

## DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ACADEMIC-ATHLETICS CONFLICTS

Bucknell University maintains a policy on *Conflicts Between Regularly Scheduled Classes and Other Activities*. The Department of Athletics and Recreation has fully endorsed this policy and adopted supporting policies and procedures that are outlined in both our athletics staff manual and student-athlete handbook. Below are key policy provisions that impact the operation of each of our athletics programs.

Specifically,

- Academic commitments of student-athletes take priority over all external activities.
- Coaches should not unduly influence a student-athlete to rearrange their academic curriculum in order to attend practices.
- Student-athletes should attend all of their classes.
- Student-athletes should not miss a class due to an athletics practice.
- Student-athletes should never be penalized for missing or arriving late to a practice due to a class or lab.
- Student-athletes should notify professors of all competitions that affect class attendance prior to their contest.
- If a scheduling conflict occurs, student-athletes should work together with their professors to address the situation. If the conflict cannot be worked out, the student-athlete should not only contact their academic dean and coach, but also Amanda Backus, Associate Director of Athletics/SWA who serves as the athletics department's academic liaison.
- In general, mandatory athletically related activities as defined by the NCAA (including meetings, film sessions, chalk talks etc.) shall not commence prior to 4:00 p.m. during any academic calendar day. However, it shall be permissible for coaches to accommodate individual student-athletes as well as teams, who do not have academic obligations, in providing individualized skill instruction and/or team practice opportunities at times throughout the calendar day.

Maintaining academic priorities and supporting the education of our student-athletes is paramount to our responsibility as a coach or staff member in the Bison athletics program. Should you, your staff or your student-athletes have any additional questions, please contact Amanda Backus, Associate Director of Athletics/SWA at 577-1712.