

UNIVERSITY OF MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR

CRUISADERS



STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

2008-2009

Members of the Cru,

Last year was certainly one of the most exciting in the history of UMHB athletics and generated the most interest we have experienced in our brief history! With eleven of our twelve teams qualifying for the playoffs and all twelve qualifying over the last two years, we are more confident than ever before, that we are on the right course to success than ever before. In addition we added American Southwest Conference Championships in Football, Men's Basketball and Men's Golf and two other sports, Baseball and Softball, won ASC West Division Championships. As a result, we qualified three teams for NCAA Championship play, Football, Men's Basketball and Softball. This was a tremendous year, the best in our history, and I believe there are still better years and more successes waiting for the teams that are willing to put forth the effort and the commitment to earn the prize.

I am very excited about seeing how our teams will do in competition this year but I am just as excited to see how we perform in other areas as well. I have always been very proud of the sportsmanship exhibited by our teams and I know that others see it as well. This past year two of our teams were named as ASC Sportsmanship Award Winners, the Women's Basketball and Men's Golf teams. I feel that sportsmanship is the one attribute that separates those who truly understand the entire list of things that can be learned from competition from those so narrow minded to only see what is on the scoreboard. To be emulated for how you play would be a compliment to any student athlete but to be emulated for how you played the game would be an honor. I hope you join me in our pursuit of not only championships, but also I want us to always be the teams "that did it the right way" win or lose.

As student athletes who represent the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor you give of your time and your labor and believe me it is greatly appreciated. In your position as a student athlete on this campus, you will have attention and praise come your way. In these situations life can become complicated and difficult to handle. Just remember to guard your time because it is something you have too precious little of. Time for class, time for study, time for practice will all be necessary for you to succeed in competition and ultimately walk across that stage to receive your diploma. I wish you the very best in your pursuit of success and I hope you can find that perfect equilibrium that makes your time work for you and not against you. Be a success!

As we move into another year I want to wish you the very best of luck in all of your endeavors and hope that you have a very enjoyable year here as a member of The CRU!

Ben Shipp
Vice President for Athletics

SPORTSMANSHIP

"As NCAA Division III student-athletes we commit ourselves to sportsmanship by demonstrating respect toward ourselves and others. This includes demonstrating fair play, taking responsibility for our actions and representing the spirit of Division III intercollegiate athletics. We encourage our teammates, opponents, fans, coaches and referees to help us in promoting this philosophy."

-- Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee statement on behalf of all Division III student-athletes

Pursuant to the integrity of higher education, the American Southwest Conference holds all individuals associated with a member institution's athletic department and events to the highest ideals of sportsmanship.

All athletic administrators, coaches, student-athletes, spirit groups and fans shall act with respect, fairness, civility and honesty in an effort to create an appropriate environment for athletics competition as well as a positive image for their institutions.

In a unified effort to promote respect for student-athletes, coaches and officials in intercollegiate athletics, the ASC joins with other Division III conferences and independent institutions in pledging its commitment to the Fan Sportsmanship Program to build positive spirit in the stands throughout Division III. The program is sponsored by the Division III Commissioners Association (DIICA).

Show Great Division III Fan Sportsmanship!

Cheer for your team, not against the visitors

Don't get personal in your comments about players, coaches or officials

No profanity, vulgarity, racist or sexist comments

UNIVERSITY OF MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR
DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

Ben Shipp	Vice-President for Athletics	295-4618
Brad Bankhead	Men's Soccer Coach	295-5553
Kasey Blomquist	Softball Coach	295-4170
Meg Brown	Women's Soccer Coach	295-4215
Ashley Bryant	Athletic Trainer	295-4945
Melody Clampet	Administrative Assistant	295-4618
James Cohagan	Men's and Women's Tennis Coach	295-4617
Kecia Davis	Volleyball Coach	295-4616
Ken DeWeese	Men's Basketball Coach	295-4594
Elizabeth Finch	Athletic Trainer	295-4613
Pete Fredenburg	Football Coach	295-4227
Darla Kirby	Women's Golf Coach Director of Compliance	295-5046
Kim Kirkpatrick	Women's Basketball Coach	295-4240
Billy Laxton	Athletic Trainer	295-4239
Randy Mann	Associate Athletic Director	295-4216
Aaron Rodeffer	Men's Golf Coach	295-5437
Jon Wallin	Sports Information Director	295-4611
Micah Wells	Baseball Coach	295-4619
Chad Widmer	Inventory Supply Manager	295-4266

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

12 Hour Rule. To meet NCAA eligibility, you must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours to practice and/or compete. If you drop below 12 hours at any time during the fall or spring semesters, you immediately become ineligible for practice, competition, and your financial aid can be canceled. PLEASE DO NOT DROP A CLASS WITHOUT MEETING WITH YOUR HEAD COACH OR THE COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR FIRST!

Grade Point Average Requirements. NCAA and UMHB have GPA requirements that must be met in order to be eligible. The requirements are as follows:

<u>UMHB & NCAA</u>	
0-29 hours	1.5 overall
30-59 hours	1.7 overall
60-89 hours	1.9 overall
90+ hours	2.0 overall

You may compete if you are on probation. However, if you are on continued probation or probation by petition, you will not be eligible to compete.

Summer School Hours Rule. Summer school hours may be taken at UMHB or at another institution. If you choose to take these at another institution, you must receive prior approval from the Registrar. Forms are available for the approval at the Registrar's office. **If you do not receive prior approval for these courses, the courses can not be used for eligibility purposes.**

Correspondence Courses. The NCAA states correspondence courses taken from another institution can not be used in determining your academic standing.

Outside Competition.

You will be declared ineligible if you compete or have competed as a member of any outside team (e.g., tournament play, exhibition games or other activity) during the institution's intercollegiate season in the sport.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

According to NCAA rules, the maximum financial aid package (which is called a full grant-in-aid by the NCAA) covers tuition and fees, room and board, required course-related books, transportation and other expenses incidental to attendance. Almost every type of aid you receive counts toward your full grant-in-aid individual limit. **If you exceed your individual limit, you are ineligible for practice and competition.** If you receive an award that will place you over the NCAA limits, you will have to relinquish aid to get you to the limit.

On-campus employment during the school year counts toward your full grant-in-aid limitations. The total amount of employment earnings and the financial aid received can not total more than your full grant-in-aid.

All aid must be administered through UMHB's financial aid office. If you receive any outside financial aid, you **must** notify the financial aid office. **You must notify the Financial Aid Office and the Compliance Coordinator of any change in your financial aid.**

STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Student-Athlete Advisory Council is dedicated to providing a vehicle for student-athletes to share ideas and suggestions with each other and with the administration. It serves as an advisory body to the Vice-President for Athletics on matters such as student life, athletic event attendance, student body participation in athletics, academic services, and other policies and procedures set by administration, which affects athletes and non-athletes.

Policies and Procedures.

- a. Memberships. The committee shall consist of one representative from each sport and the Vice-President for Athletics. The representative will be elected by his/her team. The representative shall be a current team member who is eligible for competition.
- b. Meetings. The committee shall meet monthly. The first meeting shall occur no later than the last day of September. At that meeting, the committee shall set the dates and meeting places for the academic year.
- c. Attendance. Each sport shall have a representative at each meeting. It is your responsibility, as a member of your team, to make sure your representative is attending the meetings and voicing your ideas, concerns, and feelings as well as those of your entire team. If a sport is not represented at two consecutive meetings, the Vice-President for Athletics shall discuss the situation with the team representative and the head coach.
- d. Points of Discussion. The Vice-President for Athletics should provide a healthy meeting environment where the committee members feel free to discuss student-athlete affairs. However, the Vice-President for Athletics will not allow information to be utilized that concerns salaries, specific budget figures or other sensitive data.
- e. One representative will be chosen from our SAAC group to represent UMHB on the American Southwest Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Council.

STUDENT-ATHLETE WELFARE PROGRAMS

There will be a number of student-athlete welfare programs scheduled throughout the year. The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor provides these programs as a service to the student-athletes to assist them achieve success both on and off the field of play. The programs will include alcohol awareness, eating disorders, gambling, and career counseling. Your head coach will notify you as to which ones of these you will be required to attend.

HAZING – THE CRUSADER ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POSITION

The athletic department fully supports the University in its prohibition of all forms of hazing. The definition of hazing is located in the UMHB Student Handbook. University policy and laws of the State of Texas prohibit all forms of hazing. Hazing involves willful acts by one or more individuals directed at any student that involves:

- Mental abuse (including yelling, intimidating, fault finding, subjecting him/her to shame or disgrace among his/her fellow students, humbling his/her pride or causing him/her to want to leave the university).
- Administration or requirement of taking, applying or receiving either internally or externally any stimulant, narcotic, other drug (including alcohol or tobacco in any form), ointment or any distasteful or obnoxious substance of any kind.
- Physical abuse of any kind or the requirement of any physical activity of an unusual, dangerous, or harmful nature (strenuous exercise or calisthenics, walking or running long distances or under unusual circumstances or any other prolonged activity which is calculated to cause fatigue, including the deprivation of sleep for prolonged or abnormal periods, shall be prohibited.)
- The deprivation of freedom of any student or the abduction of a student by either physical restraint or threat.
- Other behaviors that may not be listed, but may be interpreted as hazing.

Failure to abide by this guideline may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension from the Crusader Athletic Department. This penalty can be enforced in conjunction with penalties handed down by the Dean of Students.

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

Crusader Athletics

CODE OF CONDUCT

Student athletes have a special responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner which reflects well on the University, the athletic program and themselves. Being a student athlete and representing the institution is a privilege that requires responsibility above and beyond the normal institutional standards. I therefore resolve to conduct myself with dignity as an athlete and as a citizen of the community, recognizing and accepting that I:

- Must accept accountability for my behavior and its outcomes
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Maintain Academic Integrity and Honesty
 - Attend class and be prepared
 - Inform Professors of upcoming absences due to athletic contests.
 - Be prepared to turn assignments in prior to the absence.
- Be an example of Good Sportsmanship.
 - Play by the spirit, not just the letter, of the rules of the game.
 - Refrain from verbal abuse and foul language
- Participate in all practices and team/departmental activities
- Know and follow NCAA guidelines and regulations
 - Understand and abide by NCAA regulations on Gambling
 - Understand and abide by NCAA regulations concerning illegal and/or ergogenic drugs (steroids, amphetamines, Human Growth Hormone, etc.)
- Obey all team/departmental/university policies and guidelines
- Refrain from participating in any Hazing activities
- Refrain from participation in criminal activity

I understand it is my responsibility to self-report any involvement on my part in any of type of misconduct [criminal {on campus or off campus}, academic, or social].

Failure to comply with the Student Athlete Code of Conduct and the UMHB General Student Code of Conduct may result in penalties up to and including suspension from the athletic department.

CRUSADER ATHLETICS DISCIPLINE POLICY

In order to communicate and maintain a consistent level of discipline throughout Crusader Athletics, the Three Strike Policy was put into effect in the 2001-2002 school year. A student enters the Three-Strike Policy by breach of university policy. Major breaches of university policy may include more severe consequences. By coach's discretion a student athlete may be placed into the Three-Strike Policy for breach of team rules. The steps of the Three-Strike Policy are as follows:

- Minimal penalty for an initial offense is probation within Crusader Athletics. A second offense will, at a minimum, move the student athlete to Strike Two.
- The minimum penalty for a second offense is a suspension equal to 10% of the original, scheduled contests for the year.
- The penalty for a third offense is suspension from Crusader Athletics for the remainder of the current semester and the next full semester. A suspended student athlete may request a return to Crusader Athletics at the end of their suspension. All requests will be made to respective head coaches. The decision to allow a previously suspended student athlete to return to the team will be made by the head coach after consultation with the Vice President for Athletics. A student athlete who is reinstated after a Third Strike suspension will return to Crusader Athletics on probation equivalent to Strike Two. One discipline incident will once again result in suspension from the athletic department.

The student athlete remains in the Discipline System for two years from the last offense. This two year period means it is possible that a student who moves to Strike Two could be involved in the Discipline System for more than two years from the first offense. At the end of the two year period, the student-athlete regains a clean slate and if necessary will start again at Strike One. The goal of this plan is to provide a forgiving plan to help student athletes adjust to life in Crusader Athletics. This should make the return to the Discipline System by a student athlete unlikely.

***Note – The Discipline System (Three Strike Policy) may not directly correlate to the discipline system of the Student Life Department. The Student Life Area does not have a two-year statute of limitations for their Three Strike Policy. The Student Life Discipline System is in effect for the full period of enrollment at UMHB by the student.**