

CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 2

Principles for Conduct of Intercollegiate Athletics

2.01	General Principle	3	2.10	The Principle of Competitive Equity	5
2.1	The Principle of Institutional Control and Responsibility	3	2.11	The Principle Governing Recruiting	5
2.2	The Principle of Student-Athlete Welfare	3	2.12	The Principle Governing Eligibility	5
2.3	The Principle of Gender Equity	4	2.13	The Principle Governing Financial Aid	5
2.4	The Principle of Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct	4	2.14	The Principle Governing Playing and Practice Seasons	5
2.5	The Principle of Sound Academic Standards	4	2.15	The Principle Governing Postseason Competition and Contests Sponsored by Noncollegiate Organizations	5
2.6	The Principle of Nondiscrimination	4	2.16	The Principle Governing the Economy of Athletics Program Operation	5
2.7	The Principle of Diversity Within Governance Structures	4			
2.8	The Principle of Rules Compliance	4			
2.9	The Principle of Amateurism	4			

2.01 GENERAL PRINCIPLE [*]

Legislation enacted by the Association governing the conduct of intercollegiate athletics shall be designed to advance one or more basic principles, including the following, to which the members are committed. In some instances, a delicate balance of these principles is necessary to help achieve the objectives of the Association.

2.1 THE PRINCIPLE OF INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITY

2.1.1 Responsibility for Control. [*] It is the responsibility of each member institution to control its intercollegiate athletics program in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Association. The institution's chief executive officer is responsible for the administration of all aspects of the athletics program, including approval of the budget and audit of all expenditures.

2.1.2 Scope of Responsibility. [*] The institution's responsibility for the conduct of its intercollegiate athletics program includes responsibility for the actions of its staff members and for the actions of any other individual or organization engaged in activities promoting the athletics interests of the institution.

2.2 THE PRINCIPLE OF STUDENT-ATHLETE WELFARE [*]

Intercollegiate athletics programs shall be conducted in a manner designed to protect and enhance the physical and educational welfare of student-athletes.

2.2.1 Overall Educational Experience. [*] It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish and maintain an environment in which a student-athlete's activities are conducted as an integral part of the student-athlete's educational experience. *(Adopted:1/10/95)*

2.2.2 Cultural Diversity and Gender Equity. [#] It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish and maintain an environment that values cultural diversity and gender equity among its student-athletes and intercollegiate athletics department staff. *(Adopted:1/10/95)*

2.2.3 Health and Safety. [*] It is the responsibility of each member institution to protect the health of and provide a safe environment for each of its participating student-athletes. *(Adopted:1/10/95)*

2.2.4 Student-Athlete/Coach Relationship. [*] It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish and maintain an environment that fosters a positive relationship between the student-athlete and coach. *(Adopted:1/10/95)*

2.2.5 Fairness, Openness and Honesty. [*] It is the responsibility of each member institution to ensure that coaches and administrators exhibit fairness, openness and honesty in their relationships with student-athletes. *(Adopted:1/10/95)*

2.2.6 Student-Athlete Involvement. [*] It is the responsibility of each member institution to involve student-athletes in matters that affect their lives. *(Adopted: 1/10/95)*

2.3 THE PRINCIPLE OF GENDER EQUITY

2.3.1 Compliance With Federal and State Legislation. [*] It is the responsibility of each member institution to comply with federal and state laws regarding gender equity. *(Adopted: 1/11/94)*

2.3.2 NCAA Legislation. [*] The Association should not adopt legislation that would prevent member institutions from complying with applicable gender-equity laws, and should adopt legislation to enhance member institutions' compliance with applicable gender-equity laws. *(Adopted: 1/11/94)*

2.3.3 Gender Bias. [*] The activities of the Association should be conducted in a manner free of gender bias. *(Adopted: 1/11/94)*

2.4 THE PRINCIPLE OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT [*]

For intercollegiate athletics to promote the character development of participants, to enhance the integrity of higher education and to promote civility in society, student-athletes, coaches, and all others associated with these athletics programs and events should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. These values should be manifest not only in athletics participation but also in the broad spectrum of activities affecting the athletics program. It is the responsibility of each institution to: *(Revised: 1/9/96)*

- (a) Establish policies for sportsmanship and ethical conduct in intercollegiate athletics consistent with the educational mission and goals of the institution; and *(Adopted: 1/9/96)*
- (b) Educate, on a continuing basis, all constituencies about the policies in Constitution 2.4-(a). *(Adopted: 1/9/96)*

2.5 THE PRINCIPLE OF SOUND ACADEMIC STANDARDS [*]

Intercollegiate athletics programs shall be maintained as a vital component of the educational program, and student-athletes shall be an integral part of the student body. The admission, academic standing and academic progress of student-athletes shall be consistent with the policies and standards adopted by the institution for the student body in general.

2.6 THE PRINCIPLE OF NONDISCRIMINATION [*]

The Association shall promote an atmosphere of respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person. It is the policy of the Association to refrain from discrimination with respect to its governance policies, educational programs, activities and employment policies, including on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, creed or sexual orientation. It is the responsibility of each member institution to determine independently its own policy regarding nondiscrimination. *(Adopted: 1/16/93, Revised: 1/11/00)*

2.7 THE PRINCIPLE OF DIVERSITY WITHIN GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES [*]

The Association shall promote diversity of representation within its various divisional governance structures and substructures. Each divisional governing body must assure gender and ethnic diversity among the membership of the bodies in the division's administrative structure. *(Adopted: 1/9/96 effective 8/1/97)*

2.8 THE PRINCIPLE OF RULES COMPLIANCE

2.8.1 Responsibility of Institution. [*] Each institution shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Association in the conduct of its intercollegiate athletics programs. It shall monitor its programs to assure compliance and to identify and report to the Association instances in which compliance has not been achieved. In any such instance, the institution shall cooperate fully with the Association and shall take appropriate corrective actions. Members of an institution's staff, student-athletes, and other individuals and groups representing the institution's athletics interests shall comply with the applicable Association rules, and the member institution shall be responsible for such compliance.

2.8.2 Responsibility of Association. [*] The Association shall assist the institution in its efforts to achieve full compliance with all rules and regulations and shall afford the institution, its staff and student-athletes fair procedures in the consideration of an identified or alleged failure in compliance.

2.8.3 Penalty for Noncompliance. [*] An institution found to have violated the Association's rules shall be subject to such disciplinary and corrective actions as may be determined by the Association.

2.9 THE PRINCIPLE OF AMATEURISM [*]

Student-athletes shall be amateurs in an intercollegiate sport, and their participation should be motivated primarily by education and by the physical, mental and social benefits to be derived. Student participation

in intercollegiate athletics is an avocation, and student-athletes should be protected from exploitation by professional and commercial enterprises.

2.10 THE PRINCIPLE OF COMPETITIVE EQUITY [*]

The structure and programs of the Association and the activities of its members shall promote opportunity for equity in competition to assure that individual student-athletes and institutions will not be prevented unfairly from achieving the benefits inherent in participation in intercollegiate athletics.

2.11 THE PRINCIPLE GOVERNING RECRUITING [*]

The recruiting process involves a balancing of the interests of prospective student-athletes, their educational institutions and the Association's member institutions. Recruiting regulations shall be designed to promote equity among member institutions in their recruiting of prospects and to shield them from undue pressures that may interfere with the scholastic or athletics interests of the prospects or their educational institutions.

2.12 THE PRINCIPLE GOVERNING ELIGIBILITY [*]

Eligibility requirements shall be designed to assure proper emphasis on educational objectives, to promote competitive equity among institutions and to prevent exploitation of student-athletes.

2.13 THE PRINCIPLE GOVERNING FINANCIAL AID [*]

A student-athlete may receive athletically related financial aid administered by the institution without violating the principle of amateurism, provided the amount does not exceed the cost of education authorized by the Association; however, such aid as defined by the Association shall not exceed the cost of attendance as published by each institution. Any other financial assistance, except that received from one upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent, shall be prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Association. (*Revised: 1/9/96*)

2.14 THE PRINCIPLE GOVERNING PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS [*]

The time required of student-athletes for participation in intercollegiate athletics shall be regulated to minimize interference with their opportunities for acquiring a quality education in a manner consistent with that afforded the general student body.

2.15 THE PRINCIPLE GOVERNING POSTSEASON COMPETITION AND CONTESTS SPONSORED BY NONCOLLEGIATE ORGANIZATIONS [*]

The conditions under which postseason competition occurs shall be controlled to assure that the benefits inherent in such competition flow fairly to all participants, to prevent unjustified intrusion on the time student-athletes devote to their academic programs, and to protect student-athletes from exploitation by professional and commercial enterprises.

2.16 THE PRINCIPLE GOVERNING THE ECONOMY OF ATHLETICS PROGRAM OPERATION [*]

Intercollegiate athletics programs shall be administered in keeping with prudent management and fiscal practices to assure the financial stability necessary for providing student-athletes with adequate opportunities for athletics competition as an integral part of a quality educational experience.