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The following Drug Education and Testing Policy (Policy) has been adopted by the Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) Board of Members. The ACCC reserves the right to make changes to this Policy as needed, with the approval of the ACCC's Board of Members. This policy is intended as a minimum ACCC policy and each institution has the right to enhance it via a local College policy and procedure.

The ACCC believes that random drug testing is appropriate to ensure that the overall purpose and mission of this Policy is accomplished.

The overall mission of this Policy is to promote year-round banned substance free environment in the ACCC. With this mission in mind, the following goals have been established. The ACCC desires to:

1. Protect the health, safety, and welfare of our student-athletes;
2. Identify student-athletes who may have concerns and/or concerning behavior surrounding the use, abuse, and/or misuse of alcohol, illicit substances, prescribed medications, and nutritional supplements;
3. Uphold the responsibility of the ACCC member colleges to provide educational programming that will not only inform the student-athletes about issues surrounding the use, abuse, and/or misuse of alcohol, illicit substance, prescribed medication, and nutritional supplements, but also support a positive decision-making process.
4. Promote fair competition in competitive athletics by ensuring and encouraging compliance with applicable rules and regulations regarding drug abuse.

In an effort to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the student-athlete, the intent of this Policy is to prevent substance abuse and dependence by student-athletes through the following objectives: prevention and education, testing to provide a timely diagnosis, and professional guidance, treatment, and rehabilitation.

Participants who are educated about substance use in sport are more likely to make informed and intelligent decisions about usage. As part of the education component of this Policy, each ACCC member college will:

1. Provide an annual explanation of this Policy to student-athletes, prospective student-athletes, and those associated with athletic teams;
2. Disseminate information regarding alcohol and other drugs, their use and abuse, and effects of such use and abuse to all student-athletes and those associated with athletic teams;
3. Utilize health education programs to educate student-athletes who are cited for an alcohol incident or who test positive for drugs;
4. Conduct a drug and alcohol education program for student-athletes at least twice

An athlete that leaves the testing room without providing a testable sample will automatically receive a positive test result.

All results will be made available to the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will then notify the Head Coach. The student-athlete may present evidence of any mitigating circumstances that he/she feels may be important to the outcome of the drug test prior to imposition of any intervention or required treatment or counseling program consistent with the appeals process

NJCAA-allowable dates/games (number of dates/games will round up). The suspension will be enforced during the current regular and/or postseason season or the subsequ

Student-athletes who test positive for a banned substance by the laboratory retained by the college may, within 72 hours following receipt of notice of the laboratory finding, contest the findings. The student-athlete must write (letter, email, etc.) his/her contest with the initial test.

Upon the student-athlete's request for additional testing of the sample, the Athletic Director or his/her designee will formally request the laboratory retained by the college to perform testing on specimen B. The student-athlete may choose to be present at the opening of specimen B at the laboratory. If the student-athlete does not wish to be present at the opening of specimen B, but desires to be represented, arrangements will be made for a surrogate to attend the opening of specimen B. The surrogate will not be involved with any other aspect of the analysis of the specimen. The student-athlete or his/her surrogate will attest to the sample number and the integrity of the security seal prior to the laboratory opening of specimen B. Specimen B findings will be final, and no further appeals may be made.

Student-athletes are required to conduct themselves in accordance with member policies, in addition to federal, state and local laws. To the latter, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by individuals under the age of 21 is a violation of state liquor laws (Minor in Possession/MIP). Additionally, possession or use of illegal drugs is a violation of state law. As such, a student-athlete who is caught on or off campus with any type of alcohol or in possession of drugs/drug paraphernalia will be suspended for 10% of the maximum number of NJCAA-allowable dates/games (number of dates/games will round up). The suspension will be enforced during the current regular and/or postseason season or the subsequent regular season (if the confirmed positive test occurs during the offseason).

Any student-athlete receiving a DUI/OWI shall be suspended for 25% of the maximum number of NJCAA-allowable dates/games (number of dates/games will round up). The suspension will be enforced during the current regular and/or postseason season or the subsequent regular season (if the confirmed positive test occurs during the offseason).

The following protocol will be utilized to ensure member colleges comply with the ACCC

2. After review of materials submitted, member colleges are found not to be in compliance with the ACCC's Drug Education and Testing Policy.

Member colleges not in compliance with the ACCC's Drug Education and Testing Policy will be fined:

First Occurrence - \$750

Second Occurrence -

