

Blue Mountain Community College



Timberwolves

Student-Athlete Handbook

Mission

The mission of the Blue Mountain Community College Athletic Department is to create and provide an environment where each student-athlete may have the opportunity to have a positive and successful experience.

Through the Blue Mountain coaches and athletic director, student-athletes will be part of a program that:

1. Stresses academic, personal, and athletic excellence.
2. Strengthens success-producing traits such as dedication, discipline, focus, integrity, communication, organization and leadership.
3. Emphasizes the value of teamwork.
4. Creates a positive lasting memory for each athlete of Blue Mountain Community College.

Philosophy

The Blue Mountain Community College athletic program is an integral part of the college's comprehensive educational plan. The program is designed to provide a positive influence in developing the student-athlete's mind, body and character. Students participating in athletic activities at Blue Mountain Community College are required to be full-time students and are expected to make satisfactory progress toward completion of their educational goals.

Introduction

The purpose of this handbook is to set out the goals and objectives, regulations, policies and procedures of the Blue Mountain Community College Athletic Department. It is intended to assure a systematic and efficient organization and operation.

Blue Mountain Community College and its athletic department require all student-athletes to demonstrate good moral conduct and ethical judgment which reflects favorably upon themselves, the college, the Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC), and the Blue Mountain community at large. Student-athletes are subject to the policies and procedures as set out in the student-athlete handbook, as well as federal, state and local laws.

It is important to note that due to the high visibility and increasing public scrutiny of all athletic programs, student-athletes are expected to meet higher standards of personal conduct and appearance.

Administration

Blue Mountain Community College is a member of NWAC. The administration of the intercollegiate athletic activities of member schools is coordinated through the conference athletic commission, which is composed of two representatives from each member school.

Expectations of Student-Athletes

BMCC student-athletes have a responsibility to be students first, with the primary goal of earning a degree.

Understand that personal accountability is the foundation not only of each individual's successful academic and athletic experience, but their personal life as well. All student-athletes must be mindful that at all times they represent Blue Mountain Community College and its athletic department, as well as their individual teams. Upperclassmen have the responsibility to serve as exemplary role models for new student-athletes.

Each student-athlete shall:

- ✦ Be officially enrolled in a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours during each quarter of participation at BMCC.
- ✦ Maintain a minimum 2.00 grade point average (GPA). (See Basic Eligibility Criteria Rule)
- ✦ Meet all academic responsibilities including attending class regularly, turning in assignments, interacting appropriately with faculty, meeting with college and faculty advisors and making a commitment to academic integrity.
- ✦ Attend all practice sessions. Coaches must be notified prior to practice if a player is unable to attend.
- ✦ Participate in all fund raising events.

Athletic Eligibility

A student-athlete will be eligible to represent Blue Mountain Community College provided he or she meets the provisions as set out in the official Code Book of NWAC. The main provisions are outlined below, however, this list is not all-inclusive and student-athletes are encouraged to discuss questions about eligibility with their respective coaches. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to know and understand the basic rules that govern athletic eligibility.

✦ Basic Eligibility Criteria

The student-athlete:

- Shall be a high school graduate, or the class year of which they were a member shall have graduated.
- Shall be registered within 20 days from the beginning of the quarter in which the student-athlete wishes to participate.
- Shall not have participated in any one sport for more than two (2) seasons at any post-secondary educational institution.
- Shall be officially enrolled in a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours or the equivalent during their last quarter or semester of enrollment at any post-secondary institution, except that this provision shall not apply to the initial quarter of entry into post-secondary education.

✦ Second Year Participation

- To qualify for eligibility to participate in a second season of any sport, a student must have earned a minimum of thirty-six (36) quarter credit hours or the equivalent, starting with and including the first quarter of participation. In addition, the second year athlete must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 during any quarter of participation. The 2.00 GPA must be for all college credits beginning with the first quarter of enrollment in the first year of participation.

✦ Summer School

- By attendance at summer school, a student-athlete can regain qualification for meeting the provisions for the 12 credits previous quarter, the 36 credit-second year participation and also the 2.00 GPA eligibility requirements. Any number of summer school credits can be earned at any accredited institution and can be added to complete the second year 36 quarter credit rule or added to the previous quarter to fulfill the completion of the 12 quarter credit hour previous quarter rule.
- Summer school credits can also be used to increase the GPA to a 2.00 accumulative. However, the grade point for all summer school quarter credit hours attempted must be calculated in to the cumulative grade point average.

Athletic Scholarships

Awarding of these scholarships will be left to the discretion of the Athletic Director and is subject to the approval of the Associate VP of Student Affairs. Awardees must be seeking a BMCC degree or certificate, be attending full-time, and complete 12 credits with a 2.0 GPA each term to continue receiving the next term's tuition scholarship.

Athletic Emergency Information

The following forms must be on file in the athletic office at the beginning of each sports season, or at any other time during the academic year as required by NWAC regulations:

- Current complete physical examination
- Student-athlete Accident Insurance Coverage information
- Student-athlete class schedule and address information
- NWAC Athletic Questionnaire/Recruiting Disclaimer

Athletic Insurance

Blue Mountain Community College does not provide health insurance to participate in college sports, nor does it otherwise provide benefits or compensation for injury, disability, or death, arising out of college sports activities. I agree to acquire and maintain a policy of health insurance that will provide insurance benefits in the event of injuries received while involved in college sports.

The student athlete must understand that maintaining the said policy of health insurance throughout the entire time of participation in the college sports is a condition of being able to participate. If the student's insurance lapses for any reason, the student will be suspended from all college sports activities.

The student athlete must agree that prior to participating in college sports, he/she will produce proof satisfactory to Blue Mountain Community College that he/she has such coverage, and further agree that Blue Mountain Community College may at any time thereafter ask him/her to produce proof that insurance is continuing. Upon request, he/she will immediately provide such proof.

Physical Examinations

In accordance with the official Code Book of NWAC, after July 1 and prior to the first practice of each year of participation in any sport, a student-athlete shall undergo a medical examination and be approved for intercollegiate athletic competition. The results of this physical are reported on a form specified by NWAC and provided by the Blue Mountain Community College athletics department. It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that the completed form is on file with the athletic department. No athlete may participate in practice until the physical examination has been completed and is on file with the BMCC athletic department. The Physical Examination shall be valid for twenty-four (24) consecutive months to the date unless otherwise limited by the physician indicating the physical is only good for less than twenty-four (24) consecutive months.

Financial Aid

Athletic Scholarships: In addition to federal financial aid, student-athletes may be eligible for athletic scholarships and student work-study employment. The responsibility for awarding athletic financial assistance rests with the head coach of each sport. To receive athletic aid and remain eligible for it, the student-athlete must be registered as a full-time student (12 credit hours), maintain a 2.0 GPA and meet the academic standards as set by Blue Mountain Community College. The maximum amount that can be awarded shall not be more than the maximum allowed by NWAC.

The acceptance of any financial aid, directly or indirectly, except as outlined in the official Code Book of NWAC, can adversely affect a student-athlete's eligibility.

Student-athletes must maintain a 2.00 GPA each term to be eligible for athletic scholarships and financial aid. If the cumulative GPA drops below 2.00 in any quarter, the student-athlete will be placed on probationary status for the next quarter. Athletic scholarships will not be provided during the probationary quarter. Continuation of financial aid and athletic scholarships will be contingent upon the student-athlete meeting the 2.00 cumulative GPA requirements by the end of the probationary quarter.

Athletic Employment: Student-athletes may be awarded athletic employment according to the availability of funds. The maximum grant is two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) per year. The maximum average number of hours that a student-athlete can work during a week is nineteen (19).

All student-athlete employment is to be performed on campus as assigned and supervised by college employees. There will be no work performed on non-school days unless there is a college-sponsored event.

Code of Conduct – Athletes:

All team members of Blue Mountain Community College intercollegiate sports programs shall adhere to the following rules and standards of conduct:

- **Drug and Alcohol Use:** It is the policy of Blue Mountain Community College to prohibit the unlawful use, sale, dispensing, transfer or possession of controlled substances, alcoholic beverages or drugs not medically authorized. The use or possession of drugs, alcoholic beverages by any participant (student, coach, faculty, staff or official) during any NWAC or member college practice, game or athletic activity is prohibited and will result in the participant being removed from that activity. Any athlete involved in the use of drugs or alcohol may face suspension or dismissal from the team and/or Blue Mountain Community College, as well as legal action. All student athletes are subject to the laws of the City of Pendleton, as well as state and federal law.
- **Tobacco Use:** NWAC Code Book, Section 15: The use or possession of any form of tobacco by any participant (student, coach, faculty, staff, or official) during any NWAC or member college practice, game or athletic activity is prohibited and will result in the participant being removed from that activity.

As a student athlete you are a highly visible representative of the college. It is very important that you act in a manner that will not embarrass either yourself or the college. Therefore, in addition to any Blue Mountain Community College sanctions that may be imposed for misconduct, student athletes may be considered for suspension from participation in intercollegiate athletics for any of the following:

- Violation of NWAC or BMCC rules.
 - Arrest for any crime other than a minor traffic offense.
 - Possession of any illegal drug, including possession or consumption of alcohol.
 - Unauthorized possession of any steroid.
 - Fighting with, threatening the safety of, or harassing any individual.
 - Destruction of BMCC property.
 - Unauthorized entry into any BMCC building.
 - Any conduct that reflects unfavorably upon BMCC or its athletic department.
 - Social Networking
- **Suspension:** The suspension imposed may range anywhere from one day to one or more games or to removal from the team depending on the severity of the misconduct and the surrounding circumstances. Head coaches will be responsible for imposing disciplinary actions. If appropriate actions are not taken, the Athletic Director will impose disciplinary actions. The suspension imposed may also be indefinite pending the outcome of an investigation, hearing, or other future event. The cancellation or non-renewal of an athlete's grant-in-aid for any act of misconduct will be done in accordance with NWAC and BMCC regulations.
 - **Disciplinary Appeals:** Should a student athlete believe that he or she may have a grievance subject to appeal, that student athlete may file a written appeal with the Athletic Director describing the specifics of the grievance. The Athletic Director will then hold a meeting with the student athlete and the head coach.

Team Conduct During Travel

Student-athletes are expected to adhere to the following travel rules:

- Instructors must be informed twelve (12) days prior to the trip and all efforts must be made to assure assignments are complete.
- Be on time at scheduled departure times and location.
- To travel to and from a school authorized event in school authorized transportation unless released by the head coach.
- Be prompt for all meetings.
- All members are to eat at the designated time and place unless otherwise excused by the coach.
- Curfew regulations are to be strictly adhered to as directed by the coach.
- To conduct themselves in an appropriate manner as an official representative of Blue Mountain Community College.

Summary

The information contained in this handbook is not intended to be all-inclusive. Each Blue Mountain Community College student-athlete is encouraged to speak with his or her coach whenever any problem, concern or questions arises regarding their academic or athletic experiences at BMCC.

Amateurism

Have you ever participated or tried out for a professional team? Yes No

Have you ever played with, received payment or signed a contract to play for a professional team? Yes No

If "YES", list the sport, organization and date signed _____
Sport Organization Date

STUDENT-ATHLETE VERIFICATION STATEMENT

Student-Athlete Handbook

I certify that I have read the Blue Mountain Timberwolves Student-Athlete Handbook. I understand all of the rules and regulations of the college and the Athletic Department listed in the Student-Athlete Handbook. I will contact the Athletic Department if I do not understand any of the elements of the document.

By signing below I certify that I will adhere to all of the rules and regulations listed in BMCC's Athletics Student-Athlete Handbook.

Print Student-Athlete Name

If under the age of 18, signature of parent or legal guardian

Student-Athlete Signature

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL FORMS TO THE
HEAD COACH AT FIRST
TEAM MEETING IN THE FALL

