VINCENNES UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

OVERVIEW
The Vincennes University Athletic Department recognizes that the use of illicit drugs has become a serious problem in all segments of our society. While the misuse of drugs, legal or illegal is a potential problem for all student-athletes, unique pressures and risks exist for student-athletes participating in intercollegiate athletics, and their use of drugs will not be tolerated. This includes over the counter dietary supplements, and performance enhancing drugs. VU has a drug abuse prevention policy and program in place for student-athletes to progress towards their academic and athletic goals in a drug free environment.

PURPOSE
The purpose of this drug policy is as follows:
1. To educate student-athletes on the physiological and psychological dangers inherent in the misuse of illicit drugs.
2. To provide a periodic individual random testing program to identify student-athletes who are improperly using legal or illegal drugs and assist them, through education and counseling, before they injure themselves or others and become physiologically or psychologically dependent.
3. To protect those student-athletes from the health-related risks inherent in the misuse of drugs.
4. Testing that reveals drug usage will subject the student-athlete to disciplinary action stated in this policy.

DRUG TEST PROCEDURE:
All VU student-athletes can be randomly tested for illicit drugs as determined by the NJCAA governing body. This testing can occur with no advance notice at any such time or times as deemed appropriate by the athletic director, head coach, team physician or athletic trainer. Each student-athlete is asked to sign a release form, which states that he/she is aware that testing for the presence of drugs is permitted. Each student-athlete understands that failure to show or undergo the drug test without a valid excuse or failure to provide a proper sample following notifications shall be considered to have tested positive and could result in loss of the privilege to participate in any athletic department program. A student-athlete who is suspected of manipulating his/her test sample to mask banned substances will be subject to a follow-up test. Testing will be done under the supervision of the head coach and the athletic director. A professional laboratory selected by the VU designee will conduct all chemical analysis and ensure confidentiality.

These tests can be conducted randomly from the first day of practice and/or the start of fall semester classes through the last day of spring final exams and/or last day of competition for all sports (this is to include all sports that start or end outside the regular academic calendar).

A student-athlete who has tested positive will be taken out of the random selection process until he/she has produced a negative result in subsequent testing.
TEST RESULTS
Test results are confidential and will be released to the VU athletic director, head coach, athletic training staff, and counseling center staff, VU Dean of Students, Assistant Provost for Student Affairs, Provost, and the President.

Once the test results have been released, the head coach will notify the student-athlete and at the discretion of the coach, the parents/guardians may also be notified, (if the student athlete is under the age of eighteen (18) then the parents/guardian must be notified by phone and/or written correspondence). A meeting will be scheduled between the athletic director, head coach and student-athlete if the drug test shows positive for a controlled substance. The student-athlete will be given the opportunity to do another drug test immediately after the first test comes back positive or the student-athlete must provide a current prescription for the substance. If they are unable to provide a prescription, then the test will stand as a positive test. If there is a current prescription provided, then the test will be considered a negative and no further action will be taken.

If the student-athlete’s test yielded a false positive, a follow-up test will be administered immediately. If this test is negative, there will be no further actions.

FIRST OFFENSE
1. The student-athlete will be suspended for 10% of the contests, games, or matches, starting at or during the regular season of competition and including post season.
2. The student-athlete will be referred to the VU Counseling Department. The student-athlete will adhere to the counseling program and will be required to sign a release form permitting counseling center staff to converse with the athletic director, head coach and/or athletic trainer, the recommendations for treatment and confirming student-athlete’s completion of the recommended program.
3. The student-athlete will be re-tested a minimum of one test at least 30 days following the original test date and completion of the counseling program.
4. The Head Coach has the discretion to permanently, suspend a student-athlete from the team.

SECOND OFFENSE
1. The athletic director, head coach, Student-athlete and parents/guardian(s) of the athlete will be notified of the results of the second positive.
2. The student-athlete will be permanently suspended from practice and competition in intercollegiate athletics at Vincennes University.

MEDICATION
Student-athletes taking medication must give a complete list to the Head Athletic Trainer and/or Head coach prior to team practice. If medication is prescribed by a physician, student-athlete must have a letter documenting the need and dosage for use of drug. Vincennes University will attach this list along with the physician’s letter to the student-athlete’s signed consent form for drug testing.

CONFIDENTIALITY
Confidentiality of the information and documents resulting from the student-athlete’s participation in drug testing and in medical evaluations will be assured. Vincennes University Athletic Department shall make available its Drug and Substance Abuse policy on the VU Athletics web site (www.govutrailblazers.com), and in the Athletic Office.
Consent to Perform Drug Testing in Accordance With the Vincennes University Athletic Drug Policy.

I hereby consent to be tested for the presence of drugs according with the Vincennes University Department of Athletics Drug Testing Program.

I understand that this testing will occur at such time or times as deemed appropriate by the team physician, the Athletic Director, my head coach or athletic trainer.

I understand that any samples collected will only be sent to a licensed medical laboratory for actual testing, and that the samples will be coded to provide confidentiality.

I hereby authorize the release of such testing results to the athletic director, head coach, trainer, team physician, and/or other University officials as deemed appropriate. I understand that these results will be made available to me.

I understand that I am free to withdraw this consent for testing. However, I also understand that should I refuse to submit to testing at the time requested, I will not be permitted to participate in any intercollegiate sporting program until such time as the Department of Athletics and Vincennes University shall deem appropriate.

I hereby authorize the release of the results of such testing to my parent(s) upon the receipt by the University. (If the student athlete is under the age of eighteen (18) then the parents/guardian will be notified by phone and/or written correspondence).

I hereby release Vincennes University, its Trustees, officers, employees and agents from legal responsibility or liability for the release of such information and records as authorized by this form.

I understand and agree to the policies set forth by Vincennes University and the Athletic Department. By signing this form I agree to all the Drug Testing procedures included in this policy.

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Student-Athlete (print name)  Date: __________________________

___________________________

Student-Athlete (signature)  Date: __________________________

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Parent or Guardian (signature if athlete under the age of 18)  Date: __________________________