INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the coaches, trainers and staff of the Lawrence Technological University Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness, we welcome each student-athlete to the University and the athletics program. We hope that all Lawrence Tech student-athletes take advantage of the tremendous opportunities at the University for Academic Growth, athletic success, and personal development.

We suggest that you take a few moments to become familiar with the information contained within this student-athlete handbook. It has been designed to assist incoming student-athletes with their transition to the University and serve as a resource for returning student-athletes. This handbook is intended to assist each student-athlete in understanding the rules and regulations of Lawrence Tech’s Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness, as well as those of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). However, this handbook is not intended as a substitute for other University publications, such as the University Student Handbook, University web site, etc. A wide variety of services are available to you and we encourage you to take advantage of them while receiving your education.

We are proud to have you as a member of the Lawrence Tech Athletics Program. We feel a great sense of responsibility to provide you with the best environment we possibly can, to enable you to reach your full potential as a student and an athlete. We plan to do our very best to assist you in achieving success.

Go Blue Devils,

Scott A. Trudeau

Director of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness
**LAWRENCE TECH’S MISSION STATEMENT**

To develop leaders through innovative and agile programs embracing theory and practice.

**ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT’S STATEMENT AND BELIEFS**

In supporting the accomplishment of fulfilling the University's mission—intercollegiate athletics is committed to recruiting scholar-athletes and providing opportunities for them to grow in scholarship as critical thinkers, leaders and lifelong learners and learn the University’s vision, values and core values.

Beliefs:

1. We will provide professionally accomplished leadership and service oriented staff and coaches committed to recruiting and retaining scholar-athletes and developing a representative athletic program. We will provide opportunities for them to mature in scholarship, leadership, and personal and team accountability.
2. Understanding that a successful intercollegiate program can provide positive and widespread recognition for the University, as well as for faculty, staff, alumni, and the community. Our coaches, staff, and scholar-athletes will embody the champions of character core values - namely integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, and servant leadership.
3. Intercollegiate athletics provide experiences not found in other segments of the educational program and are a valid part of education as it contributes to building leaders.
4. By strictly following the Student Code of Conduct, including dress and grooming standards established by our coaches and staff, our scholar-athletes will be a model and an example.

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Lawrence Tech’s Athletic Department requires all associated within the department, including student-athletes, to abide by all rules and standards of the University, NAIA, or other associations or agencies to which the University adheres and to assist others in fulfilling their commitment to do the same. Failure to do so may result in suspension, dismissal from the team, and/or
loss of athletic scholarships, in addition to any additional University or legal sanctions where applicable.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of Lawrence Tech to provide equal opportunity for men and women who participate in athletics. Lawrence Tech reaffirms its commitment to comply with applicable federal laws as they relate to athletic programs, including Title IX.

**MEMBERSHIP**

**National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)**

Lawrence Tech is a member of the NAIA (NAIA Bylaws, Article I), which permits our athletes to be nationally ranked and assists our coaches in scheduling and recruiting.

Lawrence Tech’s Athletic Department, including all staff, coaches, and athletes are governed by ALL rules established and set forth by the University & the NAIA. The NAIA certifies and determines the eligibility of all our student-athletes.

**ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Directory</th>
<th>Extension</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scott Trudeau-Athletic Director</td>
<td>3852</td>
<td><a href="mailto:strudeau@ltu.edu">strudeau@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Gillette- Assistant Athletic Director</td>
<td>3854</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgillette@ltu.edu">dgillette@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carla Klobuchar- Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>3857</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cklobucha@ltu.edu">cklobucha@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Nichols-Sports Information Director</td>
<td>3867</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jnicols@ltu.edu">jnicols@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Rost- Faculty Athletics Representative</td>
<td>2862</td>
<td><a href="mailto:srost@ltu.edu">srost@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mario Scibilia- Athletic Degree and Audit Specialist</td>
<td>3186</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mscibilia@ltu.edu">mscibilia@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Assistants</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Herrick- Athletics and Recreation</td>
<td>3863</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aherrick@ltu.edu">aherrick@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Athletic Trainers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Marloes Blokdijk</td>
<td>3864</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mblokdijk@ltu.edu">mblokdijk@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayna Celcev</td>
<td>3886</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dcelcev@ltu.edu">dcelcev@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Cutajar</td>
<td>3864</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tcutajar@ltu.edu">tcutajar@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Strength &amp; Conditioning</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Rao</td>
<td>3863</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lrao@ltu.edu">lrao@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Men's Basketball</th>
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<tr>
<td>Josh Pickens</td>
<td>3859</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jpickens@ltu.edu">jpickens@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Women's Basketball</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kylene Spiegel</td>
<td>3883</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kspiegel@ltu.edu">kspiegel@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stan Eldridge</td>
<td>7925</td>
<td><a href="mailto:seldridge@ltu.edu">seldridge@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Men's Bowling</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Putti</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jputti@ltu.edu">jputti@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Wemyss</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:kwemyss@ltu.edu">kwemyss@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Men's Cross Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eric Green</td>
<td>3884</td>
<td><a href="mailto:egreen@ltu.edu">egreen@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Baracco</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:abaracco@ltu.edu">abaracco@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Duvendeck</td>
<td>7928</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jduvendec@ltu.edu">jduvendec@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh De St. Aubin</td>
<td>7930</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jdestaubi@ltu.edu">jdestaubi@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Beckham</td>
<td>7929</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kbeckham@ltu.edu">kbeckham@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan McKeown</td>
<td>7931</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dmckeown@ltu.edu">dmckeown@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Josh Heiple</td>
<td>3888</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jheiple@ltu.edu">jheiple@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ken Gaffney</td>
<td>3853</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kgaffney@ltu.edu">kgaffney@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Nemzek</td>
<td>3882</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pnemzak@ltu.edu">pnemzak@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<th>Women's Lacrosse</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ann Meltzer</td>
<td>3885</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmeltzer@ltu.edu">mmeltzer@ltu.edu</a></td>
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<th>Men's Soccer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will Dyer</td>
<td>3856</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wdyer@ltu.edu">wdyer@ltu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Soccer</td>
<td>Andy Richards</td>
<td>3866</td>
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<td>Softball</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Karen Baird</td>
<td>7926</td>
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<td>Tennis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Steve Behmlander</td>
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<td>Volleyball</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ed Ruhl</td>
<td>3855</td>
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### IMPORTANT CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Achievement Center</th>
<th>Gladys Aviles</th>
<th>4123</th>
<th>C201B, Taubman Student Services Center (TSSC)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Athletic and Degree Audit Specialist</td>
<td>Mario Scibilia</td>
<td>3186</td>
<td>TSSC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookstore</td>
<td></td>
<td>3030</td>
<td>Buell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean of Students</td>
<td>Kevin Finn</td>
<td>4100</td>
<td>C405 TSSC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intramural and Recreational Sports</td>
<td>Don Gillette</td>
<td>3854</td>
<td>Ridler Field House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Dining</td>
<td>Nancy Thomas</td>
<td>3203</td>
<td>Atrium, Buell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Kim Osantowski</td>
<td>7013</td>
<td>North Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar</td>
<td>Noreen Ferguson</td>
<td>2281</td>
<td>C304 TSSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Counseling Services</td>
<td>Dr. Jeff Betman</td>
<td>4100</td>
<td>C405 TSSC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>Susan Poli-Smith</td>
<td>2126</td>
<td>TSSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Accounts</td>
<td>One Stop Center</td>
<td>2280</td>
<td>One Stop Center TSSC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Gary Cocozzoli</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>1st Floor Buell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Safety</td>
<td>Steve Bogdalem</td>
<td>3945</td>
<td>General Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Facilities</td>
<td>Carey Valentine</td>
<td>3800</td>
<td>Business Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tech Transit</td>
<td>Eric Green</td>
<td>3884</td>
<td>General Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Engagement</td>
<td>Eula Muckelroy</td>
<td>4106</td>
<td>C 405 TSSC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Life</td>
<td>Jamie Vassel</td>
<td>4104</td>
<td>C 405 TSSC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACADEMICS

The Athletic Department, in cooperation with our Academic Achievement Center, is committed to providing academic support to all Lawrence Tech student-athletes, including counseling, class registration, tutoring, study hall, progress toward graduation, and upholding the academic integrity of Lawrence Tech. Every student at the University will be designated a faculty academic advisor. Each student-athlete is first and foremost a student. As such, you will be required to comply with all the policies, rules and regulations applicable to all members of the Lawrence Tech student body, as well as NAIA academic standards.

Your experience as a student-athlete at Lawrence Tech is of great importance to the coaches, staff, and administration of the Lawrence Tech’s Athletic Department.

Student Athletes who are found in violation of the Academic Honor Code (which can be found in the LTU student handbook) are to be suspended 10% of the team’s competitions.

Any violation in excess of their first can result in removal from the team.

Student-Athlete Academic Success (Tips)

Student-athletes are expected to attend all of their assigned classes daily. The following recommendations are included to help facilitate a great educational experience at Lawrence Tech:

- Introduce yourself to your professors early in the semester
- Notify your professors in advance of classes that will be missed due to competition
- Sit in front, ask questions and show respect. Focus on the lecture, and be an active participant
- Know your professors office hours and meet with them when questions arise
- Be on time or early to every class
- Turn in assignments on time, and do any extra credit that may be offered
- Review notes every night
• If you will miss class due to travel for athletic competition, coordinate with your professors to turn in assignments prior to departure, arrange to take exams early and/or promptly make up all work missed upon return
• Adhere to the University Academic Honor Code.

Attendance Policy

All student-athletes are expected to be on-time and attend every class. Each student-athlete is responsible for notifying their professor in advance for any absence due to athletic competition. It is advised that student-athletes present each of their professors with class dates that will be missed, due to athletic competition, at the start of each semester. Assignments and exams should be completed in a timely manner at the direction of the professor. Lawrence Tech policy allows all absences due to University sponsored activities, which includes athletics, to be an excused absence.

If a student-athlete is found to be missing class, the student-athlete, head coach, and the Athletic Director will meet to determine a necessary course of action. Unexcused absences from class may result in a student-athlete being withheld from athletic participation or dismissal from the athletics program.

Registration

Student-athletes must be enrolled as a full-time student (12 credit hours) at all times in order to be eligible for practice and competition at Lawrence Tech.

Any student-athlete who drops below 12 credit hours becomes immediately ineligible for athletic practice and/or competition. Failure to comply with this 12-hour rule can result in athletic ineligibility, forfeiture of games, and/or loss of athletic scholarship.

We encourage all of our student-athletes to graduate in five (5) years or less and will require you to register for at least 12 hours per semester.

Extracurricular Eligibility

Students who chose to participate in extracurricular activities must be academically eligible to participate. This includes Lawrence Tech's academic eligibility and NAIA academic eligibility. The participation policy reads:

Students, faculty, and others at Lawrence Tech embrace the core values of integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership.
Where internal commitment to these values falters, external discipline is needed to help the individual and preserve the character of the whole. As this regards scholarship, students at Lawrence Tech (including part-time students) whose cumulative GPA falls below the standard required for Good Academic Standing (GPA below a 2.0) will be placed on Academic Probation.

Students who are placed on Academic Probation are declared ineligible for any athletic participation and any extracurricular activities that typically involve time commitments of five or more hours per week. Examples of extracurricular activities falling into this category include, but are not limited to, intercollegiate athletics, clubs, drama productions, student government, pep band, intramural sports and on-campus employment.

**Greek Life**

Student Athletes are prohibited in engaging in joining Greek Life until after their first full season of competition.

If a student athlete participates in their sport over the fall and spring semester, they will be eligible to join a fraternity or sorority at the beginning of their 2nd year.

If a student athlete participates in a sport where their first season is complete at the end of the first semester (i.e. soccer, Women’s volleyball, cross country), they are eligible to join a fraternity or sorority the second semester of their first year.

This policy is effective for all students new to Lawrence Tech. This applies to first year freshman, and first year transfers at Lawrence Tech.

**Drugs and Alcohol**

It is expected that student athletes should not engage in the use of illegal drugs and alcohol. Any student, found in violation of the university’s drug and alcohol policy will be required to sit out one (1) competition on their first offense.

Any student athlete who violates the policy for a second time will be required to sit out at least one (1) game and any other additional discipline handed out by the team’s head coach.

**NAIA Eligibility**
In addition to Lawrence Tech's extracurricular eligibility requirements, students must meet all NAIA academic eligibility requirements.

The NAIA initial freshman eligibility requirements include meeting two out of three of the following:

1. High school GPA of 2.0.
2. ACT test score of 16 and/or SAT (2 part) test score of 940.
3. Complete high school ranking in the top half of their graduating class.

The NAIA eligibility requirements for continued participation include:

1. Completing 24 credits in the previous two full-time semesters.
2. Completing 24 credits for 2nd season of participation, 48 credits for 3rd season of participation, and 72 credits for 4th season of participation.
4. If a freshman, completing nine (9) credits during first semester of attendance.

**Administrative Withdrawal**

The University administration reserves the right to administratively withdraw a student at any time whose conduct or academic standing they regard as unacceptable. Depending on the situation, the student will either 1) receive no grade in all classes and receive a refund on tuition and fees or 2) receive a “W” grade in all classes and no refund on tuition and fees. Fees and tuition will be refunded according to the standard refund schedule.

**Dean's List**

In recognition of students who achieve superior scholastic records, a Dean's List is published at the close of each semester, and an appropriate notation is made on students’ academic records. This includes all students who have carried a minimum of 12 credit hours and have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher. Part-time students must complete two semesters with at least six credit hours each semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher to be included on the Dean’s
List. If students have selected confidentiality status, their names will not appear on published lists.

**Class Standing**

Students with fewer than 30 hours are classified as freshmen. Students with at least 30 hours but less than 60 hours are classified as sophomores. Students with at least 60 hours but less than 90 hours are classified as juniors. Students with 90 hours or more are classified as seniors.

**Grade Point Average**

The grade point average (GPA) is determined by totaling the number of quality points earned (QPE) multiplied by credit hours earned (CHE) in each class, and dividing the number of credit hours attempted (CHA).

\[
\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{Total QPE} \times \text{CHE}}{\text{CHA}}
\]

**Tutoring**

Tutors should be scheduled through the Academic Achievement Center.

Tutoring is a privilege. Please be responsible in your use of tutors. This means:

- Utilize tutors throughout the semester.
- Attempt homework assignments before meeting with the tutor.
- Actively participate in the tutoring session by having a list of appropriate questions ready to ask.
- You are expected to meet with your assigned tutor on a regular basis.
- If you cannot make an appointment, you must notify your tutor at least 24 hours in advance.
- If you have questions or problems, please contact Gladys Aviles at 248.204.4120.

**Expectations of the Student-Athlete**

1. Attend all scheduled classes and tutorial sessions.
2. Arrive on time for tutoring sessions and bring all necessary textbooks, notebooks, writing instruments, assignments and other relevant materials. Print lecture notes, study guides, and practice exams before attending tutoring sessions.
3. Be prepared for all tutoring sessions. This entails, but is not limited to:
   - attending all class meetings and taking notes on all materials presented
• attempting assignments prior to tutorial session
• be prepared with questions for the tutor to address in the tutorial session

**Student-athletes should not be expected to be taught material in tutoring sessions. Tutors are there to provide assistance, not first-time instruction.**

1. Plan in advance for all assignments - Student-Athletes should not expect to receive emergency assistance the night before an exam.
2. Cooperate with tutor(s) by following all recommendations made regarding study methods and practices.

**YOU MUST ALWAYS DO YOUR OWN WORK; TUTORS CANNOT DO IT FOR YOU.**

There are certain things you should never expect your tutor to do:

- **Reading:** you must do your own reading. Even if you are behind in your reading, your tutor will not do it for you, nor will they provide summaries of material.
- **Write Papers:** tutors **cannot** edit papers, i.e. make suggestions for you to improve, and they will never write any portion of your paper for you.
- **Type Papers:** tutors are not responsible for typing your papers. You are responsible for typing your own papers.

**ATHLETIC TRAINING**

Athletes will not be permitted to practice or compete until they have been cleared by a Lawrence Tech provided physician. Documentation of such clearance must be provided to the Athletic Director prior to participation. Athletic training services are provided for all Lawrence Tech student-athletes during their time at Lawrence Tech.

**Reporting Injuries and Illnesses**

1. In order for the Athletic Training staff to provide effective, quality care to the student-athletes at Lawrence Tech, it is important that the student-
athletes report all illnesses and injuries, including those injuries that are not sport-related, to the Athletic Training staff as soon as possible.

2. It should be made clear to all concerned that this choice is the option of the student-athlete involved and that no penalty, stated or implied, should deter the student-athlete from exercising this option. Coaches shall neither require nor permit a sick or injured athlete to practice or participate in a game or practice without the approval of the Athletic Training staff or their primary care physician (PCP).

3. Coaches should encourage student-athletes to report new injuries or illnesses to the Athletic Training staff and Athletic Director as soon as possible, so that the training staff can update coaches on the current injury status of athletes prior to practice and to perform the appropriate rehabilitation.

4. Coaches are required to report any known injury to the Athletic Training staff as soon as possible.

**Health Insurance**

All student-athletes must have their own primary health insurance plan in effect before practicing or competing in any activities with an intercollegiate athletic program. Proof of this insurance must be provided to the University and Athletic Training staff. Insurance coverage must be in force during each day of the athletic season. Any loss of coverage by the student-athlete with his/her primary carrier must be reported immediately to the Athletic Training staff and University. No student-athlete will be permitted to practice or compete without current health insurance coverage. In order to participate in team work-outs throughout the year, medical insurance must be kept throughout the academic school year.

The cost of care related to injuries incurred through the voluntary participation in the intercollegiate athletic program, is borne by the individual athlete through his/her personal health insurance policy.

**Pre-Participation Medical Exams (Physical) and Athlete Forms**

All athletes must complete the Health Questionnaire and Emergency Authorization & Insurance forms, and must receive an annual Physical, after June 1, for the upcoming academic year. Copies of these forms are available on the University website, www.ltu.edu/athletics and follow the link for Athlete Forms. Athletes are personally responsible to bring original documents with
them to campus and submit them to the Athletic Training office prior to participating in intercollegiate athletic practices or games. This information will be kept on file in the Athletic Training office. The Athletic Training staff will provide coaches and athletic administration with a list of student-athletes who have complied with the University's requirements for participation.

Physicians and Referrals

Lawrence Tech works cooperatively with a team of sports medicine doctors and clinics to get timely information regarding student-athlete care. It is within the rights of the student-athlete to seek a primary or secondary opinion outside of the medical referrals which the Athletic Training staff may recommend. It is important that each student-athlete inform the Athletic Training staff where they are going to seek treatment outside of normal staff recommendations. This is important because:

- The Athletic Training staff needs to know which physician has been contacted in order to coordinate the medical care of each student-athlete.
- The Athletic Training staff should be provided with the doctor’s report because the doctor will have the final word on all medical decisions affecting the participation status of the student-athlete.
- All student-athletes who have been under a physician's care must have clearance from the attending physician before being allowed to return to play.

Medical Coverage – Practices & Home Athletic Events

The following are general guidelines as coverage may need to be adjusted as the situation demands.

1. The Athletic Training staff will make every attempt to provide medical coverage for all sports, to the best of their ability, and according to the incidence of injury. The Athletic Training staff must prioritize coverage and care of traditional season practices, home and away events, Athletic Training room coverage, and non-traditional events. In addition, the overlap that occurs between fall/winter sports and between winter/spring sports further challenges the Athletic Training staff's ability to provide onsite coverage at various athletic events/practices. These factors all contribute to the Athletic Training staff's ability to provide coverage for all of Lawrence Tech’s intercollegiate athletic teams.

2. The priority of medical coverage is as follows:
• Traditional season (in season) sports will be given priority in coverage by the Athletic Training staff over non-traditional (out of season) sports.
• Home competitions will be given priority over practices.
• Non-traditional (out of season) sporting competition events may be covered if staffing permits.
• Non-traditional practices will be covered if possible. If coverage is not available, then an athletic trainer will be on call. Being "on call" implies that the training staff will be accessible by phone either in the Athletic Training room or while off duty.

3. It is the responsibility of each head coach at the beginning of each month to provide the athletic staff with a schedule for that month, including; practice times, days off, games (both home and away), travel times, weights, and/or separate conditioning times. The athletic staff needs each sport's schedule in order to provide the best coverage possible for the student-athletes.

4. **It is the responsibility of the head coach to notify the Athletic Training staff immediately if there are any changes to the schedule.**

5. The training office will issue a basic training kit to every Head Coach at the beginning of the season. The medical kit should be brought to practices and **all away games** in the absence of an athletic trainer.

6. The medical kit will include copies of Emergency Authorization & Insurance Forms for each athlete on the team.

7. It is the responsibility of the coaching staff to see that the kit is periodically returned to the Athletic Training room for re-stocking and that non-expendable items are accounted for (tape cutters, scissors, etc.).

8. In the event the kit is lost, stolen, or misplaced, etc., the cost of the replacement kit will be $200 and will be charged to the individual athletic team's budget.

**Nutritional Supplements & Ergogenic Aids**

Improved athletic performance, decreased recovery time, and increased muscle building capacity are all marketed to student-athletes in the form of nutritional dietary supplements. These supplements may promise benefits, however the lack of regulation and safety in the manufacturing of dietary supplements is of great concern. The majority of these products are not
subject to the strict regulations set by the United States Food and Drug Administration. In addition, the ingredients could possibly contain impurities or banned substances which would cause a student-athlete to test positive on a drug test. A positive drug test will not be overturned if a student-athlete claims that they simply did not know the contents of the supplements they were taking. It is your responsibility to know what you are putting in your body.

The use of illegal or banned substances represents a violation of the University’s Student Code of Conduct and the NAIA Champions of Character initiative, and is seen as a serious threat to the core character values. For a detailed listing of banned substances, please reference the Student Code of Conduct and use the following guidelines when evaluating supplements:

1. Any supplement that contains more than 30% of its calories from protein is a banned substance.

Large quantities of amino acids (proteins) affect the absorption of other essential amino acids. This may lead to nausea and impairment of kidney function which will affect the athlete's hydration level.

2. Antioxidants, vitamin E, vitamin C, beta carotene, etc. do not protect athletes from the possibly damaging effects of aerobic exercise. Vitamins and minerals do not provide enhanced performance if no deficiency exists in the first place. Always, eating a balanced diet is best.

3. Sources of potentially damaging substances are not limited to nutritional supplements. For example; stimulants (caffeine) are present in coffee, soda, and "energy drinks". Be aware that these may contribute to a positive drug test.

**Pregnancy Policy for Female Athletes:**

The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) have acknowledged the importance of athletic competition for women and the increased presence of safety for the pregnant athlete. Although there are many benefits to low intensity exercise for the fetus and the athlete, coordinated efforts between the athlete and the medical staff must remain open to communication for an increased protection of the environment associated with high intensity sport participation. Those benefits include: women who exercise during pregnancy have improved cardiovascular function, limited weight gain and fat retention, improved attitude and mental state, easier and less complicated labor, and enhanced postpartum recovery.
There has not been shown to be a greater risk of spontaneous abortion. The fetus benefits from exercise during pregnancy in several ways; including an increased tolerance for the physiologic stresses of late pregnancy, labor and delivery. The baby tends to be more alert, less fussy, and may have increased cognitive function. However, any student-athlete at Lawrence Tech who is pregnant must immediately inform the Athletic Training staff of their condition. NO ATHLETE is allowed to participate within any sport, without seeking permission from the Lawrence Tech Athletic Training staff and their OBGYN.

**NAIA RULES & REGULATIONS**

Annually, the Athletic Director and his staff will review appropriate NAIA rules and regulations with each team. Each student-athlete is responsible for having a basic understanding of NAIA rules in such areas as eligibility, playing and practice season, semesters of attendance, amateurism, financial aid and other areas outlined in this handbook. Each student-athlete will be reviewed annually by the **Faculty Athletic Representative** (FAR) to determine eligibility for the upcoming season of participation. The University will certify that the student-athlete meets all academic and athletic eligibility requirements of the University and the NAIA in order to practice and/or compete.

A basic knowledge of NAIA and University rules is a necessity to prevent unwanted rules violations that can affect your eligibility to compete. If you are aware of an NAIA or University violation, you are required under the Student Code of Conduct and the NAIA Champions of Character program to report such information to the University immediately. You may inform your Head Coach, the Athletic Director, or the Dean of Students.

**Ten Semester Rule / Seasons of Competition**

Student-athletes may compete for a total of four (4) seasons in one sport. The NAIA defines a season of competition as participation in one or more intercollegiate contests, whether as a freshman, junior varsity or varsity participant, or in any other athletic competition in which the University, as such is represented during a sport season. You must complete your four seasons of eligibility within your first ten (10) semesters of full-time enrollment. If you have not participated in any competition(s) for the current academic year, you will not be charged a season of competition; however, if you are enrolled as a full-time student, each semester will count toward your ten (10) semesters of full-time enrollment.

**Medical Hardships**
A student-athlete may be eligible for a medical hardship waiver if the following conditions are met:

- A student-athlete sustains and incapacitating injury or illness during one of the four seasons of competition.
- The injury or illness occurs prior to the maximum number of games participated in and allowed by the NAIA per the specific sport. (Ex: Basketball - 5 games, Football - 2 games, Baseball - 8 games).
- All applicable information appears on completed certificate for NAIA review.

The Medical Hardship waiver must be filed and granted by the NAIA. Supporting medical documentation from the examining physician will be required to validate the incapacitating nature of the injury. A Medical Hardship grants an additional season of competition to the student-athlete that must be used within the student-athlete's ten (10) semesters of full-time attendance.

If a student-athlete believes a Medical Hardship Waiver should be granted, the student-athlete should inform their coaching staff and/or the athletic administration as the first available opportunity. Each student-athlete who files a Medical Hardship Waiver should retain a copy in their possession signed by the University Athletic Director.

**Academic Eligibility Requirements**

The NAIA and Lawrence Tech require student-athletes to meet certain academic requirements each semester and academic year, to ensure that they are progressing toward a degree. Academic eligibility requirements are based on the number of terms of full-time enrollment, number of credits completed, and grade point average at Lawrence Tech.

**Freshman:** You must, if an entering freshman, meet two of the three entry level requirements:

a. Achieve a minimum score of 18 on the ACT or 860 on the SAT. Tests must be taken on a national testing date (residual tests are not acceptable). Scores must be achieved on a single test.

b. Achieve a minimum overall high school grade point average of 2.000 on a 4.000 scale.

c. Graduate in the top half of your high school graduating class.
**Sophomore:** To participate in your second season of competition, you must have accumulated at least 24 semester credit hours and have a previous semester and cumulative grade point average of at least a 1.8.

**Junior:** To participate in your third season of competition, you must have accumulated at least 48 semester credit hours and have a previous semester and cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0.

**Senior:** To participate in your fourth season of competition, you must have accumulated at least 72 semester credit hours and have a previous semester and cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0.

The GPA requirement must be maintained each and every semester and will be certified before each semester. If a student-athlete does not meet the GPA requirement at the conclusion of the fall semester, he/she will be ineligible to compete in the spring semester, and subsequent semesters until GPA requirements are met.

Although the University may accept transfer credits from other institutions, the **cumulative and previous semester GPA is based upon grades received while attending Lawrence Tech.**

**Agents & Amateurism**

A student-athlete must be an amateur in order to compete in intercollegiate athletics. A student-athlete may lose his/her complete eligibility or eligible years of intercollegiate competition if he/she:

- Uses his/her athletic skills (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in their sport;
- Accepts a promise of pay (even if pay is after graduation);
- Signs a contract or commitment to play professional sports

- Receives (directly or indirectly) a salary, reimbursement of expenses or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization;
- Competes on a professional athletics team even if no pay or remuneration for expenses is received;
- Enters into a professional draft;
- Enters into an agreement (written, oral, handshake) with an agent;
- Receives remuneration for use of name or picture to promote any commercial product or enterprise.

**Financial Assistance or In-Kind Benefits (Extra)**
Any financial aid or assistance to student-athletes in money or in-kind, except that which comes from members of their immediate family or from those upon whom they are legally dependent, shall be administered by the University under policies and procedures established by the University. Under no conditions may an individual or organization provide direct financial assistance to a student-athlete. Receipt of such additional assistance or benefits that do not meet the guidelines listed above will result in sanctions against the student-athlete, program in which the athlete competes, and the University. Financial aid or assistance that is available to all Lawrence Tech students is not considered an extra benefit and is permissible.

Permissible Benefits

- Complimentary admissions to sporting events.
- Academic support services
- Tutoring
- Use of computers, internet (for academic work only)
- University Scholarship (both academic as well as athletic) - administered only through the Financial Aid Office
- Transportation related to formal athletic competition

Impermissible Benefits

- Discounts and credits
- Free or reduced cost service
- Telephone and credit cards
- A loan or gift of money
- A guarantee of bond
- An automobile or use of automobile
- Signing or co-signing a loan - This includes student loans
- Payment for transcripts or admission fees
- Spending money or grant money not approved by the Financial Aid Office

This list is not exhaustive and only contains examples of benefits that a student-athlete may or may not receive. Remember, any benefit received except that which comes from immediate family or legal guardians, must be administered by the University Financial Aid Office. Benefits that come directly from University employees, boosters, or other individuals or corporations that is not available to all students or specific groups or is being given to a student-athlete based on their participation in athletics is a violation. If a student-athlete is presented with an extra benefit, he/she must inform their Head Coach and the Athletic Director immediately. Failure to do so could result in a
loss of eligibility, forfeiture of games and/or suspension or withdrawal from the athletics program.

**Awards**

Each athletic team honors various athletics with team awards.

**Employment**

Lawrence Tech monitors all student employment on campus to ensure the following:

- Students may only be paid for work actually performed;
- Students may only be paid at an equivalent rate as any other employee with similar experience and duties in the locale of the employer.

**Camp/Clinic Employment**

A student-athlete may be employed at Lawrence Tech, other institutions, or privately owned camp/clinic, provided he/she is paid for work actually performed and paid at a rate equivalent to other camp/clinic employees with similar experience and responsibilities.

- A student-athlete must perform general duties related to coaching/officiating.
- A student-athlete may not be paid based on athletic ability or reputation.
- A student-athlete may not be paid for only lecturing or demonstrating at a camp/clinic.

In addition to compensation, a student-athlete may receive travel expenses provided such travel expenses are given to all employees of the camp/clinic. A student-athlete may not conduct his/her own camp/clinic at any time.

**Practice & Competition Schedule**

Under NAIA rules, each sport shall have a maximum 24-week practice and competition season. A week is defined as Sunday (12:01 am) through Saturday (11:59pm). Any practice or competition during this period shall constitute one of the 24 weeks permitted. Practice is defined as an activity organized and/or directed by an identified member of the coaching staff of that sport in which appropriate equipment is used or instruction and/or evaluation of the athlete takes place. No athletic activities, practice or competition by any student-athlete or coach should be conducted on Sunday.
In accordance with NAIA guidelines, the maximum number of varsity games, contests, or playing dates the University may schedule is listed below. No student may compete in a sport in an academic year in more than the number of games, contests, or playing dates listed below. **USCAA post season competition is not recognized by the NAIA as approved postseason contests. All USCAA post season contests will count against your total number of games allowed for the regular season.**

In season, student-athletes may participate in a maximum of twenty hours of countable athletically related activity each week with no more than four hours of countable activity per day.

**Countable Athletically Related Activities are listed below-**

- Practice
- Athletic meetings with a coach that is initiated or required by the coach
- Competition (counts as three hours regardless of the actual length)
- Field, floor or on-court activities
- Setting up defensive and offensive alignments
- On-court or on-field activities called by any member of the team and confined to members of the team
- Required weight training and conditioning exercises
- Required participation in camps/clinics
- Participation outside the regular season in individual skill-related instructional activities with a member of the coaching staff
- Discussion or review of film
- Participation in a physical activity class for student-athletes only and taught by athletic staff

**Non-countable Athletically Related Activities -**

The following activities are not considered countable athletically related activities for the purpose of limiting time spent in athletic participation.

- Meeting with a coach that is initiated by the student-athlete
- Study hall, tutoring or academic meetings
- Dressing, showering, taping
- Voluntary weight training not conducted by a coach
- Traveling to/from the site of competition
- Training room activities
- Team meals
- Fund raising activities or public relations/promotional activities and community service projects
- Drug/Alcohol or Champions of Character Meetings
Recruiting

Student-athletes have the opportunity to participate in the recruiting process under certain circumstances. These activities can include telephone contact, pick-up games, and hosting a prospective student. The topics below cover permissible and impermissible activities for student-athletes with regard to recruiting.

Student Host

The most common recruiting activity student-athletes participate in is during a potential student-athlete visit.

- The student host should be enrolled on campus and be in good academic standing
- The student host should live in accordance with the University’s Student Code of Conduct.
- The student host should not use personal transportation and take the potential student off campus
- No purchases should be made for the potential student-athlete
- No free goods should be given to the potential student-athlete
- The student host and potential student-athlete may receive complimentary admission to an on campus athletic event

Telephone Calls

A student-athlete may participate in telephone calls to a recruit under the direction of a coach. A student-athlete who is attending another institution is not to be contacted unless a formal release has been obtained by the Lawrence Tech’s Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness. Prior approval is required.

Tryouts

A student-athlete may participate in organized tryouts with a recruit, while the recruit is on campus, during an open house or official visit.

Transfer Rules

The decision to transfer from Lawrence Tech to another institution is one that requires careful consideration. Below is a summary of NAIA rules regarding transfer which may help you better understand the decision you are considering:
Before you may begin to discuss the possibility of transferring to another institution, the institution to which you may be transferring must first receive written permission from Lawrence Tech’s Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness.

In order to obtain permission to speak with other schools, you must first inform your coach about your interest in transferring. It is important that you and your family understand that if you make contact with another school, they are obligated to notify Lawrence Tech.

If a student-athlete desires to transfer to another NAIA institution, he/she must complete the Official NAIA Transfer Eligibility Statement, and it must be filed with the Eligibility Chair prior to participation.

Transfers to NCAA institutions may meet "one-time transfer exceptions" and should be consulted with the athletic department of institution after written permission to speak with is given by Lawrence Tech.

If you are not granted permission to discuss transfer possibilities or the transfer exception, you may request a meeting/hearing with the Faculty Athletics Representative to appeal the decision.

**CODE OF ETHICS**

The Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness requires all associated within the department, including student-athletes, to abide by all rules and standards of the University, NAIA, ACHA, USBC or other associations or agencies to which the University adheres and to assist others in fulfilling their commitment to do the same. Failure to do so may result in suspension, dismissal from the team, and/or loss of athletic scholarship in addition to any additional University or legal sanctions where applicable.

As a student-athlete, you acknowledge and accept the requirements and responsibilities that result with being an official representative of the University. You may be the only association an individual or a group may have with the University and your behavior, whether positive or negative, through your athletic success, academic achievement, and actions will be a direct reflection of the University. Being a student-athlete at Lawrence Tech is a privilege and should be treated as such.

**Lawrence Technological University**

First and foremost, you are a student of Lawrence Tech and must abide by all University rules and regulations including, but not limited to, those detailed in the Student Handbook, the Student Code of Conduct, the Academic Honor Code. The Student Handbook covers several areas of conduct, including, but
not limited to, sexual harassment, the honor code, residence life, use of technology, sexual misconduct, and drug and alcohol use.

**Lawrence Tech Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness**

In addition to general University policies, as a student-athlete, you are responsible to abide by all Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness and team rules established by your coaching staff. Although some rules may be team specific, the following rules apply to all student-athletes participating in intercollegiate athletics at the University:

- Always represent yourself in a positive manner, do not embarrass yourself, your team, your family or Lawrence Tech.
- As a student, your first responsibility is to gain an education. This means you should be in attendance for every class. Absences due to formal athletic competition will be excused; however, you are responsible for notifying your professors in advance and coordinating any homework assignments, tests, etc., that may be missed. If you are ill, you must contact your professor and coach in advance and coordinate any material missed. Failure to go to class may result in suspension from competition.
- Understanding the importance of being punctual is critical. Be on time for every commitment that you have. This includes turning in your academic work on time.
- Give 100% both mentally and physically to your academics and athletics.
- Do not violate the Student Code of Conduct at any time, whether on or off-campus, during the weekends, breaks, summer, off season, etc.

**NAIA**

Each student-athlete is expected to abide by all NAIA rules and regulations and meet the necessary NAIA requirements for eligibility. Lawrence Tech admonishes all student-athletes to act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times and represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

Unethical conduct by a student-athlete may include but is not limited to the following:

- Failure to provide information relevant to a possible violation of NAIA regulations when requested to by the NAIA or Lawrence Tech
- Academic fraud or providing false academic information
- Providing a prospective student-athlete with an extra benefit
Knowingly providing false or misleading information concerning a possible violation of NAIA regulations

If you have any reason to believe that an NAIA violation has occurred with yourself, your team, your coach, etc., you must immediately report such information to the Athletic Director or someone within the Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness’ Administration.
**Sportsmanship**

The NAIA and Lawrence Tech encourage and promote sportsmanship by student-athletes, coaches, administrators and spectators at all Lawrence Tech events. While representing Lawrence Tech as a competitor or spectator, profanity, racial or ethnic comments, or other intimidating actions directed at officials, athletes, coaches or other team representatives will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the site of competition and other action at the discretion of the Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness.

**Financial Aid**

All financial aid to student-athletes is awarded by the Financial Aid Office. Any financial aid given to a student-athlete that has not come through the Financial Aid Office is not authorized and can result in loss of eligibility, forfeited games, and NAIA institutional sanctions. **Do not accept any extra benefit from anyone except authorized aid from the Financial Aid Office.** Immediately report any offer of extra benefit financial aid to the Athletic Director or any Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Administrator.

**Gambling**

The NAIA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering. Sports wagering has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and intercollegiate athletics.

Lawrence Tech strongly supports a no gambling policy on sports and also strongly discourages all forms of gambling, including gambling unrelated to athletics events, such as poker, blackjack, etc. Gambling can be very addictive and has the potential to jeopardize your health, welfare, athletic and/or academic success. Gambling can include betting through a bookie, online pools, family pools, Facebook pools, fantasy leagues or any other wagering designed to award anything of tangible value to a winner. Involvement in gambling, regardless of how minor, may jeopardize your status at Lawrence Tech and your athletic eligibility.

Student-athletes should not participate in the following:

- Bet on any sports contest (cash, t-shirts, dinner)
- Pool betting (March Madness, fantasy leagues)
- Provide any "inside" team information, injuries, morale, game plans, to any individuals.
Hazing

Lawrence Tech does not condone hazing under any circumstances within the student body, including student-athletes.

Hazing is defined as an abuse of power and relationships, and its purpose is to demean others. Lawrence Tech is committed to the belief that abusive behavior, harassment and assault does not build character, does not build leadership skills, and does not foster group loyalty or unity. Hazing is any action or situation created intentionally, whether on or off University property by student clubs/organizations, athletic teams, individual students or student groups, to produce mental or physical discomfort, endangerment of life, embarrassment, harassment, intimidation, or ridicule. Willingness of a student to be involved in any hazing activity does not render an Anti-Hazing Policy unenforceable.

Examples include, but are not limited to the following:

- Personal servitude
- "Boot Camp" Mentality
- Sleep deprivation
- Altering physical appearance, i.e., head or eyebrow shaving, branding, etc.
- Forced or required consumption of liquids, solids, spicy or unusual foods, non-food items
- Paddling or swatting in any form
- Coerced physical activity that causes fatigue
- Exposure to inclement weather
- Lack of access to sanitary conditions
- Confinement in any room or compartment
- Acts of vandalism or acts that aid in the destruction of property
- Physical or psychological shock
- Publicly wearing apparel and/or partaking of stunts not normally considered to be in good taste
- Participating in degrading or humiliating games and activities
- Misuse, theft, or destruction of property
- Kidnapping, road trips, hunting for items (stealing)
- Engaging in behavior that is in violation of Lawrence Tech’s regulation, standards, code, or state and federal laws.

Hazing is in violation of Lawrence Tech’s Student Code of Conduct, University policy, and according to the Michigan Hazing Law – Public Act 111 of 2004 – MCL 750.411t.
Individuals and/or groups who participate in hazing activities may be subject to University charges, criminal charges filed by Lawrence Tech and/or injured parties, and civil liability from injured parties. Student-athletes found to be involved in hazing may be subject to additional penalties at the discretion of the Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness that may include, but are not limited to, the following: suspension, dismissal from team and/or loss of athletic talent grant.

**How to report hazing incidents**

Any student who believes he/she is a victim of hazing is encouraged to report the incident.

Hazing may be reported to any of the following offices or individuals, or any member of the athletic staff:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Contact Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dean of Students</td>
<td>Kevin Finn</td>
<td>248.204.4100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Campus Safety</td>
<td>Steve Bogdalek</td>
<td>248.204.3945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Director</td>
<td>Scott Trudeau</td>
<td>248.204.3852</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEDIA RELATIONS**

The Lawrence Tech’s Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness is the publicity and media relations office for Lawrence Tech intercollegiate athletic programs. Jay Nicols is the contact for the department and can be reached at 248.204.3867.

**Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness**

The role of the Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness is to effectively communicate to the news media and fans information about our athletic programs. The office produces media guides, game-day programs, schedule cards, posters, news releases, and feature stories. It is also responsible for responding to news media inquiries and arranging all media interviews with student-athletes, coaches, and athletics administrators.

The Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness encourages and facilitates coverage of Lawrence Tech’s athletic teams, student-athletes, and coaches by the media. The University generally encourages all student-athletes to make yourself available to the media, as you are ambassadors and representatives of the University. All interview requests for student-athletes
must be coordinated through the Department of Recreation, Athletics and Wellness. Attempts to work around your academic and athletic schedules will be considered before making any commitments. The University does not have control over what the media prints or the stories they present; however, if we cooperate and work together, it is our hope that the stories reported will be a positive reflection on the University.

**Student-Athlete Role & Responsibility**

As a student-athlete at Lawrence Tech, you are an ambassador and representative of the University. The University generally encourages all student-athletes to work with the Athletic Department and be available to the media, when requested. The local community, your home town, and extended families are interested in you, your individual accomplishments, as well as those of the team on which you participate.

You shall not make any public appearances, either in person or by means of radio, television, newspaper, etc., or willingly allow the use of your name in connection with your relationship to the University when such appearance or use of name will result in unfavorable reflection upon the University. Remember, regardless of whether or not you are wearing a uniform, you are always a representative of your team and the University.

Tips for answering media questions:

- Be on time
- Always be polite to the media
- Dress appropriately
- Anticipate questions
- Do not speak negatively about officials, opponents, coaches, teammates
- Do not answer a question you do not wish to respond to. (No comment, I don’t want to get into that, I’d rather not discuss the subject - are acceptable)
- Don't fidget or use phrases like "you know" or "like I said before"
- Be confident but not cocky.
- Never make "off the record" comments
- Thank the reporter after the interview and be gracious for the opportunity
- Stay calm and have fun
CELEBRATING YOUR SKILLS

As a student-athlete you will have the opportunity to acquire certain skills and attributes, through your participation in collegiate athletics. These skills will assist you in your current and future academic, professional and personal endeavors and will provide you with the tools to succeed.

- Able to handle multiple tasks - simultaneously
- Can make decisions under pressure
- Understand importance of time management
- Constructive criticism viewed as a growth opportunity
- Strong work ethic
- Always striving to improve
- Coachable and willing to learn
- Focused
- Aggressive
- High energy level
- Disciplined
- Self-motivated
- Understand accountability
- Seek and love a challenge
- Always prepared
- Can execute a game plan
- Understand the value of teamwork
- Result-oriented
- Competitive nature
- Handles pressure well
- Goal oriented
- Strong character
- Confident

CHAMPIONS OF CHARACTER

"ATHLETIC TALENT MAY BE A GIFT, BUT CHARACTER HAS TO BE DEVELOPED."

As a member of the NAIA we strive to earn the title of Champions of Character. As a student-athlete at Lawrence Tech, you are expected to live in accordance with the standards of the University, reflecting the core values
of the Champions of Character program, and assist others in fulfilling their commitment to do the same.

**Mission**

The NAIA *Champions of Character* initiative will create an environment in which every NAIA student-athlete, coach, official and spectator is committed to the true spirit of competition through the five core values: respect, integrity, responsibility, servant leadership, and sportsmanship.

**Vision**

The NAIA Champions of Character program is a response to the deteriorating culture of sport in America and focuses on character in order to reclaim the true spirit of competition, entitled *Champions of Character*. It is possibly the NAIA's single most important initiative ever, and it complements the mission, values and honor code of Lawrence Technological University.

Student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and spectators are challenged to take responsibility for their behavior both on and off the field of competition. We want coaches with the courage and ability to hold their athletes to "standards higher than victory." At Lawrence Technological University, our desire is to recruit, retain, and graduate young people who can demonstrate the values of our mission as well as the five core values of *Champions of Character* program as detailed below:

**Respect**

Those associated with sport show respect by treating themselves, other persons, institutions and their sport according to the highest standards of conduct. It implies civilized and gracious behavior to players, coaches, fans and parents.

**Responsibility**

Athletes show responsibility by making academic progress toward graduation their top priority. They solve problems rather than make excuses, and are reliable team players. Students should be accountable for their actions and decisions, and coaches and administrators should maintain high standards of competence and conduct.
**Integrity**

For student-athletes and their coaches, integrity means keeping commitments and conducting honest behavior. Coaches must subscribe to the Coaches Code and Code of Ethics, and student athletes must know and understand the Champions of Character Student-Athlete Pledge.

**Servant Leadership**

This core value refers to putting the group first and becoming responsible for personal and group roles while performing at your best. Students demonstrating servant leadership have a primary purpose of serving others while striving to become a personal and team leader. The servant-leader provides a critical service to society and the great gift of good example.

**Sportsmanship**

The conduct of educational sports according to the highest standards is our expectation for sportsmanship. Administrators, coaches, students, fans and parents are expected to act correctly even when others do not, and demonstrate fairness and equity in all contests and relationships.
Champions of Character

Student-Athlete Pledge

Each game and practice I participate in will provide me with an opportunity to be a Champion of Character.

I pledge, as an NAIA student athlete, to accept the five core character values of the NAIA and will do my best to represent the NAIA, Lawrence Tech, my teammates, and myself by:

Respecting my opponent, the officials, my teammates, my coach, myself, and the game;

taking Responsibility for my actions in all areas of my life;

having the Integrity to stand by my word;

providing Servant Leadership where I serve others while striving to be a personal and team leader;

and being an example of Sportsmanship by holding myself to the highest standards of fair play.

Student Athlete Name: 

Academic Institution: 

Varsity Intercollegiate Sport: 

Signature: 

Date: 