



ACCREDITATION EVIDENCE

Title: Student Athlete Handbook

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What it Means to Be a Mustang

The athletic program is an important part of student life at Western Wyoming Community College. As you participate in sports and activities, you represent yourself, the athletic department and the institution. We want you to have an enjoyable and fulfilling athletic experience on the court, field and mat. It is also extremely important that you focus on your academics and that compete in a spirit of fairness, honesty and dedication to your sport.

Our Expectations of You

- Ω You will be passionate about your sport and your education.
- Ω You will become a member of the College community, showing respect, understanding, tolerance and appreciation for everyone, including students who have dissimilar backgrounds or belief systems.
- Ω You will be willing to learn and grow during your time with us, making your education a priority.
- Ω You will be a team player, helping others as needed.
- Ω You will understand that behavior rules, policies and procedure apply not only during season, but throughout the year.
- Ω You will always be honest and practice ethical behavior, abiding by the Athletic Code of Conduct and individual team rules.
- Ω You will have a good learning experience and have fun!

What You Can Expect From Us?

- Ω We will provide quality coaching and a competitive environment.
- Ω We will hold everyone to the same standards.
- Ω We will monitor academic progress and work to help you reach your potential.
- Ω We will hold everyone accountable.
- Ω We will continuously build our skills in coaching and other aspects of athletics.
- Ω We will create an environment where everyone can learn and have an enjoyable experience!

Academic Performance

You are expected to make academics a priority and progress toward a degree while maintaining full-time student status It is our belief that you CAN excel as an athlete and still be a high quality student. You should select, with your advisor, a class schedule that moves you towards degree completion.

You are expected to attend class whenever you are not traveling with the team and communicate with your instructors so that they have the information about when your are travelling. While competitions on the road, are excused activities per college policy, do not expect that faculty will make concessions for you because you are a student-athlete. You need to work with them and complete assignments on their timelines. You should not use athletics as the excuse for missing class any other time. Make sure progress reports forms are given to your instructors.

Financial Aid Requirements

Athletic Scholarship: All athletic scholarships and grants require a minimum of **12 semester hours with a 2.50 GPA completed each semester.**

Superior Scholarship: Complete 15 credits/semester with a minimum 3.50 GPA.

Honors or Out of State Academic Scholarship: Complete 12 credit hours with a minimum 2.50 GPA.

Opportunity Scholarship: Complete 12 credit hours with a minimum 2.25 GPA.

Career/Provisional Opportunity Scholarship: Complete 12 credit hours with a minimum 2.25 GPA.

Transfer: Complete 14 credit hours with a 3.00 minimum GPA.

Federal Aid Recipients: All federal aid recipients must complete a minimum of **75% of enrolled coursework with a 2.00 GPA each semester.**

Foundation grants: Vary by grant

Eligibility

You must be registered full-time (12 hours or more) each semester. Note: your financial aid/scholarship standards might be substantially higher. **You can lose your scholarship while still remaining eligible.**

End of First Semester: At the end of your first semester of attendance, you must have completed **12 semester hours** with a **1.75 GPA** or higher.

After the First Semester: Complete **12 semester hours each semester** with a **2.00 GPA** or higher. **Or** Have a cumulative number of hours equal to **12 credits times the number of semester attended with a 2.00 cumulative GPA.**

After the First Season: You must have passed **24 hours with a minimum 2.00 GPA.**

You cannot practice or participate until all initial eligibility requirements are met and maintained.

Community Service for Athletes

Student athletes are often role models for younger students/children and are definitely representatives of the institution. WWCC teams will get involved in community service projects. Every team will be assigned time to work at other sporting events (concession stand, statistics, filming, shagging balls). Other activities can be individual and/or team related. We would like to track them, and promote them through Fredann Soto, Volleyball Coach and Athletic Marketing Coordinator. There are many benefits of this kind of activity:

- Educational and fulfilling to the athletes involved
- Great visibility for the team, the department and the institution
- Good experience for those receiving the attention
- Helps the institution to fund raise for the program

Personal Performance

Team Rules and Institutional Policies: Every head coach is responsible for preparing team rules that apply to your team. These should be provided to each athlete in writing at the beginning of the academic year. Rules within the Athletic Department and Western are the same for all student-athletes. Each coach, as well as the NJCAA may have slightly different rules and expectations depending on the sport. Know what yours are. You are responsible for reading and understanding the rules.

Communication and reliability are important for every athlete. You need to tell your coach if you have a problem that is impacting class, practice or game time.

Role Model: Student-Athletes must model the kind of behavior we expect from Western students.

Travel: You are expected to behave off-campus in the same manner as you would on-campus. Getting into trouble on the road can result in the inability to travel with the team or loss of scholarship and team membership.

Additional Information

Western is committed to helping you to make good academic, career and life decisions after your college experience. Art Castillo is the Athletic Student Success Coordinator. He will be meeting with each of you to help you identify career goals and to make sure that you are staying on track academically at Western. If you will give it your best, we will do everything we can to help you succeed.

Athletic Weight Room

Our athletic weight Room is available to you so that you can do your conditioning and build strength. Because of liability issues, we cannot let you use it on your own anytime you wish. There are hours you will lift with your team and other hours for open lifting.

Also, because of the location of the facility, it is critical that you keep noise to a minimum and that you respect the rights of your academic neighbors in the area. Please keep music turned low, keep the door shut, and refrain from swearing and other disrespectful activity in the hallways. All of our facilities should be left in good condition when you are finished using them.



Athletic Student Success Study Hall Initiative

All student-athletes are required to put in at least 5 hours of study hall per week during their semesters in attendance at Western.

Athletic Student Success Team Room

The Mustang Team Room is a facility where students can go for daily study hall and relaxation. Teams hold meetings, video sessions, and recruiting visits in the Team Room. The Team Room has six computers and a printer for use in completing homework and projects.

The Team Room is also equipped with a projector used for team and individual video sessions, live streaming of Mustang away contests, and NJCAA National Championships.

Concerns/Issues

At any time if you have a concern or an issue regarding anything to do with athletics, talk to your coach first. After that, Lu Sweet, as the Athletic Director, is your next line of contact. Her contact information as well as that of other resources is listed for you.

Mustang Athletic Staff Directory & Other Important Campus Resources

Athletic Director/Advisor for Athletes: Lu Sweet	382-1740	lsweet@westernwyoming.edu
Athletic Trainer: Kristen Tammany-Gitchel	382-1819	ktammany@westernwyoming.edu
<u>Men's Basketball:</u>		
Steven Sosa – Head Coach	382-1857	ssoza@westernwyoming.edu
Kameron Pearce – Assistant Coach		kpearce@westernwyoming.edu
<u>Women's Basketball:</u>		
Mike Swenson - Head Coach	382-1853	mswenson@westernwyoming.edu
Terry Marietta – Assistant Coach		tmarietta@westernwyoming.edu
<u>Volleyball:</u>		
Fredann Soto– Head Coach	382-1627	fsoto@westernwyoming.edu
Theresa Allgaier – Assistant Coach		tallgaier@westernwyoming.edu
Jake Harris– Assistant Coach		jharris@westernwyoming.edu
<u>Wrestling:</u>		
Art Castillo – Head Coach	382-1644	acastillo@westernwyoming.edu
Rick Yoak – Assistant Coach		ryoak@westernwyoming.edu
Dillon Karajanis – Assistant Coach		dkarajanis@westernwyoming.edu
Bill Hodges – Assistant Coach		NA
<u>Women's Soccer:</u>		
Lu Sweet – Head Women's Coach	382-1740	lsweet@westernwyoming.edu
Brady Baldwin – Head Assistant Women's Coach		bbaldwin@westernwyoming.edu
Jon Auger – Assistant Women's Coach		jauger@westernwyoming.edu
Zoe Wendlandt – Assistant Women's Coach		zwendlandt@westernwyoming.edu
<u>Other Important Resources:</u>		
Dr. Dustin Conover – Dean of Students	382-1644	
Marissa Petty – Housing & Meal Plans	382-1845	
Lynel Willems – Meal Plans and Dietary Concerns	382-1674	
Chelley Comstock – Student Life	382-1698	
Mustang Central (for Financial Aid and Advising, Transfer & Career Counseling)	382-1859	
Peer Tutoring	382-1707	
Wellbeing & Accessibility	382-1652	
Campus Security	382-1690	
Canvas Help (For login and password reset help after hours and weekends)	382-1686	