

SportBU Code of Conduct

1. SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 The SportBU Code of Conduct is in place to ensure that all those participating in SportBU Programmes understand the university's expectations when they are involved in activities associated with their sport.
- 1.2 Student athletes should at all times remember that they are representing Bournemouth University and as a student are obliged to abide by the Student Agreement and all policies and procedures found at <https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/students/help-advice/important-information>
- 1.3 Any individual athlete, and if appropriate entire teams, who are found to be in breach of this Code are likely to be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in either the *11K – Student Disciplinary: Procedure or the SportBU*

2. KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of all student athletes taking part in activities organised or supported by SportBU, or associated with it's programmes, to understand and abide by this code
- 2.2 It is the responsibility of SportBU to investigate and deal with incidents.
- 2.3 Further guidance on this code of conduct can be obtained from SportBU staff.
- 2.4 SportBU is the department responsible for sport at BU and are the main link to National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of sport. This includes SportBU being responsible for all BU activities, including conduct, within British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) competitions.

3. LINKS TO OTHER BU DOCUMENTS

(all accessed via www.bournemouth.ac.uk/student/rules)

- 3.1 Other documents with direct relevance to this one are:
 - Dignity and Respect (Harassment) Policy and Procedures)
 - 11F - Student Complaints: Policy and Procedure
 - 11H - Fitness to Practice: Procedure
 - 11J - Fitness to Study: Policy and Procedure
 - 11K - Student Disciplinary: Procedure
 - 11L – Third Party Involvement: Procedure¹
 - Fraud Policy
 - Religion and Belief Policy

- Student Social Media Policy
- Student Agreement
- Student Charter
- Use of Information Technology Rules

4. GENERAL CONDUCT

- 4.1 As members of SportBU and TeamBU all student athletes are at all times expected to be committed to and deliver equality of opportunity and freedom from discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, colour, nationality or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, class or other considerations.
- 4.2 Student athletes are expected, at all times, to behave in a way that does not put others at harm or in distress, directly or indirectly.
- 4.3 Student athletes should behave in a manner that is positive to the reputation of SportBU, TeamBU and Bournemouth University at all times.
- 4.4 This code applies to activities both on and off the sports field, including social activities.
- 4.5 The university has a zero tolerance approach to initiations.
- 4.6 All athletes taking part in formal and informal sport accept the conduct, rules and regulations stated by the Sport England recognised relevant sporting NGB. Athletes are encouraged to review any specifics relevant to their sport through their own NGB: <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/national-governing-bodies>
- 4.7 All athletes taking part in BUCS Competitions are subject to the conduct, rules and regulations detailed here: <https://www.bucs.org.uk/rules-and-regulations/general-regulations.html>

5. BUCS and Sporting Eligibility

- 5.1 Those athletes taking part in British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) competitions must be current BU students and on an accredited full-time course or eligible part-time course. Athletes must have also paid their membership fees to BU before any games are played in accordance with BUCS regulations.
- 5.1.1 Those who are on part time courses or who are unsure of their eligibility must fully comply with the student eligibility criteria detailed here: <https://www.bucs.org.uk/rules-and-regulations/general-regulations/reg-4-individual-eligibility.html>
- 5.2 Athletes who suspend, quit or defer their studies and are therefore not currently a live student with BU must inform SportBU immediately with any change to their student status. Failure to do this will put the team and institution at risk of further sanctions.

6. COMMITTEE CONDUCT

- 6.1 Student committee members are leading examples within sports teams and enter a role of authority so should behave in a manner fitting to their position. Those acting outside of the university's general conduct, detailed in the student charter and section 4 above, maybe removed from their role by SportBU.
- 6.2 SportBU will provide training to all committee members at the start of each academic year. If further training is required in specific areas please contact SportBU.

7. FEES

- 7.1 The annual membership fee for the Performance Sport Programme is published prior to trials taking place. All students on the programme, including those selected through scholarships, are required to pay these fees when they join the programme.

8. TRIALS AND TASTERS

- 8.1 Sessions will be held annually at the start of each academic year. Selection for a team one year does not assume continuation of team membership for subsequent years.
- 8.2 It is the responsibility of all students who wish to try out for a team to make themselves available for these sessions and to ensure that they meet the BUCS eligibility criteria as detailed in 5.1.
- 8.3 It is the responsibility of the SportBU coach (or captain when no coach is in place) to select their final team. Feedback will be provided to any unsuccessful student if requested.

9. TRAINING CONDUCT (INCLUDING STRENGTH & CONDITIONING AND SUPPORT SERVICES)

- 9.1 Student athletes must be present at all performance sport training sessions. If for any reason an athlete cannot attend they must contact their coach or nominated other person, usually captain, to explain the circumstance. This attendance requirement also applies to all strength and conditioning/ fitness sessions.
- 9.2 Student athletes must arrive on time to all training sessions and be prepared to start at the advertised commencement.
- 9.3 It is at SportBU's discretion to decide if there are reasonable grounds for non-attendance at training. It is an athlete's responsibility to manage their time between their academic and Performance Sport commitments.
- 9.4 After 3 weeks of non-attendance at training an investigation will take place to assess any support that can be given to the student athlete. After 5 weeks of non-attendance at training disciplinary action will be initiated against the student athlete. If no notification is given to SportBU for non-attendance on a regular basis athletes may be taken off the team and all performance sport privileges removed with no refund.
- 9.5 Cancellation of training will be at the discretion of SportBU (this includes bad weather) and will be done in advance where possible.
- 9.6 All equipment that goes out to training or matches must be returned the same evening. Any equipment that is lost or not returned will be funded by the team.

10. MATCH CONDUCT

- 10.1 Each athlete selected for a team will be required to fulfil both home and away fixtures. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to check their availability for all fixtures in advance and make coaching staff or captains aware. All fixtures can be found through the BUCSPlay App which is to be used by all athletes competing in BUCS.
- 10.2 If an athlete is selected to play a match and cannot they must notify their coach and the relevant SportBU member immediately (at least 48 hours prior to fixture) to ensure a replacement is found

- 10.3 It is at SportBU's discretion to decide if there are reasonable grounds for non-attendance at matches. It is an athlete's responsibility to manage their time between their academic and performance sport commitments.
- 10.4 After 3 weeks of non-attendance at matches an investigation will take place to assess any support that can be given to the student athlete or whether disciplinary action will be initiated against the student athlete. If no notification is given to SportBU for non-attendance on a regular basis athletes may be taken off the team and all Performance Sport privileges removed with no refund.

11. PLAYING AND TRAINING KIT

- 11.1 Kit is the responsibility of the athlete at all times throughout the season and should be kept in a suitable condition.
- 11.2 Each year all new members of a performance sport team are required to purchase a playing kit and tracksuit.
- 11.3 Kit must be worn to, and during, fixtures. If this rule is not adhered to, SportBU has the right to remove Performance Sport privileges and participation in university sport without refund.
- 11.4 SportBU are committed to ensuring the best quality and most cost effective kit is used within the programme and will continue to consult teams for changes or development in garments on a yearly basis, where the clothing provider has the ability.

12. TRANSPORT

- 12.1 All those involved in driving vehicles provided by BU (including training, fixtures and other events) are required to complete the Performance Sport Driver Declaration & Authorisation Form before driving commences. Drivers are expected to comply with all responsibilities listed on this form.
- 12.2 Those acting as passengers are expected to abide by the law and act in a responsible way that is positive to BU.
- 12.3 Any penalties (including but not limited to; speeding violations and mobile phone usage) will be the responsible of the driver and not BU.
- 12.4 SportBU will assess any reported penalty that takes place in a BU authorised vehicle to determine if drivers are allowed to continue driving within the programme.

13. SOCIAL MEDIA

- 13.1 Social Media is the term commonly used to describe web-based tools which allow users to interact with each other. Social Media includes (but is not limited to) accounts on: Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, MySpace, LinkedIn, Google+, Blogs, YouTube.
- 13.2 BU encourages the use of Social Media as it can be a valuable tool for communication and learning and can assist in the work of students and employees.
- 13.3 Student athletes should be aware that privacy does not exist in the world of Social Media and should consider what could happen if a post became widely known and how that may reflect both on the person and the University.
- 13.4 It is also important to note that Social Media websites are public, and as such individuals could be liable under law for anything that is said.

14. CLEAN SPORT

- 14.1 All sporting participants have the right to compete in Clean Sport. BU adopts the UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) position that cheating, including doping, in sport is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport, undermining the otherwise positive impact of sport on society.
- 14.2 SportBU are required to report any breaches relating to antidoping that are made aware of to UKAD.

15. BREACH

- 15.1 SportBU will investigate any breach or misconduct in relation to this code of conduct initially by the programme manager or other senior managers within SportBU. They will use their discretion in how to examine the breach and move forward. At this point a decision will be made on the severity of the breach and whether it can be dealt with by SportBU or whether it will follow other procedures as laid out in section 3 above (11K - Student Disciplinary: Procedure). This decision will be confirmed with one other Senior SportBU manager or the Head of Sport. This decision will be recorded locally within SportBU.
- 15.2 If the breach is to be dealt within this code of conduct, the following process will then be followed:
- 15.2.1..1 All evidence will be recorded, and written statements reviewed for all those involved
- 15.2.1..2 Statements will be reviewed by investigating managers
- 15.2.1..3 Follow up interviews/investigation will be had to clarify questions if required
- 15.2.1..4 The evidence will be reviewed and an outcome decided by staff
- 15.2.1..4.1 This might include;
- Conflict resolution meetings
 - Where required finical penalty inline with National Governing Bodies
 - Temporary or permanent removal from sports team
 - Escalation to 11K - Student Disciplinary: Procedure
 - Incident will then be logged locally within SportBU for a period of 4 years.