

Southwest Mississippi Community College

Department of Athletics



2023-2024

**Student – Athlete
Handbook**

Southwest Mississippi Community College

Student – Athlete Handbook

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Southwest Mississippi Community College

Student – Athlete Handbook

• Mission Statement of SMCC Athletic Department

The mission of the Athletic Department is to promote the education and development of students through intercollegiate athletic competition. Academic success, physical and emotional well-being, and the social development of student athletes are among the areas of focus. Our student athletes will be afforded an opportunity to participate in a competitive athletic program, while ensuring that they are provided a quality education. The athletic department is committed to high standards and the principle that competitive activities serve as an integral part of education. It is also an expectation of the Southwest Mississippi Community College Board of Trustees and the Administration that student athletes possess high moral and ethical character. Student athletes represent Southwest Mississippi Community College on the field, in public, and in the classroom. Ethical and moral conduct is an absolute necessity to play at Southwest Community College, and is an expectation of every sport that wears the Bear uniform. Therefore, the department is evaluated on a regular basis to ensure adherence to the educational purpose of Southwest Mississippi Community College

• Non-Discrimination Statement

Southwest Mississippi Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, or Disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries and grievances regarding the non-discrimination policies: Mrs. Rhonda Gibson, Director of Disability Support Services, 601-276-3885; Mr. Blake Brewer, Vice President for Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator, 601-276-3717; SMCC, 1156 College Drive, Summit, MS 39666

• SMCC Athletics Core Values

- **WIN** – It is about overcoming yourself. Overcoming your body, your limitations and your fears. Winning means surpassing yourself and turning your dreams into reality.
- **All IN** – To be totally committed to something
- **GRIT**- a positive trait based on an individual's perseverance of effort combined with the passion for a particular long-term goal or end state – a powerful motivation to achieve an objective.
- **TRUST** – putting your confidence in someone by forming a bond with him / her and knowing you can rely on them for anything
- **HONOR**- A combination of self-respect and a good reputation based on the ability to tell the truth, defend those less fortunate or are weaker than you, and an instinctual knowledge of right and wrong. Doing what is right.
- **ENERGY**- the strength and the state of being strong and active required for sustained physical or mental activity
- **EFFORT**- a serious attempt to produce something by exertion or trying. The total work done to achieve a particular end
- **RESPECT**- an attitude that develops through mature and mutually enriching interpersonal relationships. Moreover, respect is the attitude of accepting others' differences; you need respect in order to coexist with others without conflict. To respect someone is to put aside our differences.
- **FOCUS**- a center of activity, attraction, or attention. Point of Concentration
- **ACCOUNTABILITY**- Accountability in sport is doing what you say you're going to do and executing the task to the best of your ability, then being able to put your hand up and say 'this is what I need to do better' if you don't get it right. Being accountable is not making excuses, not blaming others or whining and complaining.
- **RESPONSIBILITY**- Responsibility demands that players conduct themselves in an honorable way off the field, as well as on it. All athletes should show respect for teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials.
- **SERVICE** – Service is the action of doing something for someone or something without a tangible reward.
- **PRIDE**- Pride means ensuring that anything that you do, anything that has your name on it, is done right

• SMCC Athletic Department Goals & Objectives

GOALS:

Southwest Mississippi Community College is committed to providing quality educational experiences and to offering an intercollegiate athletic program designed to develop the personal growth of each student. These programs encourage individual and team achievement and strive to enhance the academic success, social development, and physical and emotional well-being of student athletes.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide a two-year college transfer program applicable to a bachelor's degree.
- To provide career and technical programs leading to employment or skills enhancement.
- To provide programs enabling students to overcome specific deficiencies and achieve success.
- To provide curricula, instruction, guidance, extracurricular activities, and other support services enhancing student development.
- To provide facilities, technology, methodology, and staff sustaining an appropriate environment conducive to learning.
- To provide lifelong learning opportunities.
- To provide facilities and serve supporting cultural, educational, and economic needs.
- To publicize offerings of the institution and the opportunities it affords
- To encourage and stress the importance of academic success (student first—athlete second).
- To integrate physical and emotional development and scholastic achievement.
- To provide opportunities for students to learn and practice leadership and interpersonal skills.
- To identify and recognize individual physical ability and academic achievement.
- Encourage the development of leadership and management skills by assigning athletes leadership roles within the different team sports. — Involve athletes in team sports that require them to be cooperative and to develop their interpersonal skills in order to achieve both team and individual success.

• Southwest Mississippi Community College Membership:

SMCC is a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region 23 and the Mississippi Association of Community College Conference (MACCC).

- The web site for the NJCAA is www.njcaa.org.
NJCAA mission Statement: The purpose of this corporation shall be to promote and foster junior college athletics on intersectional and national levels so that results will be consistent with the total educational program of its members.
- The web site for the MCCA is www.maccc.org.
MACCC mission Statement: It is the mission of the MACCC to foster a state program of intercollegiate activities in an environment that supports equitable opportunities consistent with the educational objectives of member colleges.
- Southwest Mississippi Community College currently competes in 11 sports:
Men's Sports: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Golf, Soccer and Tennis.
Women's Sports: Basketball, Soccer, Softball, and Tennis.
Co-ed: Cheerleading

• Athletic Contact Information

Athletic Director	Ken Jackson	kjackson@smcc.edu	601-276-3716	Kenna Hall
Assistant Athletic Director of Compliance	Jamie Jackson	jjackson@smcc.edu	601-276-3827	Brumfield Building
Sports Information Director	Travis Connelley	tconnelley@smcc.edu	601-276-3741	Kenna Hall
Athletic Administrative Assistant	Michael Gunnell	mgunnell@smcc.edu	601-276-3838	Allied Health
Strength & Conditioning	Mark Cornwell	mcornwell@smcc.edu	601-405-2237	Strength & Conditioning Center
Strength & Conditioning	Hannah Cornwell	hcornwell@smcc.edu	601-669-6460	Strength & Conditioning Center
Baseball Coach	Jack Edmonson	jedmonson@smcc.edu	601-276-3892	PE Building
Men's Basketball	Corey Schmidt	cschmidt@smcc.edu	601-276-4843	Allied Health
Women's Basketball	Brent Harris	bharris@smcc.edu	601-276-4836	Allied Health
Cheerleading	Cindy Henderson	chenderson@smcc.edu	601-276-4813	Library
Football	Cliff Collins	ccollins@smcc.edu	601-276-3815	Fieldhouse
Men's Golf	Jay O'Hern	johern@smcc.edu	601-757-6018	
Men's Soccer	Zach Mills	zmills@smcc.edu	601-276-4841	Allied Health
Women's Soccer	Nichole Daigle	ndaigle@smcc.edu		Allied Health
Softball	Shea Johnson	mjohnson@smcc.edu	601-276-4842	PE Building
Men's / Women Tennis	Joyce Mabry	jmabry@smcc.edu	601-276-3843	Kenna Hall

• Department Contact Information

Vice President of Student Affairs	Blake Brewer	bbrewer@smcc.edu	601-276-3717	Kenna Hall
Vice President of Academic Affairs	Matt Calhoun	mcalhoun@smcc.edu	601-276-3718	Administration Building
Vice President of Admissions & Records	Kim Henning	khenning@smcc.edu	601-27602434	Administration Building
Bookstore	Laurie Calhoun	lcalhoun@smcc.edu	601-276-2006	Student Union
Business Office	Jennifer Rawls	jrawls@smcc.edu	601-276-4808	Administration Building
Campus Police	Chief David Adams	dadams@smcc.edu	601-551-3838	Brumfield Building
Counseling Services	Pat Young	pyoung@smcc.edu	601-276-3844	Kenna Hall
Disability Support	Rhonda Gipson	rgipson@smcc.edu	601-276-3885	Kenna Hall
Financial Aid	Amber Pittman	apittman@smcc.edu	601-276-3708	Administration Building
Housing	Lauren Woodworth	lwoodworth@smcc.edu	601-276-3732	Kenna Hall
Student Success Center	Cindy Henderson	chenderson@smcc.edu	601-276-4813	Library

• SMCC Academic Eligibility & Requirements

- **1st Term Freshmen** - A student-athlete who is in his/her first full term college term is deemed to have satisfied the academic progress eligibility requirement for their initial term of full-time enrollment or participation
- **2nd Term Freshmen** –the student-athlete must have accumulated 6 credit hours with a GPA of 2.0 or higher
- **3rd Term Sophomore** – the student-athlete's participation in a second season of a sport he/she must meet the appropriate academic requirements of a first season participant, AND have accumulated 24 earned/passing semester hours with a GPA of 2.00 or higher
- **4th Term Sophomore** – the student-athlete's participation in a second season of a sport he/she must meet the appropriate academic requirements of a first season participant, AND have accumulated 33 earned/passing semester hours with a GPA of 2.00 or higher
- **5th + Term** – The student-athlete's participation in a third season of a sport he/she must meet appropriate academic requirements of a first season participant, AND have accumulated 12 earned /passing semester hours with a GPA of 2.00 or higher of number of semesters of a full-time student (Example = 4 full time semesters x 12 semester hours = 48 earned/passing semester hours)
- Advise students to seek academic assistance and help them find tutors if grades fall below required levels or if they are experiencing difficulties.

• SMCC Athletic Department Policies & Procedures

- In matters of recruiting, admission, eligibility and financial aid of our student athletes, Southwest Mississippi Community College adheres to the written policies of the NJCAA and MACCC Conference. These policies and guidelines may be found in the sources listed below:
- Recruiting – NJCAA Handbook Article VI, Section 3 [NJCAA Handbook - Constitution & Bylaws \(d2o2figo6ddd0g.cloudfront.net\)](#)
- Admission – NJCAA Handbook Article VI, Section 1 [NJCAA Handbook - Constitution & Bylaws \(d2o2figo6ddd0g.cloudfront.net\)](#)
- Eligibility – NJCAA Handbook Article V, Section 1 [NJCAA Handbook - Constitution & Bylaws \(d2o2figo6ddd0g.cloudfront.net\)](#)
- Financial Aid – NJCAA Handbook Article VI, Section 1 [NJCAA Handbook - Constitution & Bylaws \(d2o2figo6ddd0g.cloudfront.net\)](#)

• Title IX

SMCC is in compliance with the requirements of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, which prohibit sex discrimination in federally assisted educational programs. "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance..."

Title IX is the most commonly used name for the federal civil rights law in the United States that was enacted as part (Title IX) of the Education Amendments of 1972. It prohibits sex-based discrimination in any school or any other education program that receives funding from the federal government¹. The law was enacted to ensure that male and female students and employees in educational settings are treated equally and fairly. It protects against discrimination based on sex (including sexual harassment)².

• SMCC Campus Rules (SMCC Student Handbook)

- Personal Conduct – Disorderly Conduct
 - Disorderly activities and disorderly or unlawful behavior, such as excessive noise, unauthorized use of loud speakers, use of profanity, creating a disturbance, engaging in fights, assaults, riots, unlawful assemblies, damage/destruction of property, menacing/stalking, misuse of college resources (i.e., electronic mail, computer services, copiers, etc.), violation of any civil, municipal, state, or federal law in college buildings or on campus, failure to identify upon request or to comply with directives of campus police or any college official while performing their duties is prohibited.
 - The college reserves the right to suspend any student for fighting, stealing, destroying property, committing vandalism, causing a disturbance, gambling, or not cooperating with any school official, cheating on examinations, or plagiarism in any form.
 - Plagiarism - is literary theft, or stealing the words or ideas of another and using them as one's own, using borrowed material without documenting. Avoid plagiarizing by giving the exact source of all reproduced, paraphrased, or summarized material according to recommended procedures, or acknowledging that the material is not original, but the source cannot be located or remembered. The penalty for plagiarism may be a failing grade on the plagiarized work, a failing grade for the course, or suspension from the institution.
 - Due Process in Student Discipline - To protect its fundamental legal and moral integrity and the constitutional rights of its students and to meet the elemental requirements of fairness, an educational institution should guarantee procedural safeguards to students involved in disciplinary cases. Although disciplinary hearings on campus are not entirely analogous to adversary proceedings in courts of law, they will be conducted in a fair and judicious manner, with the aim of lessening the likelihood of error or prejudice. The procedure will incorporate the basic elements of what has become commonly recognized as due process.
 - Student Obligation - Since the founding of SMCC, high standards of conduct have characterized Southwest students. A student enrolling in the college assumes the obligation to become acquainted with the rules and regulations, and while on the campus is expected to conform to the stated standards of conduct. Violators of these standards will be subject to disciplinary action.
 - Purpose of Discipline - The broad purpose underlying student discipline is to structure college living in such a way that the interests of the college community as a whole and of the individual members are best served. The college's responsibility extends to the conduct of all SMCC students. Those apprehended and proven guilty of serious or repeated violations of college standards may be dismissed from the college.
 - Responsibility - Students who register at SMCC agree to conform to its regulations and policies. A student is subject to the laws of the community and the state, and enrollment as a student in no way relieves him/her of this responsibility. The fact that civil authorities have imposed punishment will not prevent the college from protecting its own educational purposes and community by taking suitable action against the student under college regulations.
 - Authority - The ultimate authority to administer discipline is vested in the President, subject only by the Board of Trustees. The Vice President for Student Affairs or his designee is responsible for referring disciplinary cases to the discipline committee who will ascertain the facts and submit their recommendations to the President for final action.
 - Disciplinary Action - In extreme cases, the President or his designee may take prompt and decisive disciplinary action before there is an opportunity to conduct a hearing, as in cases in which a student's continued presence on campus constitutes an immediate threat to the well-being or property of members of the college community or to the orderly functioning of the college. Students suspended under such conditions will receive a prompt hearing on the charges against them.

- **Off-Campus Misconduct** - In general, the College does not take disciplinary action for off-campus conduct when court action is pending or has taken place. However, the College reserves the right to take action in such instances when the misconduct constitutes a violation of the College community. In such cases, the College may initiate action whether or not legal action has been taken.
- **Discipline Committee** - The college works with the discipline committee to afford fair and reasonable consideration to every student who is accused of violating one or more of the regulations of the college. A student so charged has the following rights:
 1. The student shall be notified at least three days in advance of the time and the date of the hearing, the place of the hearing, the charges to be brought against the student, the right to have witnesses on his/her behalf at the hearing, and the students' right to appeal
 2. Each individual appearing at the hearing will be asked to sign a statement attesting the truth of his/her statement
 3. The charges shall be read to the committee
 4. The student will be asked to plead "complaint" or "non-complaint" to the breaches of conduct
 5. The evidence against the student shall be presented to the committee
 6. The student shall be allowed to present his/her evidence to the committee
 7. The decision of the committee shall be transmitted to the student in writing
 8. The decision of the committee may be appealed to the committee appointed by the President of SMCC.
- **Cafeteria**
 - Cafeteria Hours:

Breakfast	7:00 am – 8:30 am
Lunch	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Dinner	4:45 pm – 6:00 pm
 - Grill Hours: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm
 - Reminder: Cafeteria is closed during school holidays.
- **Tobacco Policy**
 - In order to promote a healthy environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors, Southwest Mississippi Community College is tobacco-free, effective July 1, 2014. The use of tobacco and smoking products such as vape or juul is prohibited on any SMCC-owned property, including, but not limited to, buildings, dormitories, grounds, parking lots, sidewalks, recreational/sporting facilities and college-owned vehicles. If a student is found in violation of this policy, he or she will be fined, \$25.00 first offense, \$50.00 second offense, \$100.00 third offense, and referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
- **Campus Police**
 - To Protect and to Serve the Campus Police Department is a team of professionals working to provide a safe and secure environment in which the educational mission of the College can be fully realized. The officers and staff are service oriented and committed to the safety and well-being of those associated with SMCC. They provide crime prevention and control, criminal investigation, traffic and parking supervision, disaster coordination, maintenance of public order, and other related services. The officers of the department are responsible for the enforcement of state and local laws. They also work closely with the Vice President for Student Affairs Office to ensure that the safety policies and procedures are uniformly executed and conveyed in a clear and consistent manner to the college's students, faculty, and staff. The department's ability to function as an independent law enforcement agency enables the staff to respond to situations requiring police assistance while still maintaining the autonomy of the college.
- **Automobile Registration and Parking**
 - Students may bring automobiles on campus, but vehicles must be registered via the SMCC website. Students parking in any zone other than that assigned will be ticketed. Parking lots are provided for students. The charge for parking violations will double if fee is not paid within ten days after receiving a ticket.
 - Traffic laws are enforced to protect all community members. Each motorist is encouraged to practice caution, common sense, and courtesy.
 - The campus has three types of parking restrictions; these are regulated by zone parking.
 1. Residence hall students will park in D zones.
 2. Commuter students will park in C zones.
 3. Faculty and staff will park in F zones.

- **Student ID**
 - Each registered SMCC student will be issued an identification card (ID) the week prior to school starting. This card will serve as an admission ticket to all school sponsored activities and as a meal ticket for residence hall students. If the card is lost, contact the Business Office. A fee will be charged for the replacement in the amount of \$15. ID cards are non-transferable among students. The ID card may be revoked or a fine issued for the ID card being used in an unauthorized manner. All students are required to wear their ID card in a visible place on the front of their person at all times on campus.

- **Residence Hall Life**
 - Students planning to live in the residence halls at SMCC must abide by the following rules and regulations as well as other handbook rules. Any violation may result in a fine. For a second violation, the fine may double. The Vice President for Student Affairs reserves the right to assign other penalties in place of fine if the student agrees with the penalty. Students who choose not to abide by SMCC residence hall policies may be barred from student housing.
 1. **Care of Property**
 - a. No furniture is to be moved unless authorized by Head Resident. All furniture must remain inside the residence hall room.
 - b. Occupants of each room will be held responsible for any damage to the residence hall or residence hall furniture. Damaged furniture will be replaced and full price must be paid by students for new furniture. In those residence halls which have suites, the common areas are a responsibility of all students assigned to that suite.
 - c. Any needed repairs or replacements should be reported immediately. RESIDENCE HALL ROOMS FOR STUDENTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES Residence Hall Life RULES AND REGULATIONS 34
 - d. Unnecessary signs, pictures, or objects cannot be placed on the doors, windows, or walls. Obscene or vulgar pictures are prohibited.
 - e. Do not paint any part of the residence hall or its contents. Do not drive nails or tacks in the wall or furniture.
 - f. Bicycles, motorcycles, weights, water guns, water balloons, fireworks, roller blades, skate boards, paint balls, and raw eggs are not allowed in the residence hall.
 - g. Students must lock doors and windows when leaving their room.
 - h. Do not remove caps or floor gliders from beds. Do not place trash of any kind in bed frame below caps.
 - i. Smoking, vaping and juuling are prohibited in residence hall rooms.
 - j. Playing football, baseball, etc. in or near the residence hall is prohibited.

 2. **Quiet Hours**
 - a. 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. is study period.
 - b. Resident students that are on campus must be indoors by 11:00pm.
 - c. Any residence hall student returning after 1:00 a.m. is in violation of campus curfew and will receive a \$25.00 fine.
 - d. Loud noises, loud radio, and music from instruments will not be tolerated. There is a county ordinance against loud noises.
 - e. Fireworks are prohibited on campus. Fireworks are illegal in Pike County. Persons who bring fireworks on campus may be dismissed from the residence hall. Persons who explode fireworks on campus may be fined and prosecuted.

 3. **Food**
 - a. Students are not allowed to take food from the cafeteria without permission from Head resident or cafeteria manager.
 - b. Perishable food must be disposed of immediately.
 - c. No cooking will be allowed in the residence hall.
 - d. Glass drink bottles are not allowed in the residence hall.

4. **Cleanliness**
 - a. Excessive trash and neglect will not be tolerated. Trash must be disposed of properly and in a timely manner. Littering on campus constitutes a \$50.00 fine.
 - b. Clothes should be properly stored in closets, drawers, etc.
 - c. Regular room checks will be conducted. If the head resident issues a second notice of unclean conditions to occupants of a room, they will be fined. Fines will increase if unclean conditions continue. The student(s) may be barred from campus housing.
 - d. A list of items not to be disposed of will be distributed to students upon time of residency. The disposal of items that clog the sink and other bathroom fixtures will result in a fine of up to \$100 in addition to costs incurred by maintenance.

5. **Proper Dress**
 - a. Short shorts, halters, bare midriffs, or sagging jeans are not approved for school wear.
 - b. SMCC dress standards require that students dress appropriately, modestly, and in good taste.
 - c. Shoes must be worn in all buildings.
 - d. No vulgar slogans or profanity may be worn on clothing.

6. **Moral Obligation**
 - a. Cursing and vile language will not be tolerated; fines of \$25.00 per word will be assessed for profanity.
 - b. The college reserves the right to dismiss any student for drinking on or off campus. Any student who brings alcoholic beverages on the campus, or has alcohol in his/her room, or enters the campus while under the influence of alcohol may be dismissed from the residence hall.
 - c. The college reserves the right to suspend or expel any student for fighting, stealing, destroying property, cheating on examinations, plagiarism in any form, or causing a disturbance.
 - d. The college reserves the right to dismiss any student from the residence hall and/or from the college for having or using illegal drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, LSD, et, as well as vapes or juuls
 - e. Tampering with fire or smoke alarms is prohibited. Penalty for such offense may be a fine of up to \$200 or dismissal from the residence hall.
 - f. All students shall conduct themselves both on and off campus in such a manner as to reflect positively on the college.
 - g. Public display of affection is not in keeping with SMCC standards.

7. **Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles**
 - a. Observe the noise ordinance when driving on campus.
 - b. Observe speed and parking regulations on campus. You may lose campus vehicle privileges if you do not abide by campus parking and traffic regulations.
 - c. All vehicles on campus must be registered through the SMCC website.
 - d. All motor vehicles on campus must be equipped with a muffler sufficient to prevent disturbing noises. Special attachments to increase noise will not be permitted.
 - e. Loud music containing vulgar lyrics is prohibited.
 - f. Vehicles must not have vulgar or distasteful bumper stickers or any other offensive items attached to them.

8. **Firearms**

No firearms will be permitted on the campus (State law forbids firearms on campus). Firearms found on campus will be confiscated and the student may be dismissed from the college. Possession of a weapon on campus is a felony. Other guns such as BB guns, air soft guns, and paint ball guns are prohibited. Bows and cross bows are also prohibited.

9. **Visitors in Residence Halls and On Campus**
 - a. No male visitors are allowed to visit the women's residence hall lobby outside of visiting hours any day. Visiting hours will be posted in the dormitory.

- b. Until further notice, no visitors are allowed in the residence halls. Until this is lifted, there is a \$25.00 fee for visitors.
- c. Female students are not allowed to visit the men's residence hall. Students are not allowed to visit or have visitors in a residence hall room of the opposite sex. The first offense for this violation is a fine of \$200.00. A second offense, the said student(s) are subject to being removed from the residence hall or suspended from the college. Female students may not be in the courtyard between the male residence hall, the concrete sidewalk leading up to the exterior room door, stairwells, in the parking areas immediately adjacent to the men's residence hall, or in the grass areas leading up to the residence hall. If loitering in these areas females may incur a \$25 fine per incident. If a student incurs more than two fines, then fines will double.
- d. Students should never carry on conversations from the residence hall windows.
- e. Loitering in front of or around residence halls and in the street is prohibited.
- f. There will be no overnight guests until further notice.
- g. The residence halls are closed during specific holidays designated each year. During the time the residence halls are closed, a student found in the residence hall will be fined \$50.00. This fine will double if not paid within 2 weeks.
- h. Children younger than ninth grade are not allowed in classrooms, in residence hall, or in the grill. Ninth graders through twelfth graders are allowed to visit by permission only. During athletic events or special school activities, younger students accompanied by parents are welcome.

10. Children on Campus

- a. Students are not allowed to bring children to campus except for special activities which children are invited to attend, i.e., Halloween, Christmas activities, sporting events, etc. The only exceptions are for children cared for in the SMCC Child Care Technology program and elementary students participating in the tutoring program at the library.
- b. Students are not allowed to bring children to campus during or between the times students are attending classes, using the library, learning lab, other resources, or during work study hours. Other students or non-students may not care for children on campus while parents are in class, using other campus resources, or performing work study.
- c. Under no circumstances are children to be left unattended on campus. When children are attending a special activity designed for attendance by children, parents are responsible for the supervision of their children at all times.
- d. The college assumes no responsibility for the supervision of children. Disciplinary action may be taken against those who do not follow college policy.

11. Residence Hall Curfew

- a. All resident students must be indoors by 11:00pm if you are on campus.
- b. All resident students must be on campus by 1:00 a.m. The regular curfew regulations apply every day of the week and on weekends. If students are found in violation of this policy, the student will be fined \$25.00. Fines will double if not paid in two weeks from date of fine.

12. Pertinent Information

- a. All residents of the residence halls are expected to attend residence hall meetings. Advance notice will be given as to the time and place of the meeting. Students who are ill or unable to attend must notify the Head Resident. Attendance is required for "mandatory" meetings. Students will be assessed a fine of \$25.00 for not attending.
- b. SMCC is not responsible for goods damaged in the residence hall by fire or other means.
- c. Skateboarding or use of any similar device is prohibited on campus at all times.
- d. All residence hall students are required to purchase a meal ticket through the Business Office for each semester of residency. All full-time students are required to have ID cards in their possession. The ID cards of resident students will be validated to be used as their meal ticket.

- e. Only compact refrigerators may be used in the residence halls.
- f. The purpose of the residence halls is to furnish a place for boarding students to sleep and to study. Rules are set up to further that purpose.
- g. The regulations are not and do not attempt to be totally comprehensive. All students are expected to conduct themselves on and off campus in such a manner as to reflect the very highest standards of conduct on themselves and on SMCC. Failure of any student to adhere to SMCC rules or policies will lead to disciplinary action.
- h. All dormitory items must be removed from the residence at the time of the student's official checkout. All students must officially check out and complete a checkout form with the head resident or housing director. At the time of checkout, the head resident or housing director will inspect the room and assess charges to the student's account for items left in the room, cleanliness of the room as well as the overall condition of the room and bathroom(s). Failure to remove items will result in forfeiture and the college assumes no liability in this matter.

13. Closing of Residence Halls During Holidays

- a. Residence halls close during School Holidays
 - i. Labor Day weekend (Friday @ 3:00 – Monday @ 4:00)
 - ii. Fall Break (Friday @ 3:00 pm – Tuesday 4:00 pm)
 - iii. Thanksgiving (Friday @ 3:00 pm – Sunday 4:00 pm)
 - iv. Christmas – Dates to TBD
 - v. MLK (Friday @ 3:00 pm – Monday @ 4:00 pm)
 - vi. Spring Break (Friday @ 3:00 pm – Sunday @4:00 pm)
 - vii. Easter Holiday (Thursday @ 3:00 pm & Monday @ 4:00 pm)
 - viii. End of year -All Students official check out with head resident

14. Student / Athlete Remaining in Dorm During School Holidays-

- a. It is the coaching staff's responsibility to ensure the student/athlete is taken care of. It is also the responsibility of the coaching staff to communicate to the housing director of the specific student/athletes unable to leave campus and the coach responsible for this/these student(s).
- b. **** Remember: NO Cafeteria, NO Housekeeping, NO Maintenance are on campus during School holidays.**
- c. A coach should remain on campus or in local area to ensure the well-being of student/athlete.
- d. Any Student/Athlete that remains on campus when dorms are officially closed are under the same rules and regulations as during normal school.

• Class Schedules / Class Attendance / Add-Drop Class

• **Class Schedule**

Monday – Wednesday – Friday (M-W-F)

M-W-F	1	8:00 am – 8:50 am
M-W-F	2	9:00 am – 9:50 am
M-W-F	3	10:00 am – 10:50 am
M-W-F	4	11:00 am – 11:50 am
M-W-F	5	12:00 pm – 12:50 pm
M-W		12:45 pm – 2:00 pm
M or W	LAB	12:40 pm – 2:30 pm

Tuesday – Thursday (T – R)

T – R	A	8:00 am – 9:15 am
T – R	B	9:25 am – 10:40 am
T – R	C	10:50 am – 12:05 pm
T – R	D	12:45 pm – 2:00 pm
T or R	LAB	12:40 pm – 2:30 pm

- **Class Attendance**
 - A student who enrolls in a class accepts responsibility for attending that class and for completing the work assigned.
 - The college may authorize absences under three circumstances: hospitalization of the student, death in the student's immediate family, or participation by the student in a school-sponsored activity.
 - A student whose absence is authorized by the college will be allowed to make up any work missed during that authorized absence, but only if the student notifies the instructor of the situation on the day of the student's return to class.
 - When a student's total number of absences exceeds the equivalent of two weeks of the scheduled meetings for a class (M/W/F = 6: T/R = 4), that student will be dropped from that class. If this action happens after the deadline for dropping the class without penalty, that student may receive a grade of "F" for that class.
 - Being dropped from a class might reduce a student's status from full-time to part-time and thereby affect, among other things, that student's scholarships, financial aid, athletic eligibility, and eligibility to reside in the dormitories

- **Add-Drop Class**

If a student wishes to drop or add a course, the student should first consult with his/her coach, instructor, advisor, or the appropriate counselor (academic or career-technical) to fully understand the implications of making the desired change of schedule. Factors to consider include how a change in schedule could affect a student's financial aid, residence hall status, athletic eligibility, or fulfillment of graduation requirements. The student should then log on to Access Southwest linked at www.smcc.edu, click Registered Add/Drop Courses, and follow the prompts in order to add or drop a course. A grade of "W" will be recorded as the student's grade for a class dropped after the last day to register or add a course, but before the last day to drop a course without penalty. The grade of "W" is not used in computing grade point averages. No changes of schedule are permitted after the last day to drop a course without penalty. Both the last day to add a course and the last day to drop a course without penalty are listed in the academic calendar at www.smcc.edu. If a student wishes to drop all courses, then the student needs to follow the withdrawal procedure listed below. If a student withdraws from the college prior to the last day to drop a course without penalty as listed in the catalog.

• Southwest Mississippi Community College Sports Medicine

The Southwest Mississippi Community College Sports Medicine provides for the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of athletic injuries and well-being of our student-athletes under the direction of SMCC's team physicians, sports medicine staff, head coaches and resources. In the event of an emergency, the student-athlete should contact a member of the sports medicine staff or report to the SMCC Training Room.

If the situation is perceived to be life threatening, call SMCC Campus Police (601-551-3838/3837), 911, or report to the nearest hospital emergency room and attempt to contact a member of the sports medicine staff as soon as possible.

- **Department insurance coverage information:**
 1. The SMCC Department of Athletics will only be responsible for bills approved by the Office of Sports Medicine or the College's designee(s) prior to the services rendered for any injury. The SMCC's athletics insurance policy is always a secondary carrier after the athlete's primary insurance has been exhausted. The school's secondary insurance will cover what the insurance company deems reasonable and customary. SMCC will pay any balances not paid by the insurance company. Remember only athletic-related injuries and illnesses will be covered. The Student / Athlete's primary health insurance will be billed first and all subsequent cost that are not covered by the primary insurance will be paid by SMCC Athletic Department.
 2. **Bills NOT covered under SMCC Secondary Insurance Program:**
 1. Any injury and/or illness sustained in a activity that is not associated with an intercollegiate practice, competition, or training/conditioning session supervised by a coach, athletic trainer, or a strength & conditioning coach

2. Injuries and/or illnesses that are a result of intramural, club sports, and recreational activities (non-intercollegiate activities) as well as training/conditioning activities that are not supervised by a coach, athletic trainer, or a strength & conditioning coach.
 3. Injuries and/or illness that are recurrences or re-aggravations of old injuries/illness which are sustained prior to participation in SMCC intercollegiate athletics unless cleared by SMCC Sports Medicine Department.
 4. Conditions as a result of non-compliance with school's policies, team rules, or the advice of the team physician, attending physicians, athletic trainers, or coach.
 5. Cosmetic surgery or procedures unless directly related to an athletic related injury.
 6. Any degenerative condition as diagnosed by a physician.
 7. Any general illness (cold, flu infections, etc.).
 8. Unauthorized consultations or treatments.
 9. Any injury that is not reported to the athletic trainers within 7 days of occurrence or onset of symptoms.
 10. Expense for injuries incurred after completion of the student-athletes' intercollegiate athletic eligibility.
- **Please Read Carefully:**
I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the SMCC Athletic Department's Insurance Policy regarding athletic injuries:
 - I am aware that preexisting injuries / condition or aggravation of them through athletic activity are not a covered benefit.
 - I hereby authorize SMCC and the insurance coordinator to secure & inspect copies of case history records, lab reports, diagnosis, x-rays, & any other data pertaining to the injury/illness I am receiving care for or previous confinements of disabilities relevant to the care of the injury/illness.
 - I agree to supply any and all information requested by my primary insurance, the SMCC Department of Athletics their insurance coordinator in a timely manner.
 - I hereby authorize the SMCC Sports Medicine Department and/or my coach to hospitalize & secure treatment for me for any athletic injury/illness.
 - A photocopy of this authorization shall be deemed as effective & valid as the original.
 - Furthermore, I understand that it is the responsibility of the parents/guardians and student-athlete to inform SMCC and its Athletic Training Staff of any & all change in the above health insurance information. In addition, I agree to notify the SMCC Sports Medicine Department immediately upon any change. If I fail to do so, I fully understand that I may be solely responsible for any & all charges incurred for treatment of an injury and/or illness as failure to report the existence of new primary insurance coverage information may result in denial of insurance claims by SMCC.
 - I hereby authorize SMCC to provide and procure necessary information to/from healthcare providers and/or my insurance carrier so that a health insurance claim can be filed on behalf of myself and my eligible dependent son/daughter.
 - I hereby certify that I have read & understand the above statements, that any & all questions have been answered to my satisfaction, & that the answers provided are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.
 - **Athletic Training Room Rules, Regulations and Safety Guidelines**
 1. The normal hours of operation for the Athletic Training room are as follows:
 - Monday –Friday
 - Open 8am-11am
 - Closed for lunch 11-12:30 pm
 - Open 12:30pm-3pm (at this point we will be around campus for practices)
 2. If there are any changes to this schedule the Coaches will be notified ASAP (Schedule may change with Athletic Trainer availability depending on doctor trips and game coverage).
 3. Weekend hours will be scheduled around in season practices and games.
 4. Athletes need to schedule appointments with Athletic Trainers.
 5. Athletes need to keep the appointments they schedule with Athletic Trainers due to limited time and capacity of the ATR. If an athlete cannot make their appointment, the athlete should communicate with their Coach first who can contact the Athletic Training Staff.
 6. All equipment will be cleaned in between individual athlete rehabs/treatment.
 7. Staff will follow OSHA and all State/Health guidelines.
 8. Athletes MUST wear appropriate clothing at all times in the ATR.
 9. No clothing with inappropriate language or signs is permitted in the ATR. Athletes will be asked to leave if wearing any such item.

10. Athletes need to make sure they wear the appropriate clothing that allows them to perform the exercises needed for their specific rehab/treatment.
11. No tobacco of any kind allowed in ATR; this includes Vape.
12. No cell phones during evaluation or rehab exercises.
13. Cell phones can be used during certain modalities but only with headphones.
14. No loud music or videos of any kind.
15. No pictures; flash photography; videoing of any kind; this includes but is not limited to: snapchat, twitter, facetime, etc.
16. No phone calls will be made or received during rehab/treatment. If an athlete needs to make a call they will stop their treatment and exit the ATR.
17. No foul language or inappropriate conversations will be permitted; Please be respectful of other athletes and staff at all times.
18. No shoes or extra personal belongings should be on the tables during rehab/treatment.
19. Items left unclaimed will be discarded.
20. The bathroom in the hallway is the designated bathroom for all athletes who are in the ATR for rehab/treatment.
21. No food or drinks allowed in Athletic Training room; please make arrangements to eat before or after rehab/treatment.
22. Athletes cannot have visitors including team mates while they are in the ATR; this is due to social distancing and limited available space.

- Concussion Protocol

- Concussions and brain trauma can occur as a result of athletic participation, and SMCC Sports Medicine has a management plan in place for student-athletes. If you have any symptoms of a concussion (headache, dizziness, nausea, etc.) report these symptoms immediately to the athletic training staff.
- All student-athletes must complete a baseline Concussion Impact Test prior to beginning any athletic-related activity. This test must be administered prior to an athletic season the student-athlete participates in.

- Physical Examination

- All students participating in a sport program and cheerleaders at SMCC must annually complete a physical examination with SMCC Athletic Training Staff physicians or your personal physician. In addition, all medical history and other forms required by the sports medicine staff must be completed prior to participation in any athletic activity.

- **Southwest Mississippi Community College -
Drug Education and Testing Program for Athletes and Athletic Aids**

SMCC is very interested in the academic performance and athletic development of all young men and women who represent this institution in all arenas. Since our society has many problems associated with certain drug and alcohol use that cause great concern, SMCC is especially interested in our college students' abilities to avoid these problems.

To address such activity, the SMCC Athletic Department shall develop and implement a program of drug and alcohol education for all athletes, managers, trainers and all students working with the athletic program; a testing program to identify those students who are involved with the use of drugs and/or alcohol; and special counseling and assistance to enable the involved student to become and remain drug and alcohol free. Administrative procedures shall be set forth by which the student will become and remain drug and alcohol free in order to continue in the applicable program.

The SMCC Athletic Department administers a program of drug prevention for the purpose of assisting athletes, managers, trainers and all students working with the athletic program (who, for this document, will be termed athletic aides). The objectives of the program are as follows:

1. To provide the student athlete and athletic aides information on the dangers of drug and alcohol use and abuse.
2. To identify those athletes and athletic aides involved in drug and alcohol usage by administering mandatory drug tests at the beginning of the fall semester or prior to their initial season of competition, by administering unannounced random drug tests throughout the year, and by administering drug tests due to an athlete's or athletic aid's association with drug paraphernalia or possession.

3. To maintain confidential records and recommend treatment for those individuals with drug and/or alcohol use problems. According to MACCC rules, a student athlete who tests positive for drugs and is dismissed from the SMCC athletic program may not participate at another member's (MACCC) school athletic programs for a period of two calendar years.
4. To remove from the SMCC athletic programs any athlete or athletic aide who tests positive for the following controlled substances as defined by Section 41-29-101 et. Seq. of the Mississippi Code of 1972 being the Mississippi Uniform Controlled Substances Law, and their derivatives to include: Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Cannabinoids (Marijuana), Cocaine Metabolite (as Benzoyl-Ecgonine) Opiates, Phencyclidine, THC Metabolite and Steroids. To remove from the SMCC athletic programs any student that has a second alcohol violation.

The following procedures shall be used in the operation of the SMCC Drug Education and Screening Program:

1. All athletes, cheerleaders and athletic aides participating in every sport/event will take part in a mandatory drug screening conducted by the SMCC Athletic Department at the start of the fall semester or prior to student's participation in said sport/event for the school year and in random drug tests throughout the school year. All athletes and athletic aides can additionally be required to take a drug test if drug paraphernalia is found in their dorm room, on their body, or in a vehicle of their possession or location.
2. All athletes and athletic aides will be required to sign a consent form for drug screening and room searches giving Southwest Mississippi Community College permission to search their dorm room and test the athlete and athletic aide for drug use. Students less than 18 years of age will be required to have their parents or guardians to sign the consent form before they will have any scholarship awarded and before being allowed to participate in any SMCC athletic activities or live in the dorm.
3. All students will report to the appropriate official any prescribed medication and may have to present a copy of the doctor's prescription and any over-the-counter medication they are taking prior to any drug test.
4. The drug test will monitor for the substances listed in Objective 4 (page1). of SMCC Student Handbook: as defined by Section 41-29-101 et. Seq. Of the Mississippi Code of 1972 being the MS Uniform Controlled Substances Law, and their derivatives to include: Methamphetamine, Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Cannabinoids (Marijuana), Cocaine Metabolite (as Benzoyl Ecgonine) Opiates, Phencyclidine, MDMA (Ecstasy), and THC Metabolite and anabolic steroids.
5. Urinalysis will be used on collected urine samples to determine that a student is drug free. Hair tests or other tests may be used.
6. Steps will be taken to ensure proper collection, identification, and confidentiality when urine samples are collected.
7. Alcoholic drinks will be included as illegal substances. It is against the state law of Mississippi to have alcoholic drinks on a college campus. Use, possession, or being under the influence of alcohol will carry the following penalties: 1st Offense – The athlete or athletic aide will be fined \$75.00 for possession on campus. For any alcohol violation the athlete or athletic aide will be subjected to additional discipline by his/her coaches/director. 2nd Offense – The athlete or athletic aide will be fined \$150.00 for possession on campus. For a second alcohol violation the athlete or athletic aid will be suspended from the athletic team and may have to move out of the residence hall.
8. Drug test results will be made known to the athletic director, VP of Student Affairs, and head coach.
9. In the event of a positive drug screen the student has the option to pay to have the sample sent to a lab (selected by SMCC) for confirmation. The student may consent in writing to have the fee charged to his/her student account. If student does not request the sample to be tested by the lab or refuses to take the drug test, then he/she is found to be in violation of the SMCC Drug Education and Screening Program and will be treated as though he/she is a third positive drug test. The student may not participate in the athletic program until the results from the lab are returned.

The following actions will be taken:

A. First positive drug test – Prior to Season or initial drug screen

1. The student athlete will be required to attend a mandatory meeting with the athletic director, head coach, and parent/guardians within seven (7) days of receiving the positive test results.
 - The student can be drug tested periodically at any time throughout the remainder of the school year.
 - The request to drug test can be made by the parent/guardians, athletic director, or head coach.

2. In the event of a positive drug screen the student has the option to pay to have the sample sent to a lab (selected by SMCC) for confirmation. The student may consent in writing to have the fee charged to his/her student account. If student does not request the sample to be tested by the lab or refuses to take the drug test, then they are found to be in violation of the SMCC Drug Education and Screening Program and will be treated as though they have a first positive drug test. The student may not participate in the athletic/activity program until the results from the lab are returned.

B. A first positive drug test during a random drug screening

1. The student will have a confidential meeting with the Vice-President for Student Affairs, and the head coach/sponsor of the sport/group with which they are associated.
2. The athlete or athletic aide will be required to attend a preapproved (by the SMCC Athletic Department) drug rehabilitation/counseling program with an outside agency at his/her own expense and present acceptable evidence of completion of the rehabilitation program before being reinstated.

C. Second positive drug test

1. The student athlete will be required to attend a mandatory meeting with the athletic director, head coach, and parent/guardians within seven (7) days of receiving the positive test results.
2. A two-week suspension from the team will occur and the student-athlete must sit out 20% of scheduled games (minimum of: 2 football games; 5 basketball games based on 23 game season, 9 baseball games based on 46 game season, 4 soccer games/matches based on 18 games/matches, 9 softball games based on 46 game season.) This excludes scrimmages and jamborees. If the breach in policy occurs during the off-season, the two-week suspension may be enforced during the next season of participation. Suspension begins from the date the college becomes aware of the test results.
3. The athlete or athletic aide will be required to attend a preapproved(by the SMCC Athletic Department) drug rehabilitation/counseling program with an outside agency at his/her own expense and present acceptable evidence of completion of the rehabilitation program before being reinstated.
4. No participating in team activities (ie. practice/games/ travel) during the suspension and the athlete or athletic aide will be mandatorily tested within the next three random drug screenings performed.
5. In the event of a positive drug screen the student has the option to pay to have the sample sent to a lab (selected by SMCC) for confirmation. The student may consent in writing to have the fee charged to his/her student account. If student does not request the sample to be tested by the lab or refuses to take the drug test, then he or she are found to be in violation of the SMCC Drug Education and Screening Program and will be treated as though they have a first positive drug test. The student may not participate in the athletic/activity program until the results from the lab are returned.

D. Third positive drug test

The student athlete is presumed to have made a judgment as to his/her behaviors and lifestyle that is not consistent with the goals of the Southwest Mississippi Community College Athletic Department. Therefore, the athlete will be barred from any athletic team at Southwest Community College.

• FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law enacted in 1974 that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA applies to any public or private elementary, secondary, or post-secondary school. It also applies to any state or local education agency that receives funds under an applicable program of the US Department of Education.

The Act serves two primary purposes:

1. It gives parents or eligible students more control over their educational records, and
2. It prohibits educational institutions from disclosing "personally identifiable information in education records" without the written consent of an eligible student, or if the student is a minor, the student's parents (20 U.S.C.S. § 1232g(b)).

An eligible student is one who has reached age 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level.

• Sports Information / Media

- The Sports Information Office, under the direction of Travis Connelley, is the public relations arm of the athletic program. It is responsible for providing information and statistics about all sports to the electronic and print media. In addition, this office serves the Southwest Mississippi Community College student body, administration, faculty, staff, alumni and the community. In order to perform these duties, the sports information staff must have complete cooperation from all members of the athletic program.
- We ask the media to direct all interview requests through the Sports Information Office (SID). We will contact you and work around your academic, athletic, and social schedules. You'll be asked to come to the sports information office at an agreed-upon time to be interviewed in person or to conduct a phone interview. In addition, following the conclusion of games, coaches and athletes are expected to make themselves available for interviews within a reasonable period of time. These post-game interviews occur in either a one-on-one interview with a reporter or a live interview on radio. Photographers / Videographers must contact SMCC Sports Information Office for permission to take photos and/or video before each game or match.
- Athletes
 - Please advise the SID staff or your coach of any outside attempts by the media to contact you
 - Please cooperate with the SID within a timely manner. Most things are time sensitive
 - Please do not respond to any journalist regarding matters of internal affairs, coaches, sports teams, administration teammates or other teams in a negative way
- When doing interviews:
 - Be smart and think before you speak.
 - Respect your opponents, teammates, coaches and university.
 - Be positive.
 - Be humble.
 - Don't make predictions.
 - Smile and have fun.
 - Look presentable (appearance can say more than words), so take off your hat, spit out your gum, and get rid of gaudy jewelry.
 - It's easy to talk to the media after good times, but your true character comes out after tough times and adversity (so be accountable and available).
 - You don't have to answer every question or do every interview, but be polite when declining.
 - Anticipate tough questions and prepare answers beforehand.
 - Have message points you'd like to make.
 - Turn a negative question into a positive answer.
 - Don't go "off the record" or say "No comment."
 - Don't use slang.
 - Remember, you can't control the questions, but you CAN control the answers

• Social Media Policy

INTRODUCTION

In the ever-popular world of Social Media, one can quickly forget just how powerful this communication tool can be and the significant impact it can have on an individual, friend, family, teammates, etc. This is also the most popular way for employers to do a "quick check" on prospects. Do not give them a reason to not hire you.

Social media refers to the use of web-based and mobile technologies to turn communication into interactive dialogue. Examples of Social Media include, but are not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, Snapchat, Instagram, TikTok and many more as technology advances.

As a student-athlete participating in NJCAA intercollegiate athletics at SMCC, you are a representative of the College and are ALWAYS in the public eye whether you think so or not. As a student-athlete, you are held to a higher standard than other students on campus, as such, please allow your coaching staff to follow all social media platforms that you operate

– we are here to help make your presence a GREAT ONE! Please keep in mind the following guidelines below as you participate on the various social media sites.

GUIDELINES

SMCC Athletics recognizes the athletes' right to actively participate in Social Media. However, it maintains and will enforce the following expectations or guidelines of team members:

- Players will not post sexist, racist, obscene or profane material of any kind.
- Players will not use social media to degrade, demean, or attack any person or school.
- Players will not post material relating to acts in violation of any Federal or State laws, SMCC policies, or team guidelines.
- Players will not post material which reflects negatively on themselves, teammates, Southwest Mississippi Community College and its Athletic Department, the respective teams or other schools.

SANCTIONS

- Severe punishments can be handed down for a quick "Tweet" or "Facebook" post. Timelines are flooded with negativity, don't let that be yours.
- Teams at all levels have had seasons completely cancelled because of Social Media mishaps. Don't be the one person that costs your teammates their season because you went overboard on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Myspace, LinkedIn, Snapchat, Instagram, Periscope, Yik Yak, WhatsApp, Tiger Text, and many more as technology advances.
- Any activity or language in violation of the above prohibitions, including first time offenses, is subject to investigation and possible sanctions by SMCC officials as well as civil authorities. Sanctions imposed by the Athletics Department may include, but are not limited to, the following (in no particular order):

1. Notification from the Head Coach, to the student-athlete, outlining the policy and requiring that the unacceptable content be removed or the social network be deactivated.
2. Suspensions from the team and all team-related activities. Based on your situation, you can be temporarily suspended for a determined length of time or indefinitely.
3. Immediate loss, or non-renewal, of athletics grant-in-aid (loss of athletics scholarship).
4. Student-athletes may face review by President, VP of Student Affairs, Athletic Director and Head Coach

POSTING GUIDELINES

- **THINK FIRST** – before you post anything (text, photo, video, audio), be aware that once you post, it is available and viewable to anyone, anywhere in the WORLD. The moment you put it in cyber space, it is out of your control – even if you limit access to your site! Is your post something you'd want your mother, father, grandparents to see or broadcast on ESPN (it's public, they can use it)!
- **FREEDOM OF SPEECH** – be sure not to have a false sense of security about your rights to freedom of speech. Understand that freedom of speech is NOT unlimited. The online social network sites are not a place where you can say whatever you want without repercussions.
- **STRIVE FOR ACCURACY** – get your facts straight before posting them on Social Media sites. Don't start rumors or start anything you are not 100% sure of. Review all of your content for GRAMMATICAL and SPELLING purposes. Don't make yourself sound uneducated.
- **BE AWARE OF LIABILITY** – at all times, you are responsible for what you post on your own site AND the site of others. You CAN be held liable for anything deemed to be copyright infringement, defamatory, proprietary, libel or obscene (as defined by the courts). Be sure what you post TODAY does not come back to haunt you TOMORROW.
- **PHOTOS AND VIDEO** – again you are responsible for ANYTHING you post INCLUDING pictures and video. Do NOT post pictures and video of anyone other than yourself unless you get their permission. Photos and videos of drinking activities or other inappropriate photos and video will not be tolerated.
- **BE YOURSELF** – never pretend to be someone else. Tracking tools make it possible for those to find out who posted what comments anonymously. Even if you delete a post or comment, it can still be found

within the hard drives of a computer and / or website.

- **CORRECT MISTAKES** – if you make a mistake when posting, admit it. Be upfront and be quick with your Correction and don't wait three days to correct something. Also, monitor your teammates. If you see a post that's borderline, encourage them to delete it.
- **SOCIAL MEDIA REALTIVE TO RECRUITING** – once a prospective student-athlete (recruit) signs a National Letter of Intent to attend Southwest Mississippi Community College, team members and staff may include that player in social media posts. If a prospective student-athlete has NOT signed a NLI – all players and staff are PROHIBITED from posting, liking, sharing, or tagging that player in any social media activity. If you have a pre-existing relationship with the recruit, you are able to share experiences with them on social media, HOWEVER the athletics program requires permission from the Head Coach before posting – as no mention of the recruitment process for the recruit may be mentioned.

• **SMCC Policy on Student-Athlete Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)**

Purpose

On April 16, 2021, the governor of Mississippi signed Senate Bill 2313 (i.e., the "Mississippi Intercollegiate Athletics Compensation Act") into law permitting student-athletes enrolled in a "postsecondary educational institution" in Mississippi to be paid for the use of their names, images, and likenesses, to hire representatives to represent student-athletes' interests, and declaring that a student-athlete may not be compelled to forfeit his/her rights in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

An initiative to allow an intercollegiate athlete the opportunity to benefit from the use of their NIL.

Examples of how intercollegiate athletes could use their NIL (not an exhaustive list):

Promote their own business

- Promote a corporate entity (e.g., brand ambassador, social media influencer)
- Establish their own camp/clinic
- Make an appearance at any location and receive compensation
- Sign autographs and receive compensation

Intercollegiate Athlete's Compensation Guideline:

An intercollegiate athlete at a postsecondary education institution may earn compensation for the use of their NIL provided:

- The compensation is not provided in exchange of athletics performance.
- The compensation (or prospective compensation) is not provided as an incentive to attend SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI CC
- The compensation is commensurate with market value.
- The compensation is not provided by SMCC, an entity whose purpose includes supporting or benefitting SMCC or its intercollegiate athletics program, or an officer, director, employee or agent of SMCC.

Compensation earned by the intercollegiate athlete in a manner consistent with the guidelines outlined herein will not affect the intercollegiate athlete's grant-in-aid or athletics eligibility. The grant-in-aid (including cost of) that is awarded to an intercollegiate athlete by a postsecondary education institution shall not be considered compensation and shall not be revoked or reduced as a result of an intercollegiate athlete's earnings through a permissible NIL agreement.

Institutional Responsibilities

Student-athletes will have the freedom to earn compensation for their name, image, and likeness subject only to certain limitations contain in statute and this policy.

- SMCC may prohibit an intercollegiate athlete from using their NIL for compensation if such opportunity conflicts with an existing institutional sponsorship agreement or contract or goes against the values of SMCC
- An institutional staff member of a postsecondary education institution shall not be involved in arranging compensation for an intercollegiate athlete or providing compensation themselves.
- Athletics boosters are prohibited from creating or facilitating NIL compensation opportunities for prospective student-athletes as a recruiting inducement or current student-athlete as an inducement to remain enrolled at her respective postsecondary institution.

Use of Institutional Marks

An intercollegiate athlete shall not use SMCC's facilities, uniforms, registered trademarks, products protected by copyright or official logos, marks, and colors without the express written permission of SMCC Athletic Department.

Additional General Guidelines

A contract for compensation for the use of the NIL of an intercollegiate athlete under eighteen years of age shall be executed on the intercollegiate athlete's behalf by their parent or legal guardian.

The student athlete's obligations to SMCC and the team supersede any NIL obligations to which a student athlete may commit.

An intercollegiate athlete must disclose any agreements made for the use of an intercollegiate athlete's NIL to SMCC.

Any compensation earned by an intercollegiate athlete shall not be for an endorsement of tobacco, alcohol, illegal substances or activities, banned athletic substances, or any form of gambling.

SMCC's athletics program shall have the discretion to determine what constitutes an endorsement of a prohibited area in these categories. The duration of a contract for representation of an intercollegiate athlete or compensation for the use of an intercollegiate athlete's NIL shall not extend beyond their participation in an athletics program at SMCC.

Reporting Requirements:

All student-athletes at SMCC are to report all agreements and contracts to SMCC athletics by filling out the Name, Image, and Likeness Form and submitting to Athletic Director's Office.

• Strength & Conditioning Center Policies and Procedures

• Mission Statement:

The mission of the Southwest Mississippi Community College Strength and Conditioning staff is to provide a physically and mentally challenging training environment each and every day. SMCC's strength and conditioning facilities are meant to provide the student athletes with the proper equipment, environment, and instruction facilitated by a skilled and knowledgeable staff. The Strength and Conditioning staff is available to provide education, teach proper technique, design individualized sport specific programs, and motivate each student athlete to reach his or her potential.

• Hours of Operation

- Operational times will be determined by Strength coaches depending upon season and needs of athletes

• Dress

- Tennis shoes must be worn and tied
- Shirt
- Shorts, Tights (Full or Half Length), or Sweat pants must be worn
- Some teams require entire team dress the same
- NO OTHER JUCO team logos are to be worn in the weight room at any time

• Scheduling

- Any sport team planning to use the indoor field turf must schedule through the strength and conditioning staff.
- All strength training days and times are scheduled with the strength and conditioning staff.

- Each sport team is expected to attend their scheduled strength training session.
- All scheduled teams will have priority of weight room space and equipment along with the field turf.

- **Audio**
 - Strength and Conditioning Staff controls the music selection and volume of the Weight Room and Field Turf area.
 - All music played will be the clean/edited version

- **Weight Room Office**
 - Student-Athletes are not permitted in the weight room office.

- **Safety Policies**
 - All barbell exercises performed have a safety clip fastened around the bar.
 - Barbell squatting and pressing movements are performed with a spotter present.
 - All Barbells, Dumbbells, Plates, Bumpers, Kettlebells, clips, etc. are returned to their specific storage space immediately after use.
 - Thumbs are wrapped around the bar or dumbbell during use.

- **Injuries**
 - Student-Athletes must report all injuries to SMCC Athletic Medicine staff immediately.
 - Student-Athletes should report all injuries to Strength and Conditioning staff prior to attending their scheduled strength training session

- **Etiquette**
 - Organize all racks and DB areas accordingly
 - Organize all equipment back to proper storage area
 - Strength and Conditioning Staff control Air (heating and cooling)
 - No Outside Food or Drink
 - No Horseplay
 - No Spitting
 - No Sitting or lying down unless exercise requires you to do so
 - Throw away all trash and water cups
 - No Vulgarity

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• **SMCC Athletic Forms**

- SMCC Sports Medicine Student-Athlete Physical Examination Packet:

- SMCC Student Athlete Questionnaire: