

**FORDHAM UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS AND**  
**RECREATION**

**ANTI-HAZING POLICY**

Fordham University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation is committed to eliminating and preventing hazing behavior and/or inappropriate team bonding or team initiation activities which humiliate, demean or devalue the worth of another individual.

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation at Fordham University supports only those activities which are constructive, educational, inspirational and that contribute to the intellectual and personal development and well being of our student-athletes. The Department prohibits any hazing or team bonding activities that subject student-athletes or others to mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule.

Fordham University defines hazing and inappropriate team initiation or bonding activities as any action, whether physical, mental, emotional or psychological, which subjects another person, **voluntarily or involuntarily**, to anything that has the intended or unintended effect of abusing, mistreating, degrading, humiliating, harassing or intimidating the person, or which may in any fashion compromise the inherent dignity of the person, for the purpose of association with or induction to a particular group or team. In addition, any requirements by any member of an athletic team which compels another team member to participate in any activity which is against university policy or state/federal law will be defined as hazing.

Specific actions and activities which are prohibited include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

- Any type of initiation or other activity where there is an expectation of individuals joining a particular team to participate in behavior designed to humiliate, degrade or abuse them **regardless of the person's willingness to participate.**
- Forcing, requiring or pressuring an individual to consume alcohol or any other substance.
- Forcing, requiring or pressuring an individual to shave any part of the body, including hair on the head.
- Any requirement or pressure put on an individual to participate in any activity which is illegal, perverse, publicly indecent, contrary to genuine morals and/or beliefs, e.g., public profanity, indecent or lewd conduct or sexual gestures in public.
- Required eating of anything an individual would refuse to eat otherwise.
- Any activity or action that creates a risk to the health, safety or property of the University or any member of its community.

- Forcing or requiring calisthenics, such as push-ups, sit-ups and running, when these activities are not part of the normal and standard conditioning requirements for a particular athletic activity, taking place within the appropriate practice or competition venues and supervised by qualified professionals.
- Assigning or endorsing pranks such as stealing or harassment of another group or individual.
- Awakening or disturbing individuals during normal sleeping hours.
- Expecting or pressuring individuals to participate in an activity in which the full membership is not willing to participate.
- Physical abuse of any kind.
- Forcing, encouraging or pressuring someone to wear in public apparel which is conspicuous and not within the norm of what is considered to be in good taste.
- Engaging in public stunts and buffoonery.
- Nudity at any time or forced reading or viewing of pornographic material.
- Paddling, beating or otherwise permitting a member to hit other members.
- Having substances, including but not limited to, oil, eggs, mud, paint, cream and honey thrown at, poured on or otherwise applied to the body of a member of the team.
- Morally degrading/humiliating games or other activity that makes a member the object of amusement, ridicule or intimidation.
- Subjecting a member to cruel and unusual psychological conditions.

The following are goals for the Department:

1. Educate all student-athletes and Athletic Department Staff about this anti-hazing policy.
2. Include the anti-hazing policy and agreement in the Student-Athlete Handbook, Coaches Manual and on our website.
3. Provide a comprehensive and educational program during National Anti-Hazing Week.
4. Clearly define what is considered hazing activity.
5. Inform all individuals of the appropriate reporting mechanisms for addressing concerns of hazing.
6. All student-athletes will sign an agreement contract.

Administrators, coaches, team captains, and all student-athletes shall be expected to accept responsibility and act with integrity and civility regarding this issue. This includes not only refraining from the engagement of hazing activities, but also reporting any questionable activities to your team liaison or to senior level administration. If a team has sanctions placed upon them, then the coach and team captains are expected to support and enforce the sanctions.

Failure to comply with both the letter and the spirit of this policy may result in disciplinary action.