

## **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Mission Statement**

The mission of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is to insure and enhance the student-athlete experience through prompting opportunities within the university, athletic department, and outside community while providing a facet to serve and protect the interests and image of the student-athlete.

### **Constitution**

#### **Part I-Purpose**

*The functions of the SAAC are as follows:*

- Promote communication between athletics administration and student-athletes.
- Disseminate information.
- Provide feedback and insight into athletics department issues.
- Generate a student-athlete voice in the formulation of athletics department policies.
- Promote positive relationships between student-athletes and the staff, faculty and the residents of the community.
- Build a sense of community within the athletics program involving all athletics teams.
- Solicit student-athlete responses to Mid-American Conference (MAC) and NCAA legislation.
- Organize community service efforts.
- Promote a positive student-athlete image on campus.

#### **Part II- Committee Membership**

*To obtain membership in the SAAC a student must meet the following criteria:*

- Must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75.
- Must be an upperclassman, UNLESS another representative from the same sport is an upperclassman, then ONE representative can be a freshmen.
- Must meet all NCAA and MAC eligibility requirements.
- Must be selected as a representative before final year of eligibility expires to be a voting member.

#### **Part III-Responsibilities**

*The following are the responsibilities of the SAAC representatives.*

- To act as a representative of his or her team.
- To attend and participate in monthly committee meetings.
- To attend and participate in sub-committee meetings.
- To participate in activities promoted by SAAC.
- To inform teammates of activities promoted by SAAC.
- To support all athletics within the department.
- To act in a positive manner as a representative of the University and its athletic department.

*The following are guidelines to membership in the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.*

- Each team is responsible to provide at least one (1) representative to the committee.
- May not miss **more than 2** absences the entire academic year or the coach will be contacted to send another representative. Class attendance is an acceptable excuse and meetings days will be chosen based on course schedules.
- Teams may choose, in any fashion, their representative.
- Members will be elected for a one (1) year term starting in the spring semester.
- New representatives' terms will begin with the first meeting in the spring semester.
- Those in their final semester of eligibility are not obligated to serve, but may continue to help with committee activities.
- There is no limit on the number of team representatives attending committee meetings.
- Individual teams are responsible for filling their own vacancies.

#### **Part IV-Executive Board**

*The Executive Board will be composed of the following.*

- Five (5) members sharing equal responsibilities and power serving no more than three year terms
- At least two (2) of the current members of the Executive Board must have remaining eligibility each year.
- One (1) Associate Athletic Director appointed by the Athletic Department to oversee the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

*The following are the responsibilities of the Executive Board.*

- To organize meetings, committees, and events for SAAC.
- To delegate responsibilities to SAAC representatives.
- To act as a liaison between student-athletes and athletic administrators.
- To facilitate ideas and information regarding departmental and national issues involving collegiate athletics
- To encourage and promote involvement in a positive self-image of the student-athlete
- To appoint an Interim Executive member if a vacancy occurs in the Executive Board
- To hold elections to appoint new Executive members as current Executives finish their terms

*To obtain membership in the Executive Board of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee a student must meet the following criteria.*

- Must meet all membership criteria in Part II
- Must have at least two years of eligibility remaining when starting his or her term
- Must receive nomination by a student representative, which has to be seconded by a student representative
- Must win a majority vote from a secret ballot

Note: The Executive Board is designed to have FIVE (5) representatives serve no more than three year terms with no more than two members leaving the Executive Board at one time. After Executives finish their two-year term, they will act as mentors to newly elected Executives in their final spring semester.

## Part V – Sub-Committee

*The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will consist of the following four (4) committees, with each consisting of their own responsibilities.*

- Cardinal Cup
- Events
- Communications
- Community Outreach

*Each committee is responsible for the following,*

- Electing a chairperson
- Meeting at least once a month outside of regularly scheduled SAAC meetings and activities
- Reporting all committee activities at the monthly **SAAC** meetings
- Providing minutes of each committee meeting

*The following are the individual responsibilities of the committees.*

### The Cardinal Cup

- Design a program that encourages academic success, community service and attendance to SAAC and athletic events.
- Implement this program.
- Monitor this program.
- Evaluate this program.

### Events

- Coordinate all events associate with SAAC.

### Communications

- Develop Facebook page.
- Maintain minutes for each meeting.
- Maintain email communications to all SAAC members regarding important events.

### Community Outreach

- Coordinate programs with the community outreach committee of the athletic department's strategic plan.
- Get SAAC members involved with outreach programs.