

The primary purposes of the Point drug screening and counseling program are:

1. To educate students associated with the Athletics Department on the dangers inherent in the abuse of substances which may affect mental and/or physical performance;
2. To help prevent potential harm, injury, or long term complication associated with the misuse of substances which may affect mental and/or physical performance;
3. To identify students associated with the Athletics Department that appear to be improperly using substances which may affect mental and/or physical performance;
4. To provide information regarding rules as they relate to continuing eligibility for participation in athletics-related activities at Point; and
5. To assist Point in providing students associated with the Athletics Department with drug free participation in intercollegiate athletics.

Educational Aspects

Educational seminars on substance abuse and its detrimental effects on athletic performance will be periodically made available to all student-athletes, cheerleading team members, dance team members, student athletic trainers and student managers. These seminars will be presented by professional and/or experienced drug educators and counselors. At the team orientation meetings conducted during the first week of classes each fall semester student-athletes will be advised of the screening program and the possible individual consequences.

Drug Screening

Student-athletes and student managers are subject to screening on a random or targeted selection basis based on reasonable suspicion.

An additional 20 percent of the remaining student-athletes will be randomly selected and tested for street drugs at some point during the school year. Additionally, all student-athletes selected to participate in NAIA postseason competition will be tested at the competition. If a student is suspected of using illegal drugs or abusing alcohol, a request for drug testing should be made to the sports medicine staff and/or sport administrator to initiate a drug test.
Students associated with the Athletics Department may be tested for any or all NAIA banned substances including, but not limited to:

1. Alcohol,
2. Depressants,
3. Mind Altering Substances,
4. Marijuana,
5. Ephedrine,
6. Diuretics,
7. Ecstasy,
8. Anabolic Steroids, and

Screening will be accomplished by the analysis of a urine specimen or other industry recognized analytical procedure. All specimens will be coded to ensure confidentiality, and the specific identity will be known only to specific University employees designated by the athletics director. All chemical analyses will be conducted by a professional laboratory. Screening will be administered in a confidential setting, and each collection will be witnessed by a designated person of the same sex as the student being tested.

If a banned substance is being used at the prescription of a physician, the student may continue to participate in athletics-related activities:

1. With respect to possible risk to the health of the student, the attending physician certifies in writing that the specified athletics-related activity may be safely undertaken and the student executes a prescribed waiver which relieves Point of any responsibility for illness or injury attributable to engagement in athletics-related activities while under the influence of the prescribed medication; and
2. With respect to possible performance-enhancing effects, the student-athlete’s attending physician, in consultation with Point medical and athletics authorities, can and does implement a schedule of medication that precludes such performance-enhancing effects during times relevant to intercollegiate athletics competition.

Analysis Results

Positive drug tests are cumulative throughout a student’s career at Point.

The first positive drug test will be reported to the Head Athletics Trainer, the sport administrator, the student’s head coach and Student Life Director. The student’s parents can also be notified by the coach or head athletic trainer if the student tested positive for street or performance enhancing drugs. Coaches or the head athletic trainer may inform the student’s parents if the student tested positive for alcohol. Drug education sessions at the Point Counseling Center will be mandatory for a first offense. Further disciplinary
action may be taken at the discretion of the student’s head coach up to and including dismissal from the team and cancelation of athletics-related aid when the student has a history of previous law and/or rule (e.g., Athletics Department or University) violations. In addition to any University related sanctions, student-athletes will be suspended from a certain number of contests in accordance with his/her specific offense.

The guidelines for the athletic disciplinary measures are as follows:

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<td>Lacrosse</td>
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Scrimmages, exhibition, or alumni games do not count as games suspended. If offense occurs in the off-season, the discipline measure will carry over to the next season.
Confidentiality

The student’s right to confidentiality is guaranteed within FERPA guidelines.

STUDENT DETERMINED TO BE CRIMINALLY INVOLVED IN DRUG ACTIVITY

Possession of a Controlled Substance

Any student who is arrested and formally charged with possession of a controlled substance may be suspended from participation in athletics-related activities immediately. If a student is found guilty either by his or her admission or through legal proceedings, the student will be subject to disciplinary action determined by the athletics director. To return to active participation in athletics-related activities the student must appeal to the athletics director. If a student elects to plead not guilty to the charges and proceed through legal proceedings, the student continues to be subject to possible suspension from his or her respective athletics-related activities until the court's decision is finalized.

Possession with Intent to Distribute

Any student who is arrested and formally charged with possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute may be suspended from participation in athletics-related activities immediately. If that student is found guilty either by his or her own admission or through legal proceedings, the student will be subject to permanent expulsion from his or her athletics-related activity. His or her parent/guardian will be notified by phone and by mail as soon as possible. If a student elects to plead not guilty to the charges and proceed through legal proceedings, the student continues to be subject to possible suspension from his or her athletics-related activity until the court's decision is finalized. Upon expulsion, the student's grant-in-aid (if applicable) will not be renewed, consistent with NAIA and University regulations.

STUDENT-ATHLETE MENTAL HEALTH

A student-athlete’s mental health is not viewed as secondary to physical health; but, it is every bit as important for healthy performance. Like most medical problems, early identification of mental health problems usually means less disruption to a student-athlete’s life, fewer severe health complications and a less complicated, quicker recovery. Fellow student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and athletics administrators could be involved in identifying mental health problems because they:

1. Spend so much quality time with student-athletes they are in an ideal position to identify when their teammates are having difficulty;
2. Can minimize by early detection the effects of the disorder on their teammates’ health and performance.

Student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and athletics administrators may notice problems in student-athlete behavior, cognitive/intellectual functioning, physical/medical status, and/or psychological/emotional condition. Below is a list of general signs and symptoms that are present across many, if not most, psychological disorders.

**Behavioral Symptoms**

1. Disruption of daily activities
2. Social withdrawal
3. Irresponsibility, lying
4. Legal issues, fighting, difficulty with authority

**Cognitive Symptoms**

1. Suicidal thoughts
2. Poor concentration
3. Confusion/difficulty making decisions

**Emotional/Psychological Symptoms**

1. Feeling out of control
2. Mood swings
3. Excessive worry/fear

**Physical/Medical Symptoms**

1. Sleep difficulty
2. Change in appetite and/or weight
3. Shaking, trembling
4. Fatigue, tiredness, weakness

**SUPPLEMENTS**

The Point Athletics Department and its employees neither distribute nor encourage the use of dietary supplements. However, if student-athletes have or are currently taking a dietary supplement, they must inform the athletic trainer assigned to their team. If student-athletes choose to take supplements, they should be as informed as possible about the potential side effects and implications for training associated with many of these products. The sports medicine staff needs to be aware of any substances that student-athletes are taking so that they can monitor student-athletes accordingly.
It is imperative that student-athletes research any supplements before beginning to take them. Most of these products have not been approved by the FDA and their purity cannot be guaranteed. While the listed ingredients may not be banned, they may naturally breakdown into NAIA banned substances in the body.

Some dietary supplements have resulted in positive drug tests and those student-athletes have lost eligibility as a result. Ignorance of the impact of the supplement student-athletes have taken is not a justifiable defense in appealing loss of eligibility or other sanctions for a positive drug test.

PREGNANT STUDENT-ATHLETE POLICY

Point University athletics department is committed to the personal health and development of all our student-athletes, and to the educational mission of our school. The purpose of this policy is to develop guidelines to protect the health, confidentiality, scholarship and ability of the pregnant student-athlete to participate while also assisting medical providers, coaches and administrators with uniform guidelines that address this issue. This policy sets forth the protections that should be provided for pregnant student-athlete and parenting students, including those with pregnancy-related conditions.

In the event a student-athlete becomes pregnant, the student-athlete will be referred to the head athletic trainer or the athletics director. The athletics director and athletic training staff will provide the student-athlete with counseling and assist the student-athlete with referrals for further counseling and evaluations as pertaining to her pregnancy. The head athletic trainer will be responsible for coordinating and determining the participation status for the student-athlete.

Federal Laws

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 bars discrimination on the basis of sex, which includes the guarantee of equal educational opportunity to pregnant and parenting students. This means that our student-athletes cannot be discriminated against because of their parental or marital status, pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, or recovery there from. In addition, a student's medical information may be protected by other federal laws.

In order to comply with federal law:

- Our athletics department will only require a pregnant or parenting student-athlete’s physician to certify physical and emotional fitness as a condition for participating in athletics when such certification is required of student-athletes who experience other temporary disabilities.
- Our athletics department will allow a pregnant or parenting student-athlete to fully participate on the team, including all team-related activities, unless the student-athlete's physician or other medical caregivers, certifies that participation is not medically safe.

- Our athletics department will allow a pregnant student-athlete to continue to participate in a limited manner on the team, including all team-related activities, unless the student-athlete's physician or other medical caregiver certifies that partial participation is medically safe.

- Medically necessary absences from team activities due to pregnancy shall be considered excused absences.

- No coach or other athletics department personnel shall suggest to any student-athlete that his or her continued participation on a team will be affected in any way by pregnancy or parental or marital status.

- Our athletics department will not allow a hostile or intimidating environment on the basis of pregnancy or parental status to exist. Acts or statements that are hostile toward pregnancy or parenting, or that shun or shame the student-athlete because she is pregnant or parenting will not be tolerated. Such conduct prevents an individual from effectively participating in, or denies a person the benefits of, the educational opportunities provided by this institution.

- Our athletics department will not terminate or reduce a student-athlete's athletics aid because of the student-athlete's pregnancy, marital or parental status during the term of the award.

- Students may take a medical pregnancy leave, and at the end of that leave they will be reinstated to the same status they had before the leave.

- Our athletics department will renew a pregnant, formerly pregnant, or parenting student-athlete's award, so long as the student-athlete is in good standing academically, remains engaged with our athletics department and meets eligibility standards. Returning students may be evaluated in the same manner as any other team member to determine their specific position on the team, such as a starter or as a forward.

- Our athletics department will not permit the use of any written or verbal contract that requires a student-athlete to not get pregnant or become a parent as a condition of receiving an athletics award.

- Our pregnant and formerly pregnant students who wish to continue to participate in athletics are entitled to assistance and rehabilitation on the same basis as such assistance is provided to student-athletes with other temporary disabilities.

**In order to assist our student-athletes:**

- Our athletics department will help the pregnant or parenting student-athlete plan for his or her continued academic progress, in accordance with the university's educational mission.

- Our athletic department will assist the student-athlete to access the pregnancy and parenting support resources that are available to all college students.
• Our athletics department, in conjunction with the team physician, the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), Athletic Trainers and others designated by the university president, will regularly review student-athlete pregnancy and parenting cases as they occur to monitor compliance with this Policy.

**Reporting:**

Our athletics department will not require any student-athlete to reveal pregnancy or parenting status to coaches or teammates. Our department will work to create an environment which encourages the student-athlete to voluntarily reveal her pregnancy and his or her parenting status, in order for our institution to provide optimal support for physical and mental health with professional health care. The coach's attitude toward pregnancy and parenting can be pivotal in creating such a safe environment.

No athletics department personnel will publicly release personally identifiable health information about pregnancy without written, timely authorization from the student-athlete.

When a student-athlete reveals her pregnancy or parenting status to athletics personnel, they should direct the student-athlete to this Policy. They should reiterate the department's protection of the student-athletes team membership status and financial aid. Athletics personnel should refer the student-athlete to head athletic trainer, athletics director to a university-designated athletics department representative trained in providing information about pregnancy and parenting support options.

Athletics personnel who suspect that a student-athlete is pregnant may report their concerns to the head athletic trainer, athletics director or to a university-designated athletics department representative trained in pregnancy and parenting support options.

Teammates of pregnant student-athletes may report their concerns to head athletic trainer, athletics director or to a university-designated athletic department representative trained in pregnancy and parenting support options.

**Enforcement and Non-Retaliation:**

• Any member of the athletics department found to have violated this policy by threatening to withhold or withholding athletics participation or an athletics award, by harassing a student-athlete on the basis or pregnancy or parenting status, or by breaching medical confidentiality, will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge or expulsion from the university. The athletics department will also take appropriate remedial action to correct the situation.

• Any member of the athletics department who becomes aware of conduct that violates this policy should report the conduct to an appropriate official, such as the athletics director, the Title IX Officer, the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), or the Equal Opportunity Officer. The athletics department and university
will make every effort to prevent disclosure of the names of all parties involved, except to the extent necessary to carry out an investigation.

- Retaliation is specifically prohibited against anyone who complains about pregnancy or parental status discrimination, even if the person was in error about the lawfulness of the conduct complained about. This athletics department will take steps to prevent any retaliation against the individual who made the complaint.

**Participation by the Pregnant Student-Athlete**

Assessing the risk of intense, strenuous physical activity in the pregnant student-athlete is difficult since there are no studies that have specifically addressed this topic. The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) has recommended that following a thorough clinical evaluation, healthy pregnant women should be encouraged to engage in regular, moderate intensity physical activities. Women who exercise during pregnancy have improved cardiovascular function, limited weight gain and fat retention, improved attitude and mental state, easier and less complicated labor, and enhanced postpartum recovery. There has not been shown to be a greater risk of spontaneous abortion.

The fetus benefits from exercise during pregnancy in several ways; including an increased tolerance for the physiologic stresses of late pregnancy, labor and delivery. The baby tends to be more alert, less fussy, and may have increased cognitive function.

The safety to participate in each sport must be dictated by the movements and physical demands required to compete in that sport. Exercise in the supine position after the first trimester has been reported to result in relative obstruction of venous return and orthostatic hypotension. ACOG has recommended that pregnant women avoid supine positions during exercise as much as possible. The American College of Sports Medicine discourages heavy weight lifting or similar activities that require straining or Valsalva.

High intensity exercise required for competition in nearly all sports has not been well studied and may increase fetal risk. Many medical experts recommend that women avoid participating in competitive contact sports after the 14th week of pregnancy. While direct fetal injury with abdominal trauma after the 14th week has not been documented in athletics competition, indirect support for this risk comes from documented fetal injury from falls and car accidents. Athletics activities associated with a high risk of falling should be avoided during pregnancy. Pregnant student-athletes who participate in non-contact endurance sports should consider participating at a non-competitive level.

Women who have medical conditions that place their pregnancies at high risk for complications should avoid physical activity until consultation with their obstetrician. Examples of these medical conditions include but are not limited to poorly controlled
diabetes or hypertension, multiple gestations at risk for pre-term labor, pre-eclampsia, and cervical defects that increase the risk of a spontaneous abortion or pre-term labor.

The risks and benefits of athletics participation should be objective in counseling the pregnant student-athlete. This includes the effects of pregnancy on competitive ability, the effects of strenuous physical training and competition on both the pregnant student-athlete and the fetus, and the warning signs to terminate exercise while pregnant. (Figure 1)

If the student-athlete decides to compete, it is recommended that documentation outlining the student-athlete's medical condition, the potential risks of athletics participation during pregnancy, and the student-athlete's understanding of these risks of participation to her and her baby be included in the student-athlete's medical record. This should be in the form of signed informed consent. It also is recommended that an institution obtain approval from the physician most familiar with the pregnant student-athlete's condition, the team physician and an appropriate official of the institution. These student-athletes may require close obstetric supervision. Following delivery or pregnancy termination, medical clearance by the student-athlete's obstetrician and the team physician is required to ensure the student-athlete's safe return to athletics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure 1 - Warning Signs to Terminate Exercise While Pregnant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal Bleeding</td>
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<td>Shortness of Breath Prior to Exercise</td>
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<td>Dizziness</td>
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<td>Headache</td>
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<td>Chest Pain</td>
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<td>Calf Pain of Swelling</td>
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<td>Pre-term Labor</td>
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<td>Decreased Fetal Movement</td>
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<td>Amniotic Fluid Leakage</td>
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<td>Muscle Weakness</td>
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STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING

It is the mission of the strength and conditioning program to provide services that will aid in performance and reduce sport-related injuries to Point student-athletes. Programs that are designed for each sport are based on current bio-mechanical and exercise science research. Student-athletes are normally scheduled to work out as a team. However, if scheduling conflicts arise, reasonable accommodations for individuals can be arranged. The head coach of a student-athlete with a scheduling conflict must be informed before rescheduling any workouts. The student-athlete weight room is located in the Valley Fieldhouse. The weight room is only for use by current student-athletes with athletic eligibility remaining.

Weight Room Rules

1. Student-athletes must wear Point or plain shirts, shorts and shoes in the weight room. No hats, sandals or cut-off shirts are allowed at any time.
2. Student-athletes must be respectful of the facility and keep it clean.
3. The use of tobacco products is strictly prohibited in any Point strength and conditioning facility.
4. Student-athletes must return all weights and equipment to their proper place after use.
5. Only student-athletes adhering to their workout schedules will be permitted to work out. No socializing is allowed during workouts.
6. Student-athletes must lift only during their team’s assigned times (unless otherwise approved by the strength and conditioning staff).
7. No phone calls will be accepted or made from the weight room office telephone (except in the case of an emergency).
8. Workouts are not permitted unless supervised by a strength and conditioning staff member or the student-athlete’s coach.
9. Student-athletes are not permitted to work out alone in any Point strength and conditioning facility under any circumstances for safety reasons.

PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS

Under NAIA rules each sport may be engaged in no more than 24 weeks of active practice and competition during the school year. In addition, there may be no more than three breaks from practice and competition. Certain activities, such as open gyms, tryouts and conditioning are not considered active practice and competition. Any athletes who are being required to participate in their sports more than the allowable amount of time per NAIA rules should contact the athletics director.
Summer Competition

During the summer it may be possible for student-athletes to participate as a member of a team outside the University’s varsity team without jeopardizing their eligibility in that sport for the subsequent year. As such, student-athletes are required to discuss possible outside competition with their head coach prior to participation.

RECRUITING

During the recruiting process student-athletes should reflect the core values of the Athletics Department while conducting themselves with honesty and integrity. All individuals associated with the Point Athletics Department will not engage in any form of negative recruiting (i.e., speaking negatively about another school or program to a prospective student-athlete or his or her parents/guardians). When a student-athlete is asked to host a prospective student-athlete (PSA) on an official visit, the following rules must be followed.

1. Student hosts may not purchase or arrange for the use of alcohol, tobacco products or illegal drugs by the PSA or anyone in the PSA's travel party.
2. PSAs and student hosts are not to engage in inappropriate or illegal activities while on the official visit (e.g., going to strip clubs/gentleman’s clubs, using the services of a prostitute, viewing pornographic material, gambling, or consuming alcohol or illegal drugs).
3. No cash may be given to the PSA or anyone accompanying the PSA.
4. Student hosts may not use entertainment funds to purchase or otherwise provide the PSA with gifts of value (e.g., souvenirs or clothing). Student hosts cannot arrange for the PSA to receive a discount at any place of business.
5. Student hosts may not use vehicles provided by a staff member or booster and may not transport the PSA more than 30 miles from campus. Only institutional vehicles or personal vehicles may be used to transport PSAs around campus during an official visit. No automobile shall be provided by Point for use by the PSA or anyone accompanying the PSA or student host.
6. Point may provide a student host with a complimentary meal if the student host is accompanying the PSA at that meal.

POINT ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Championship Ring Policy

For teams that win an NAIA National championship, a ring may be awarded to all team members. If recommended by the head coach and approved by the sport administrator and athletics director, other team and auxiliary personnel (e.g., head coach, assistant
coach, manager, and athletic trainer, volunteer coaches, athletics public relations personnel, public address announcers, administrative and clerical personnel, and bus drivers) who served the team during the championship season may also be awarded a championship ring. Championship awards must comply with NAIA rules. Each ring design should be approved by the sport administrator.

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE SURVEYS

The Athletics Department is interested in the experiences of Point student-athletes. Therefore, to improve the Athletics Department overall services and opportunities for students, athletes may be asked (via e-mail) to complete a voluntary, online Student-Athlete Experience Survey after their seasons are over. Student-athletes are not required to complete the survey, but it is hoped that student-athletes will share their honest opinions.

In addition to the survey, student-athletes may have the opportunity to participate in a face-to-face interview with the FAR and/or their sport administrator. Student-athletes who wish to utilize this opportunity can schedule a meeting with the FAR and/or their sport administrator.

ATHLETIC PUBLIC RELATIONS

To enhance the public relations of the athletic teams and the University that student-athletes represent, it is important that student-athletes cooperate with members of the news media as much as is reasonably possible. Even though student-athletes’ schedules are demanding, please try to take time out for interviews and/or photographs when asked by the media. Never grant an interview, however, unless it is arranged through the Sports Information Director (SID). If you would like individual media training or would like to ask questions regarding media relations, discuss it with the Sports Information Director.

Interview Guidelines

1. Never conduct an interview by phone or answer questions from the media via e-mail unless it is arranged by the Sports Information Director.
2. Do not compare teammates or coaches. Always be loyal to all team members.
3. Do not second guess teammates or coaches.
4. Never discuss strategy.
5. When discussing opponents, either before or after a game, do not make provocative statements that will end up on the opponent’s bulletin board.
6. After a win, be humble and always be complimentary of teammates and coaches.
7. After a loss, give the opponent credit and don’t make excuses. Do not be critical.
of teammates or coaches and avoid discussing specific mistakes that may have been made during the competition.

8. Never talk “off the record.” Discuss only those things you would not mind reading in a newspaper or seeing on television.

9. Avoid controversial subjects.

10. Be prepared – before the interview, ask the reporter what the interview is about and give some thought to the topic. Don’t answer without thinking about what you are going to say. It is not necessary to talk continuously. Ask the interviewer to repeat the question if necessary.

11. Be courteous to the interviewer and keep direct eye contact.

12. Be yourself, honest, and sincere.

13. Try to speak in short sentences and use non-technical terms so the average person can understand.

14. Do not use foul or abusive language.

15. Thank the reporter after the interview.

16. Contact the SID if any problems occur with a reporter.

CRISIS PROCEDURES

In the event of a crisis or controversy involving you or a teammate, please help the Athletics Department by following these procedures regarding the sharing of information about the situation:

1. Student-athletes should inform their head coach, assistant coach or other staff member about the crisis or controversy, if they are not already aware;

2. The coach or staff member will alert the appropriate University officials and they will deal directly with the media and other parties who may have a just and reasonable claim to information about the situation;

3. Student-athletes should refrain from commenting directly to a reporter (Internet, TV, newspaper, radio or magazine) about a crisis or controversial situation. If contacted by a reporter, an appropriate response to a question would be: “I’d prefer not to comment on that.” The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that Point presents factual information in a consistent fashion. Coordination with Point officials will prevent the sharing of misleading information; and

4. If necessary, student-athletes may be asked to comment about the situation in a press release.

It should be understood that this policy is intended to protect the rights of students, faculty and other University employees. An example would be the need to preserve students’ anonymity in a matter involving the Academic Integrity Policy. This policy may be limited also in other instances by legal issues, expressed matters of confidentiality or other unforeseen circumstances. However, the major intent of the policy is to provide
information to which the news media have a just and reasonable claim, and to carry out this task in a coordinated fashion.

A crisis or controversy could include, but is not limited to:

1. Arrest or other legal action involving a student-athlete or Athletics Department staff member;
2. Medical emergency involving student-athletes or staff, including death; or
3. Violation of team, Athletics Department or NAIA policy.

FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE

The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) must be a member of the faculty or an administrator who holds faculty rank and shall not hold an administrative or coaching position in the Athletics Department. Point’s current FAR is Dr. Lacey Southerland.

FARs provide oversight and advice in the administration of an institutional athletics program. To enhance academic integrity, ensure institutional control of the athletics program and promote student-athlete well-being, the FAR:

1. Serves as an advisor to the president and athletics director on all matters related to intercollegiate athletics;
2. Monitors the coordination of the compliance and academic support programs;
3. Monitors the academic preparation and performance of student-athletes and is involved in reporting that information to the president, COO, athletics director;
4. Assists the president and the athletics director in determining institutional positions on proposed NAIA legislation; and
5. Facilitates communication among various campus entities, in particular, between the Athletics Department and the faculty governance structure.

SPORT ADMINISTRATORS

Athletics administrators who work closely with specific sport coaches and teams are sport administrators. These individuals are available to guide student-athletes to appropriate resources and to discuss any concerns or problems that may arise that cannot be managed successfully within the team situation. The sport administrator meets with each team at the beginning of the season to address any questions students might have as the academic year begins. Throughout the year, the sport administrators work closely with the coaches and are available to support their teams.
HOUSING

Student-athletes are subject to the same University housing requirements and regulations as their fellow students as outlined in “The Point Honor Code”.

Pre- and Post-Season Housing

Coaches will make arrangements for required pre- and post-season housing and meals when student-athletes are required to participate in practices and competitions that occur outside of the generally offered University housing and dining services dates for all students.

Closed Campus Seasons

Coaches will make proper arrangements with residence life for student-athletes who are required to stay on campus for practice or competition during a closed campus season, e.g., Thanksgiving, winter break and spring break. No temporary on-campus housing is available during breaks without prior approval from residence life. Meal arrangements should be made by coaches.

ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

As a member of a Point athletics team, you will be issued athletic equipment, workout and competition gear, and uniforms, etc. This equipment and clothing is intended for competition and practice only. It may not be used at any other time. Athletic issued equipment may not be used for personal use at any time. Use of athletic equipment or clothing for personal reasons is in violation of NAIA rules and could affect athletics eligibility.

Policies may vary from sport to sport; however, normally you are responsible for any lost or stolen articles. If you are fined for lost, damaged or non-returned clothing or equipment, you must pay all fines by the close of the spring semester. If fines are not paid, a hold may be placed on your account, and registration cannot take place for the following academic term.

Laundry

Laundry policies vary from sport to sport. Normally, arrangements for cleaning and laundering of clothing are made by your coach. You will be provided a clean uniform for each competition, unless multiple competitions occur on the same day. Personal laundry cannot be washed through the Athletics Department laundry services.
Point Student Email Accounts

An official Point email address is established and assigned by the Office of Information Technology for each registered student; each current full- and part-time faculty; and each full- and part-time staff. All University communications sent via email will be sent to this address. Faculty members will use their official University email address to communicate with students registered in their classes and administrative units will correspond with students via this address. All official University business conducted internally and with outside agencies via email will be done through an appropriate University email account. The University provides support for Point email only, and is not responsible for the handling of email by other service providers. Users should be aware that unless an exemption applies under state or federal law, electronic communications may be considered public records and are subject to being disclosed. Therefore, it is very important that all student-athletes activate their Point student email accounts during the first week of classes and check them regularly during the rest of the semester.

Text Messaging

In the case of an emergency, the University may send University communications via the Emergency Text Messaging System.

DIRECTORY

An up-to-date directory of athletics department staff can be found on the Point Athletics website, www.pointskyhawks.com. To find someone outside of the Athletics Department, use the Point.edu website.
ATHLETICS TRANSPORTATION RELEASE

On the following date(s) ____________, I ______________________ (name) do not plan to travel with the Point University ____________________ Team to and/or from our intercollegiate athletic contest in ____________________ (City, State).

I acknowledge that I am being released into the care of my parent or guardian and I hereby release Point University and its Athletic Department of the responsibility for my transportation to and from this event. I also agree to hold Point University and its Athletic Department harmless for any injury or property damage suffered as I am independently transported to and/or from this event.

Signed: _______________________________

Date: _______________________________

Date Received by Coach: _______________________________
TRADITIONAL ATHLETE WITHDRAWAL FORM

Please complete and return to Lindsay Rorick, Athletic Coordinator

- This form should be used if you are considering withdrawing from the sport team that you are a member of and currently receiving an Athletic Performance Grant to be a member of.

- This form should be completed BEFORE you have contact with anyone not affiliated with Point University about the possibility of transferring to another institution.

- If you wish to withdraw from your athletic program but are considering continuing your education at Point University, the Admission Office can assist you in evaluating other scholarship opportunities. If you wish to completely withdraw, you will need to visit Student Services to receive the proper forms and direction.

Upon completing this form, if so desired, you will be provided with a Permission to Contact form that directs other institutions as to the NAIA/Point University process for obtaining a written “release” allowing you to participate at that institution.

**Note: this process differs from the NCAA process that you may be familiar with.

I ______________________ (student) understand that I am responsible for properly withdrawing from Point University and must visit the appropriate offices as outlined above.

_________________________________________ Student Signature __________ Date

I ______________________ (Coach) certify that I have provided the student with the proper information and informed them of the possible ramifications of withdrawal from Point University.

_________________________________________ Coach Signature __________ Date

I ______________________ (Director of Admission) certify that I have provided the student with the proper information and informed them of the possibilities available to them as a non-athlete and possible ramifications of withdrawal from Point University.

_________________________________________ Director of Admission Signature __________ Date
TRADITIONAL ATHLETE WITHDRAWAL/RELEASE POLICY

If a student wishes to withdraw from Point University they must notify the appropriate personnel and follow the defined process listed below:

1) Upon notifying his or her coach of his or her intent to cease participation in athletic competition, the student could be given the Athletic Withdrawal Form (opposite). If a student fails to follow the proper procedure, they may not be athletically released.
2) Visit the Admission office to determine options for staying (merit evaluation) or receive direction for proper withdrawal if they choose to fully withdraw from the institution (receive the formal withdrawal form).
3) Visit Student Services to set up an appointment with the registrar and receive a withdrawal form.
4) The withdrawal form must be signed by the following offices:
   a. Admissions
   b. Student Accounts
   c. Financial Aid
   d. Student Life
   e. Coach (if applicable)
5) Return the form to the registrar.

The academic calendar (http://point.edu/academic-calendar) will list the final date for a student to withdraw without penalty. Past this date students may have a balance, a letter grade, or other penalties. Please discuss these possibilities thoroughly with the appropriate office before completing the withdrawal process.