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**WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**SPORTS MEDICINE**  
**INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**  
**DRUG EDUCATION, SCREENING, AND COUNSELING PROGRAM**

The department of intercollegiate athletics at Weber State University, its coaching personnel, and its administrators strongly believe that the use and/or abuse of drugs (excluding those drugs prescribed by a physician to treat a specific medical condition) can:

1. Be detrimental to the physical and mental well-being of its student-athletes, no matter when such usage should occur during the year;
2. Consequently interfere with the performance of its student-athletes;
3. Be extremely dangerous to the student-athlete and his/her teammates, particularly with regard to participation in athletic competition or practice.

It is believed by the department that the unauthorized use of banned drugs, or abuse of alcohol, constitutes an abuse of the privilege of participating in intercollegiate athletic competition and representing Weber State University.

Therefore, beginning with the 1985-86 academic year, and for subsequent years thereafter, the WSU Athletics Department has implemented a program of drug education, screening and counseling to assist and benefit the student-athletes of Weber State University.

**PURPOSE OF PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Weber State University Intercollegiate Athletic Education, Screening and Counseling Program is to aid and assist student-athletes to make individualized, informed, and intelligent decisions with reference to drug usage, both now and in the future.

Specific goals for the program are as follows:

1. To educate Weber State University student-athletes concerning the dangers of drug abuse
2. To prevent any illicit drug use and/or abuse by Weber State University student-athletes
3. To identify any student- athlete who may be using illicit drugs and to identify the drug
4. To educate student-athletes about consequences and how usage affects the student-athlete and his/her teammates
5. To see that any chronic dependency is treated, addressed, and documented properly
6. To provide reasonable safeguards that every student-athlete is medically competent to participate
7. To encourage discussion about any questions the student-athletes may have about usage of drugs
8. To make every effort to assure that the student-athletes are physically and mentally fit for the rigors of intercollegiate athletic participation and to minimize the risks of serious injury to the student-athlete and his/her teammates

### **Implementation of Program**

At the beginning of the academic year, a presentation will be made to all intercollegiate athletic squads at Weber State University to outline and review the Intercollegiate Athletic Drug Education, Screening and Education Program, and to oversee its implementation. A copy of the program will be given to each student-athlete, and is posted on [www.weberstatesports.com](http://www.weberstatesports.com).

Each athlete is required to sign a consent form acknowledging receipt and understanding of the program. Student-athletes will also provide voluntary consent to the administration of the urinalysis testing required by the program, and a release of testing information to a limited and select group.

Any student-athlete who does not sign the consent form forfeits the privilege of participation in intercollegiate athletics at Weber State University. The Drug Screening Consent Form is a part of the pre-participation physical examination.

This program and its administration are subject to change at any time. However, any change will only be implemented by action of the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and will not be applied retroactively if that would adversely affect a student-athlete's rights.

### **Drug Education**

Educational programs that focus on a variety of aspects of drug use have been established. The nature of these programs will include topics such as the symptoms of chemical dependency. Seminars will be scheduled and student-athletes will be required to attend. The objective of this program is to educate student-athletes about the nature of drug abuse in order to encourage their resistance to taking these drugs.

### **Prohibited Substance**

The use of the following drugs are prohibited before, during and after the varsity season except as may be prescribed by a physician qualified to treat the medical condition for which the prescription is made:

These substances include, but are not limited to:

- Anabolic Steroids, and /or masking agents
- Cocaine/and other stimulants, such as amphetamines; Depressants Barbiturates, Methaqualone, Hallucinogens (LSD, PCP)
- Marijuana; THC
- Opiates (narcotics, including heroin, opium, morphine).

Weber State University adheres to the NCAA's list of Banned Substances. The list is on file in the Athletic Training Rooms and can be found at [www.drugfreesport.com](http://www.drugfreesport.com)

### **Procedures**

During the year a computer generated random selection process is used to select participants. Student-athletes selected randomly from each sport will be required to participate in drug screening at various times during the academic year.

### **Manner of Testing**

The drug screening shall consist of the collection of a urine sample from the student-athlete under the supervision of a certified athletic trainer, team physician, or other qualified health care professional. The donor's name will be replaced with a coded designation prior to sending the sample to a qualified laboratory for testing. The collection of the specimen may be observed, and the student-athlete may be asked to disrobe in order to protect the integrity of the testing procedure. Each urine sample shall be analyzed for the presence of prohibited drugs by a qualified laboratory.

The initial screen will be performed by a One Step Drug Screen Test Card. This card utilizes monoclonal antibodies to selectively detect elevated levels of specific drugs in the urine. A positive test will be confirmed by testing an aliquot of the same sample by an alternative method using the Gas Chromatograph procedure.

For purposes of this program, a positive shall meet a test result, which indicated, in the opinion of the agency performing such testing, the presence of one or more of the drugs listed in the previous "Prohibited Substances" section in the student-athlete's urine.

**ANY ATHLETE WHO HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO PROVIDE A SPECIMEN FOR TESTING PURPOSES AND WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH SUCH A REQUEST WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE TESTED POSITIVE.**

Any student-athlete who is notified of a confirmed positive result may, within 24 hours of being notified, request the Director of Athletics to meet to review the test procedure used, discuss the situation with the student-athlete, and/or allow the student-athlete to provide any pertinent facts or mitigating circumstances.

**Accuracy and Confidentiality**

Reasonable precautions will be taken to assure and maintain the accuracy and confidentiality of the test results including the maintenance of a documented chain of specimen custody to insure the identity and integrity of the sample throughout the collection and testing process. Additionally, reasonable precautions will be taken to assure that subsequent tests are conducted on a random basis.

All information and records, including test results obtained under this policy, shall remain confidential and will be released only to the following persons as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes of this program: the athlete, the team physician(s), the Director of Athletics, the athletic trainer(s), the head coach, the student-athlete's parent(s), spouse, legal guardian(s), and his/her professional advisor(s) or counselor(s).

**Effect of Positive Test Results**

First positive: If the positive result is thus verified and confirmed, the Head Athletic Trainer, and/or Assistant Athletic Trainer, will notify the student-athlete, the student-athlete's Head Coach and the Director of Athletics. The student-athlete will be advised to initiate immediate contact with his/her parents(s), legal guardian(s), or spouse to advise them of the positive result.

The student-athlete will be required to complete a mandatory drug-counseling program under the supervision of a professional advisor. The advisor shall determine the length and manner of counseling best suited to the needs of the student-athlete. Refusal to participate in the counseling program set forth in the paragraph will be treated and handled as a second positive test result.

Student-athletes with positive results will be tested on a regular basis, recognizing that some prohibited substances take time to clear the body. Regular testing will continue until the department of athletics at Weber State University is confident that the student-athlete has discontinued the illicit drug use.

Second positive: If the positive result is thus verified and confirmed, the Head Athletic Trainer, and/or Assistant Athletic Trainer, will notify the student-athlete, the Director of Athletics, and the student-athlete's Head Coach. Additionally, the Director of Athletics shall notify the parent(s), legal guardian(s) or spouse of the second positive test results for the purpose of securing their assistance in the prevention of further illicit drug use by the student-athlete.

The student-athlete will be suspended from play or practice for a period of five (5) consecutive days. This suspension will include any practice, game, and weight room hours during that time. If the 5-day suspension does not include a sanctioned competition, the student-athlete will sit out the first sanctioned competition after the positive drug test.

Prior to the implementation of the suspension period, the student-athlete will have the opportunity to discuss the matter with the Director of Athletics and present evidence of any mitigating circumstances that the student-athlete feels important.

Refusal to participate in the steps and program as set forth in this paragraph and the immediately preceding paragraph will be treated and handled as a third positive test result.

**ALL EXPENSES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF COULSELING AND DRUG REHABILITATION SHALL BE PAID FOR BY THE STUDENT-ATHLETE**

Third positive: If a third positive result is verified and confirmed, the Head Athletic Trainer, and/or Assistant Athletic Trainer, will again notify the student-athlete, the Director of Athletics, and the student-athlete's Head Coach. Additionally, the Director of Athletics shall notify the student-athlete's parent(s), legal guardian(s), or spouse.

All athletic-related financial aid will cease at the earliest possible date consistent with the by-laws and constitution of the NCAA. The student-athlete will be suspended from Weber State University athletic competition, and all athletic related activities at Weber State University.

Prior to the suspension of financial aid and athletic participation referred to above, the student-athlete will be given an opportunity to meet with the Director of Athletics to present his/her concerns regarding the positive drug test. The Director of Athletics shall have discretion to make any adjustments he/she finds to be necessary or appropriate based upon their meeting with the student-athlete.

**Testing for Cause**

In addition to pre-season and random testing, if the Director of Athletics has reasonable cause that a student-athlete has been abusing banned substances, the Director of Athletics may mandate that the student-athlete be tested. Specific and articulate facts, which may be accompanied by logical deductions, must be present. Vague or unspecified hunches are insufficient. The decision to test individual student-athletes will be made by the Director of Athletics and the Weber State university's attorney.

**Consecutive Sanctions**

**ANY SANCTIONS BROUGHT AGAINST A STUDENT- ATHLETE FOR VIOLATION OF THIS DRUG POLICY WILL BE MAINTAINED CONSECUTIVELY THROUGHOUT THE STUDENT-ATHLETE'S CAREER AT WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY.**

**Drug Counseling**

If a student-athlete feels a need for counseling regarding drug use and/or substance abuse, he/she should feel secure knowing that the athletics department shares this concern and will try to help. Professional outpatient therapy can be arranged for student-athletes upon request. However, the student-athlete will be responsible for all associated expense.

Once the student-athlete is released from therapy and allowed to resume participation, any future violation of the policy will count as subsequent violation. Depending on how many positive drug tests the student-athlete has had the sequence of penalties will be consistent with the policy.

**Conclusion**

The use of illicit drugs has no place in society as well as in competitive athletics at Weber State University. While decisions with reference to drug usage and/or substance abuse ultimately depend upon the interest, values, motivations and determinations to the individual involved, it is believed that participation in this program will help Weber State University student-athletes make more informed and intelligent decisions regarding drug usage both now, and in the future.

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