



**Department of Athletics
Grand Valley State University**

GVSU Intercollegiate Athletics Drug & Alcohol Policy

CATEGORY	COMPLIANCE
APPLIES TO	ICA STUDENT ATHLETES
EFFECTIVE DATE	JULY, 1996
REVISED DATE	JUNE 23, 2025
REVIEWED DATE	JUNE 23, 2025
APPROVED BY	ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

It is a privilege to participate in athletic activities at the intercollegiate level. It is believed and hoped that the implementation of a drug education & testing program will serve to benefit all connected with intercollegiate athletics at Grand Valley State University (GVSU). Further, it is hoped that through this program and policy participants in intercollegiate athletics will be better students and athletes and will be better able to make individual, informed, and intelligent decisions with reference to substance use, both now and in the future.

Student-athletes are affected by their use of drugs and alcohol in a variety of ways. Individuals who use drugs or alcohol may suffer from short or long-term medical, social, and behavioral problems. In addition to affecting the health and safety of the student-athlete, substance abuse and misuse exacts a tremendous cost in interference with performance.

GVSU is committed to the prevention of drug and alcohol misuse and abuse. The GVSU Athletics Department has formed a partnership with the on-campus Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Services Office who will provide an annual educational opportunity, mandatory for all student-athletes and coaches.

GVSU conducts a drug-testing program to ensure the health and safety of the student-athletes involved in the intercollegiate athletics program. No one participant should have an artificially induced advantage or be pressured to use drugs in order to remain competitive. Additionally, protecting the integrity of the student-athlete and GVSU's Intercollegiate Athletics Program is of concern. The potential for high visibility of those who participate in intercollegiate athletics makes it all the more important for participants to dedicate themselves to the idea of fair and equitable competition.

This policy is the policy of GVSU's Athletics Department. It was designed to work in concert with the drug testing program of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) but is a separate and distinct policy. For ease in administration and to reduce any confusion for student-athletes, GVSU wants to make it clear that it can screen for substances that are banned by the NCAA. GVSU's intercollegiate athletes must also comply with the drug use restrictions and testing requirements set forth by the NCAA. All student-athletes

will be given documents that explain the NCAA policy on drug testing and intercollegiate competition eligibility. In addition, references to these regulations will be found in this document where applicable, but the GVSU Intercollegiate Athletics Drug & Alcohol Policy is separate and independent from that of the NCAA. For the most up-to-date information on banned substances refer to the link provided:

<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2016/7/20/ncaa-drug-testing-program.aspx>

Also, information on medications and supplements can be found by going to <https://www.drugfreesport.com/> and following these directions: At top right of webpage click on "AXIS Login" to create an account or sign into an existing account. Under organization select NCAA Division II, Password: ncaa2, you can select "Prescription/Over-the-Counter Medication Database" or "Dietary Supplement Inquiry". Any documented responses from Drug Free Sport should be provided to and discussed with the athletic training staff.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Many nutritional/dietary supplements contain NCAA banned substances. In addition, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not strictly regulate the supplement industry; therefore, purity and safety of nutritional/dietary supplements cannot be guaranteed. GVSU Athletics does not endorse the use of any supplements for this reason.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

COMPETITION YEAR: A competition year shall be defined as the months of August – July; including post-season play, and spring/summer training, when applicable.

ELIGIBILITY: This policy is in effect upon initial participation in Grand Valley State University intercollegiate programs and ends when the student-athlete's eligibility ends by NCAA rule or a student-athlete ceases to be a member of an intercollegiate athletics team at GVSU.

POSITIVE DRUG TEST: For purposes of this program, a positive drug test result shall mean a test result, which indicates the presence of one, or more banned substance as defined by the NCAA. Of note, THC has been removed from the NCAA banned substance, per the consensus opinion that cannabis is not a performance-enhancing drug, however, GVSU student-athletes may still be tested for the presence of THC through suspicion-based testing as part of the institutional drug testing program.

BANNED SUBSTANCE: There is not a complete or exhaustive list of all banned substances. Any substance chemically/pharmacologically related to these classes also is banned. The school and the student-athlete shall be held accountable for all drugs within the banned-drug class regardless of whether they have been specifically identified. Examples of substances under each class can be found at [ncaa.org/drugtesting](https://www.ncaa.org/drugtesting). There is no complete list of banned substances.

SECTION 3: EDUCATION

Grand Valley State University (GVSU) strives to offer members of the University community the same rights as those afforded to members of the larger community. All members of the University community are

responsible for making decisions about their behavior within the context of university policies and local, state, and federal law.

The GVSU Department of Athletics is committed to the well-being of student athletes. To further support students, Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) education will be provided to students at least once annually to build awareness about making healthy and safe choices regarding alcohol and other drugs. Athletics staff will also participate in AOD education to further support student well-being. Coaches and Administrative staff will engage in this education at least once annually. Education will be provided in collaboration with the Alcohol & Other Drugs Services office.

Students and staff will be made aware of supplemental education provided through the University to further support the mission of educating around alcohol and other drug issues and trends.

SECTION 4: POLICY

DOCUMENTATION

Annual written notification of the *GVSU Intercollegiate Athletics Drug & Alcohol Policy* shall be provided to all student-athletes in athletics at Grand Valley State University. In addition, this document will be made available to student-athletes on the www.gvsulakers.com website during their participation in intercollegiate athletics. *Anytime a change is made in the drug testing policy or procedure, notification will be provided to the student-athlete.*

The student-athlete is required to report and have on file with the Athletic Training Staff any medication(s) being taken while participating in intercollegiate athletics. This includes the regular use of over-the-counter medications and supplements. The student-athlete is responsible for providing documentation to the athletic training staff that supports use of the banned medication. This documentation will be kept as part of the student-athlete's medical record on campus. The documentation can be a letter or copies of medical notes from the prescribing physician that documents how the diagnosis was reached, and that the student-athlete has a medical history demonstrating the need for treatment with the banned medication. The letter should contain information as to the diagnosis (including appropriate verification of the diagnosis), medical history and dosage information. The NCAA requires that schools submit pre-approval and continued use medical exceptions requests through the NCAA Requests/Self-Reports Online (RSRO) system. Any student athlete that has been prescribed a stimulant used to treat ADHD, beta blockers or beta-2 agonists, diuretics and/or narcotics, will need to request medical exception following a positive drug test.

The NCAA recognizes that some banned substances are used for legitimate medical purposes. Accordingly, the NCAA allows exception to be made for those student-athletes with a demonstrated medical need to use certain banned substances. Medical exceptions may be granted for substances in the following banned drug classes: anabolic agents*, stimulants, beta blockers, diuretics and masking agents, hormone and metabolic modulators*, beta-2 agonists, peptide hormones*, growth factors or related substances and mimetics*, and narcotics.

****Note: The NCAA must approve the medically excepted use of an anabolic agent, hormone and metabolic modulator, peptide hormone, growth factors, related substances and mimetics before the student-athlete is allowed to participate in competition while using the banned substance.***

TESTING POLICY

Designated individuals within the GVSU Athletics Department will collect fluid samples. The specific gravity of the sample will be checked and found to be in an acceptable range for testing prior to shipping. The samples will then be shipped to an accredited laboratory, which will conduct the actual testing. The testing laboratory will have a state license and be certified by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) or the College of American Pathologists Forensic Urine Drug Testing Accreditation Program (CAP/FUDT) and will possess a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act license. Every participant in CARA activities on an intercollegiate athletics team sponsored by GVSU shall be subject to random testing while enrolled in and participating as a student-athlete at GVSU. The number of student-athletes to be tested at any one time will be determined by the Director of Athletics or their designee.

- The fact that drug testing will occur will be announced in advance to all student-athletes, although the exact date, time, place, and who will be tested may not be announced until immediately prior to the drug test.
- To assure objectivity, the student-athletes will be selected by a randomized selection process.
- The Head Coach will have the responsibility of informing their student-athletes of their selection for drug testing.
- The Head Athletic Trainer or designee will be present at the time of the collection of the specimen to ensure the integrity of the testing procedure.

In the event a urine sample provided is too dilute, the student athlete will be required to remain at the collection site until an adequate sample is provided. Should the student-athlete need to leave to attend class prior to providing an adequate sample a return time to continue sample collection will be provided and that individual will be held out of all team activity until an adequate sample has been produced.

PARTICIPATION IN DRUG TESTING

Refusal of the student-athlete to consent to this program or to submit to drug testing shall render the student-athlete ineligible to participate in intercollegiate athletic activities. Refusal to participate may cancel the student-athlete's athletic grant-in-aid.

In the event a student-athlete misses the announced testing date/time, the student-athlete shall be immediately ineligible from further participation in intercollegiate athletic activities.

In the event the NCAA selects a student-athlete to submit to drug testing, the student-athlete must comply or be subject to a loss of eligibility and suspension pursuant to NCAA Bylaws.

INDIVIDUALIZED SUSPICION

If the Director of Athletics, Athletics Department Staff and/or a member of the coaching staff, have a well-founded base for an individualized suspicion of the use of a substance that is either detrimental to the student-athlete's health or provides a competitive advantage, the Department of Athletics may require such student-athlete to submit to drug testing pursuant to this program. Individualized suspicion must be a reasonable, good faith belief and documented in writing to the Director of Athletics by the person making the claim. Institutional testing of this nature re-centers student-athlete health by helping to identify problematic use, specific substance use disorders and the use of substances to manage underlying mental health disorders.

To assist in identifying a student-athlete who may be experiencing problematic use here is a list of signs and behavior changes to be aware of:

- **Signs of intoxication:**
 - Smell of alcohol on the breath
 - Smell of cannabis
 - Glassy eyes
 - Dilated or pinned pupils
 - Slurred speech
 - Unsteady gait
 - Difficulty maintaining balance
 - Signs of agitation
 - Agitation
 - Drowsiness
- **Behavior signs/changes:**
 - Drop in attendance and performance in school
 - Engaging in secretive or suspicious behaviors
 - Sudden changes in friend group
 - Decrease engagement in hobbies or activities the student used to enjoy
 - Arguments and or disconnection from relationships
 - Agitation or easily angered
 - Sudden changes in mood

Many of these signs and symptoms can also indicate other concerns, like a decrease in mental health or physical health, however, these are standard warning signs that indicate substance use and dependence.

RESPONSIBILITY OF ATHLETICS STAFF

Per the NCAA, a member institution's athletics department staff member or others employed by the intercollegiate athletics program who have knowledge of a student- athletes use at any time of a substance within the banned-substances classes, as set forth in Bylaw 31 (Divisions II and III), shall follow institutional procedures dealing with substance misuse or shall be subject to disciplinary or corrective action as set forth in Bylaw 19. For GVSU Athletics our institutional procedure begins with a referral to the AOD office for a screening.

SECTION 5: MEDICINAL MARIHUANA

With the advent of the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act of 2018, which decriminalizes marihuana use or possession, the importance of examining the implications for college campuses and for our student-athletes is clear. Regardless of the passing of this law, the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires campuses to follow federal guidelines, meaning that marijuana use, and possession remains illegal on the college campus. Failure to comply with DFSCA regulations can result in a loss of federal funding, so enforcement of federal laws is essential.

SECTION 6: SELF-REPORTING SUBSTANCE DRUG USE AND ABUSE

A student-athlete may self-report improper use and abuse of a substance to the Athletics Department in an effort to seek assistance and intervention. Self-reporting does not automatically result in a safe harbor. Student-athletes may utilize resources on campus such as the Alcohol & Other Drugs Services Office or the University Counseling Center without a direct referral from the Athletics Department.

SECTION 7: SAFE HARBOR

To facilitate open dialogue, education, and assistance student-athletes may enter safe-harbor which precludes them from selection for institutional drug testing while they seek out assistance for their substance use. Student-athletes may self-report their concerns regarding use of a substance to an athletics department staff member. Student-athletes must specifically ask to safe harbor and each student-athlete will only be granted the opportunity to safe harbor **once** during their athletic eligibility. The temporary length of safe harbor is an individualized time frame as determined by a counselor within the AOD office and communicated to the designated Associate Athletics Director. It is important to note that student-athletes are not afforded the right to safe harbor from the sanctions of the NCAA Drug Testing Program.

Safe harbor from sanctions requirements:

1. The student-athlete must request assistance with substance use/abuse/misuse and ask to enter safe harbor prior to any of the following:
 - a. Being identified for an institutional urinalysis.
 - b. The occurrence of a misdemeanor alcohol violation (Kent County, Ottawa County, State of Michigan).
 - c. The second offense related to a civil infraction (i.e. MIP).
 - d. The second alcohol or other drug violation of the GVSU Student Code.
2. The student-athlete will be required to have a substance use screening performed by AOD Services at Grand Valley State University. Attendance at this assessment will be shared with the designated Associate Athletics Director through a signed consent.
3. The student-athlete shall be required to complete an education and support effort as determined and coordinated by AOD Services. Such effort may include individual education, cohort participation, counseling and/or referral for treatment as deemed appropriate by the AOD Services. The length of the plan is dependent upon the individual's risk.
4. Failure to participate in the recommendations of AOD services and/or failure to comply the recommendations in the allotted time will result in the student-athlete no longer being afforded safe harbor from future sanctions.

SECTION 8: MEDICAL AMNESTY

Grand Valley State University is committed to the safety and well-being of students and the larger GVSU community. The university strives to provide a community committed to reinforcing safe, smart, and responsible use. To ensure support of students, the university encourages students to utilize medical amnesty in the event of an alcohol or other drug related emergency. Medical Amnesty and Active Bystander support are set to encourage students to seek out assistance and reduce barriers that may discourage students from seeking support. (sourced from the GVSU Alcohol and Other Drug Services website)

Please visit the Alcohol and Other Drugs Services Office website for more information on [medical amnesty at GVSU](#).

SECTION 9: SANCTIONS

All student-athletes whose positive test result is confirmed will be subject to, but not limited to, the following disciplinary actions. It should be noted that the head coach of each program may impose additional sanctions.

POLICY VIOLATION – NCAA BANNED SUBSTANCES

The first time a student-athlete is found to have violated GVSU's Student Code: Statement of Rights and Responsibilities related to drug cultivation, possession or use a policy violation will not be triggered, however the student-athlete will be required to complete the sanctions as outlined by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

A subsequent civil infraction charge, a subsequent GVSU Student Code drug related policy violation, or any drug related misdemeanor (Kent County, Ottawa County, State of Michigan), will trigger a policy violation.

Violations will result in the sanctions listed below for positive drug tests. A coach may impose additional sanctions related to team activities.

FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT

NOTIFICATION

1. The student-athlete will meet with the Director of Athletics, Head Coach, Head Athletic Trainer and designated Associate Athletics Director. The student-athlete may request a copy of the test results at this time.
2. The student-athlete's parent/guardian will also be notified following the initial student-athlete meeting. A conference/video call will be arranged with the parent/guardian, the student-athlete, Director of Athletics, Head Coach, and designated Associate Athletics Director. The student-athlete may appeal notification of parents by submitting reasons in writing to the Director of Athletics.

SANCTIONS PROCESS

1. Every positive drug test will be reported to the GVSU Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) and be adjudicated through the university conduct process. This information will be shared by the designated Associate Athletics Director.
2. The student-athlete will be required to have a screening performed by the AOD Services office at Grand Valley State University. During an AOD screening, the student's needs, level of care, and treatment or educational options will be explored. The student-athlete will be asked to confirm with the designated Associate Athletics Director when they have set up an appointment with AOD Services and attendance at this screening will be shared with the Athletics Department. Recommendations and suggestions provided by AOD Services will be used in determining reinstatement of eligibility for participation in intercollegiate athletics.
3. The student-athlete shall be required to participate in an education and support effort as determined and coordinated by AOD Services. Such effort may include individual education, cohort participation, counseling and/or referral for treatment as deemed appropriate by AOD Services. Costs for outside assessment and/or referral for treatment by a substance abuse professional shall be borne by the student-athlete. In addition, the student-athlete will set up bi-weekly sessions with the designated Associate Athletics Director.
4. Any student-athlete who tests positive for a banned substance may engage in the practice of restorative justice at the discretion of OSCCR. As defined by Howard Zehr *"Restorative justice is a process to involve, to the extent possible, those who have a stake in the specific offense and to collectively identify and address harms, needs, and obligations, in order to heal and put things as right as possible."* Restorative Justice is not punitive, and in this, it allows for people to make mistakes, learn from them, and still feel they are a valuable member of their community. (Sourced from the Office of Conduct and Conflict Resolution website)
5. A student-athlete who has tested positive, completed all interventions through the AOD Services program, and returned to participation may be subjected to subsequent testing as a condition of maintaining their eligibility in GVSU sports.
6. Failure to participate in the interventions will result in additional suspension or dismissal from the intercollegiate athletic program, which carries a loss of athletic related aid.

SECOND POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT

1. **NOTIFICATION AND SANCTIONS** outlined under the **FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT** will be in effect.
2. If the positive drug test occurs during the NCAA championship season, the student-athlete will be immediately suspended for 25% of the maximum allowable contests during the championship season. This does not include exempt competitions but may include post-season competition.
3. The suspension will carry over to the next championship season or sport in the case of a multi-sport athlete, unless the student-athlete accepts responsibility and agrees to participate and complete a restorative process facilitated by OSCCR. The Director of Athletics will determine the implementation of this suspension.

4. If the positive drug test occurs during the non-championship season, the student-athlete will be immediately suspended for 25% of the maximum allowable contests during the subsequent NCAA championship season. (does not include exempt competitions).
5. This suspension may be waived if the student-athlete accepts responsibility and completes a restorative process facilitated by OSCCR. The Director of Athletics will determine the implementation of this suspension.
6. If the student-athlete fulfills the requirements of the restorative process, and no suspension is implemented, any subsequent positive tests will still result in sanctions for a third positive drug test outlined below.

7. **SUSPENSION TABLE**

SPORT	Max Competitions	25%
Baseball	50	13
Basketball	26	7
Cross Country	7	2
Football	11	3
Golf	21	5
Lacrosse	17	4
Soccer	18	5
Softball	56	14
Swim	16	4
Tennis	25	6
Track	18	5
Volleyball	26	7
Wrestling	16	4

8. Return to participation will follow those procedures listed in the **FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT** section.

THIRD POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT

1. **NOTIFICATION AND SANCTIONS** outlined under the **FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT** will be in effect.
2. If the positive drug test occurs during the NCAA championship season, the student-athlete will be immediately suspended for 50% of the maximum allowable contests during the championship season. This does not include exempt competitions but may include post-season competition.
3. The suspension will carry over to the next championship season or sport in the case of a multi-sport athlete, unless the student-athlete accepts responsibility and agrees to participate and complete a restorative process facilitated by OSCCR. The Director of Athletics will determine the implementation of this suspension.

4. If the positive drug test occurs during the non-championship season, the student-athlete will be immediately suspended for 50% of the maximum allowable contests during the subsequent NCAA championship season. (does not include exempt competitions).
5. This suspension may be waived if the student-athlete accepts responsibility and agrees to participate and complete a restorative process facilitated by OSCCR. The Director of Athletics will determine the implementation of this suspension.
6. If the student-athlete fulfills the requirements of the restorative process, and no suspension is implemented, any subsequent positive tests will still result in sanctions for a third positive drug test outlined below.

7. SUSPENSION TABLE

SPORT	Max Competitions	50%
Baseball	50	25
Basketball	26	13
Cross country	7	3
Football	11	5
Golf	21	10
Lacrosse	17	8
Soccer	18	9
Softball	56	28
Swim	16	8
Tennis	25	12
Track	18	9
Volleyball	26	13
Wrestling	16	8

8. If the student-athlete fulfills the requirements of the restorative process, and no suspension is implemented, this positive drug test and any subsequent positive tests will result in sanctions for a fourth positive drug test outlined below.

FOURTH POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT

The student-athlete will be immediately and permanently dismissed from participation in Grand Valley State Athletics and athletic aid will be cancelled.

POLICY VIOLATIONS - TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL (THC)

The first time a student-athlete is found to have violated GVSU's Student Code: Statement of Rights and Responsibilities related to a civil infraction related to the possession, cultivation or underage use of marijuana, a policy violation will not be triggered, however the student-athlete will be required to complete the sanctions as outlined by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

A subsequent civil infraction charge, a subsequent GVSU Student Code drug related policy violation for marijuana, or any marijuana related misdemeanor (Kent County, Ottawa County, State of Michigan), will trigger a policy violation.

Violations will result in the sanctions listed below for positive drug tests. A coach may impose additional sanctions related to team activities.

FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT – THC

Although THC will no longer be tested for as part of the randomized institutional testing, student-athletes may be subject to suspicion-based testing in an effort to identify problematic use. The goal of this testing is to provide resources and support for student-athletes that may struggle with dependence with the goal of helping to decrease the long-term impact from misuse and/or abuse of THC.

NOTIFICATION

1. The student-athlete will meet with the Director of Athletics, Head Coach, Head Athletic Trainer and designated Associate Athletics Director. The student-athlete may request a copy of the test results at this time.
2. The student-athlete's parent/guardian will also be notified following the initial student-athlete meeting. A conference/video call will be arranged with the parent/guardian, the student-athlete, Director of Athletics, Head Coach and the designated Associate Athletics Director. The student-athlete may appeal notification of parents by submitting reasons in writing to the Director of Athletics.

SANCTIONS PROCESS

1. The student-athlete will be required to have a screening performed by the AOD Services office at Grand Valley State University. During an AOD screening, the student's needs, level of care, and treatment or educational options will be explored. The student-athlete will be asked to confirm with the designated Associate Athletics Director when they have set up an appointment with AOD Services. Attendance at this screening will be shared back with the designated Associate Athletics Director. Recommendations and suggestions provided by AOD Services will be used in determining reinstatement of eligibility for participation in intercollegiate athletics.
2. The student-athlete shall be required to participate in an education and support effort as determined and coordinated by AOD Services. Such effort may include individual education, cohort participation, counseling and/or referral for treatment as deemed appropriate by AOD Services. Costs for outside assessment and/or referral for treatment by a substance abuse professional shall be borne by the student-athlete. In addition, the student-athlete will set up bi-weekly sessions with the designated Associate Athletics Director.
3. Any student-athlete who tests positive for a THC may engage in the practice of restorative justice at the discretion of OSCCR. As defined by Howard Zehr "*Restorative justice is a process to involve, to the extent possible, those who have a stake in the specific offense and to collectively identify and address harms, needs, and obligations, in order to heal and put things as right as possible.*" Restorative Justice is not punitive, and in this, it allows for

people to make mistakes, learn from them, and still feel they are a valuable member of their community. *(Sourced from the Office of Conduct and Conflict Resolution website)*

4. A student-athlete who has tested positive for THC, completed all interventions through the AOD Services program, and returned to participation may be subjected to subsequent testing as a condition of maintaining their eligibility in GVSU sports.
5. Failure to participate in the interventions will result in additional suspension or dismissal from the intercollegiate athletic program, which carries a loss of athletic related aid.

SECOND POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT - THC

1. **NOTIFICATION AND SANCTIONS** outlined under the **FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT - THC** will be in effect.
2. In alignment with NCAA Bylaw 18.4.1.4.3.1, a student athlete who tests positive for THC (and only THC) for a second time can avoid loss of participation if they engage in additional educational and support efforts through the AOD office as long as the initial educational and support efforts from their first positive drug test were completed. However, the student-athlete will be withheld from 25% of regular-season contests (see suspension table) if they were not compliant with the original education and support plan.
 - a. The suspension will carry over to the next championship season or sport in the case of a multi-sport athlete. The Director of Athletics will determine the implementation of this suspension.
3. Return to participation will follow those procedures listed in the **FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT - THC** section.

THIRD POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT - THC

1. **NOTIFICATION AND SANCTIONS** outlined under the **FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT - THC** will be in effect.
2. In alignment with NCAA bylaw 18.4.1.4.3.2, a student athlete who tests positive for THC (and only THC) can avoid loss of participation if they engage in additional educational and support efforts through the AOD office as long as the initial educational and support efforts from their first positive drug test were completed. However, the student-athlete will be withheld from 50% of regular-season contests (see suspension table) if they were not compliant with the original education and support plan.
 - a. The suspension will carry over to the next championship season or sport in the case of a multi-sport athlete. The Director of Athletics will determine the implementation of this suspension.
3. Return to participation will follow those procedures listed in the **FIRST POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT - THC** section.

FOURTH POSITIVE DRUG TEST RESULT - THC

The student-athlete will be immediately and permanently dismissed from participation in Grand Valley State Athletics and athletic aid will be cancelled.

NOTE on NCAA Drug Tests:

If the student-athlete tests positive on GVSU drug test and within the same sport season also tests positive for the same NCAA drug, this positive test does not result in an additional positive drug test under the GVSU Drug Testing Policy UNLESS the concentration of the banned substance is higher than the GVSU administered drug test. A positive NCAA drug test for any banned substance will result in a mandatory one-year suspension from the NCAA with a required negative drug test administered by the NCAA at the end of the suspension.

SECTION 10: ALCOHOL POLICY

The misuse and/or abuse of alcohol has been known to be an issue on college campuses. It is the goal of the GVSU Athletics Department that student athletes receive education on alcohol related issues such as legality, effects of use on performance, and characteristics of alcohol misuse and/or abuse. Issues related to the effects of alcohol in social and relationship settings will be conveyed as well.

POLICY VIOLATION

The first time a student-athlete is found to have violated GVSU's Student Code: Statement of Rights and Responsibilities related to alcohol, as well as if they are charged with a civil infraction related to underage use of alcohol, a policy violation will not be triggered, however the student-athlete will be required to complete the sanctions as outlined by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

A subsequent civil infraction charge, a subsequent GVSU Student Code alcohol/drug related policy violation, or any alcohol related misdemeanor (Kent County, Ottawa County, State of Michigan), will trigger a policy violation.

Violations will result in the sanctions listed above for a first positive THC drug test. A coach may impose additional sanctions related to team activities.

SECTION 11: APPEAL PROCESS

Student-athletes who are found to be in violation of this policy and/or are suspended from participation or dismissed from intercollegiate athletics may appeal that decision to the Drug & Alcohol Policy Violation Review Board (DAPVRB).

- The student-athlete must submit written documentation to the Athletic Director stating the specific grounds for the appeal within three days of notification of a positive drug test.
- If the Athletic Director approves the grounds for the appeal, they will schedule the DAPVRB to convene within 7 business days.

- The Athletic Director will distribute copies of the appeal, evidence, or position paper to the members of the DAPVRB at least 48-hours prior to the DAPVRB meeting. Grounds for appeal may include the following:
- 1. Validity of Test Results**
 - Upon notification of the positive test, the student-athlete, who disputes the test result may request the sample provided.
 - If the student-athlete wishes to choose another laboratory for re-testing, permission to do so must be gained from the Director of Athletics prior to the sample being tested. Such approval by the Director of Athletics shall be contingent upon said laboratory meeting the same accredited standards as described under the “TESTING” section above.
 - 2. Procedural Questions**
 - If the University fails to abide by the procedures set forth in this document, a student-athlete may appeal the sanctions.
 - 3. Availability of New Evidence**
 - If the student-athlete can provide evidence as to the legitimate use of a banned substance or additional evidence that would affect the alcohol related misdemeanor charge, he or she may appeal the sanctions.

SECTION 12: DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY VIOLATION REVIEW BOARD (DAPVRB)

The DAPVRB shall be comprised of three GVSU employees. The NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative, a staff member from OSCCR or AOD Services, and a third at-large member from the GVSU campus community.

The selection of individuals to serve on the DAPVRB list will be based upon their familiarity with intercollegiate athletics and/or expertise in drug/alcohol abuse issues.

Prior to appearing before the DAPVRB, the student-athlete will be given the opportunity to present to the Board a position paper for the Board’s review. At the hearing, both parties will have an opportunity to present their position to the Board members. A decision by the DAPVRB shall be presented to the Athletic Department and the student-athlete not more than two) business days following the student athlete’s appearance before them.

The decisions made by the DAVPRB are final. At the discretion of the DAPVRB, the student-athlete may be reinstated for participation. This decision may involve further drug testing. There will be no other means of appeal.

SECTION 13: PROCEDURE

DOCUMENTATION

Annually, prior to participation in intercollegiate athletics, each student-athlete will:

1. Be given the opportunity to review a copy of the policy and procedures for the GVSU Intercollegiate Athletics Drug & Alcohol Policy. *See the policy on Written Notification of the Drug Testing and Education Program for details.*
2. Have the Drug Testing Program explained by the designated Associate Athletics Director (Compliance and/or Student-Athlete Engagement & Development). Questions about the program shall be encouraged.
3. Sign the Grand Valley State University Drug Testing Consent Form for collecting and testing of fluid specimen and authorizing limited release of information. This consent form is not a substitute for the NCAA Drug Testing Consent Form.

TESTING PROCEDURE

Selection of the student-athletes who will be tested will be conducted in the following manner:

1. The Director of Athletics or their designee will determine the actual dates and times for testing the student-athletes.
2. A testing roster is obtained from a random list generator with representatives from each individual team being tested. Each team will have a percentage of their student-athletes tested.
3. The Director of Athletics or their designee will notify the Head Coach via email of all student-athletes selected for testing. The Head Coach will be provided with the student-athlete's name, date, time, and location of the test.
4. The Head Coach will notify the student-athlete in writing via email or text message that they have been selected for participation in the Grand Valley State University drug testing process. The Head Coach will inform the student-athlete of the date, time, and location of the testing. The Head Coach will also inform the drug testing designee an accurate contact phone number for the student-athletes selected for testing.
5. The student-athlete will:
 - A. Confirm in writing with their respective head coach understanding of the testing notification.
 - B. Report to the testing site at a designated time with photo ID.
 - C. Complete the drug testing form at the time of testing.
 - D. Select a sealed collection container, provide a specimen, and securely seal.
6. The Athletic Training Staff will:
 - A. Confirm the attendance of all student-athletes selected for testing. If a student-athlete is not present, a member of the athletic training staff will attempt to contact the student-athlete with the contact number provided by the head coach.

B. Ensure the validity of the sample at the time it is provided.

C. Ensure the specific gravity of the specimen is within an acceptable range to be tested. If not within the valid range of specific gravity, the student-athlete will remain at the testing site until an adequate sample is provided.

D. Seal the container for delivery to the lab under the supervision of the student-athlete.

E. Ensure the secure delivery of the samples to the airfreight carrier for transport to the Certified Testing Lab.

7. The Testing Lab will process the samples and provide written notification of results to the Director of Athletics and/or Associate Athletics Director/Medical Services.
8. The Director of Athletics and/or the Head Athletic Trainer will review the results of the drug testing.
9. Those student-athletes who test positive will be notified of their results.

REPORTING OF RESULTS/CONFIDENTIALITY

The laboratory shall promptly report all test results to the Head Athletic Trainer, who shall review such results.

In the event of a positive drug test result, the Director of Athletics or designee shall notify the student-athlete and explain to them the test results. The student-athlete will be given the opportunity to retest immediately (see APPEAL PROCESS).

The accuracy and confidentiality of the test results shall be maintained among the testing laboratory, the Director of Athletics, Designated Associate Athletics Directors, the Head Athletic Trainer, the head coach and student-athlete.

In certain circumstances, and with the knowledge and consent of the student athlete, the results of drug testing conducted pursuant to this policy may also be communicated to the following University personnel in addition to the Director of Athletics, Head Athletic Trainer, designated Associate Athletics Director, and head coach: the Team Physician, representatives of AOD Services, University Counseling Center (UCC), Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution (OSSCR), Associate AD – Compliance, Associate AD – Athletics Healthcare, Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), Laker Academic Success Center (LASC) Director, Director of Student-Athlete Experience, members of the Drug and Alcohol Policy Violation Review Board, (DAPVRB), any designee of the foregoing and, if required by NCAA Bylaws, to the NCAA.

The staff of the Athletic Department is committed to providing the best possible experience for all student-athletes. It is in this spirit that we have instituted this policy. If you have any questions about this policy or about references made in this policy, you should feel free to contact the Director of Athletics, the Associate Athletic Director for Medical Services, the Associate Athletic Director for SAW-D, or your head coach to discuss your questions.