THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
SPORTS MEDICINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
2016-2017

I. COORDINATION OF TREATMENT FOR ATHLETIC SQUADS

A. Student athletes are expected to promptly report all of their injuries and illnesses to the Sports Medicine staff no later than the times listed below:
   *6:30 A.M. all student athletes with an 8:00am class
   *7:45-11:00 A.M. all athletes who do not have an 8:00am class as instructed by staff certified athletic trainers.

B. Directions of any approved physicians, orthopedic surgeons, dentist, and Sports Medicine Staff must be implemented without alteration.

C. Coaches will neither require, nor permit a sick or injured athlete to practice or participate in a contest without approval of the Sports Medicine Staff, dentist, physician, or orthopedic surgeon as applicable.

D. All student athletes at the University will receive equal treatment regardless of race, color, creed, sex or athletic ability.

E. Illnesses or injuries requiring attention during the school year (fall and spring semesters) must be reported to the Sports Medicine Staff in the main athletic training room in accordance with the times listed in “A”.

F. Student athletes with an illness or injury must report daily at the times listed above or to his/her respective staff athletic trainer (or head athletic trainer), to determine the student athlete’s daily practice status.

G. Student athletes may seek medical services from any physician subject to the approval of the University.

II. MEDICAL EXPENSES

A. All medical and drug charges incurred by athletically related injuries and illnesses by the student athlete will be billed to the student athlete’s primary insurance first. All excess charges not covered by the student athletes primary insurance will be approved and paid by the athletic department’s secondary insurance policy or by the Department of Athletics after action by the student athletes primary insurance is taken in accordance with the NCAA, Conference USA, and The University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Department Policies and Procedures. For injuries and/or illnesses, which are deemed non-athletically related, the student athlete will be held responsible for all charges. In case there is a need for special services, approval must be granted by the USM Athletic Director and Head Athletic Trainer. All pre-existing injuries/conditions, which are found upon the athlete’s pre-season physical examination, are the responsibility of the student athlete and not the USM Athletic Department.

B. Off campus referrals for medical evaluation, emergency room evaluation and treatment, prescriptions, or diagnostic tests, for non-athletic related injury and all illnesses will be the student athlete’s responsibility. It is then the student athlete’s
responsibility to report these to the staff athletic trainers at time of incident. It is the student athletes’ responsibility to provide proof of insurance to the aforementioned at the day of service.

C. Student athletes are responsible for all medical expenses incurred including student health services without prior consent and knowledge of the Sports Medicine staff. The university and its agents reserve the right to refuse payment for unsolicited second opinions.

D. The costs of illness care, not related to supervised participation in intercollegiate athletics, during the summer months will be the student athlete’s responsibility.

E. Any Out-of-Season illnesses that are non-sports related will be the responsibility of the student athlete.

F. New injuries that occur during the summer volunteer workouts will be covered only if the student athlete is injured while working out on campus under the supervision of The University of Southern Mississippi strength and conditioning coaches and Sports Medicine staff.

G. The athletic department will continue to provide on campus summer secondary coverage for ongoing injuries that are a result of school year participation.

H. Off campus summer/holiday ongoing injury coverage must be prearranged with the Sports Medicine staff. Costs of the off-campus ongoing injury coverage/rehab that occurs without the knowledge and consent of the Sports Medicine staff/team physicians will be the student athletes’ responsibility.

I. The physicians at the Moffett Student Health Center may be seen for illnesses. Student athletes must make an appointment through the Sports Medicine staff and take a Medical Referral form to see the physicians at the Moffett Student Health Center. Failure to do so will result in the student athlete being responsible for all expenses incurred. Failure of the student athlete to return the white portion of the Medical Referral Form to the athletic training room or to their respective athletic trainer will also result in the student athlete being responsible for all incurred charges from their clinic visit.

J. No coach or student athlete will call any physician or dentist to make an appointment for a student athlete without prior consent of the Sports Medicine staff.

III. SECOND OPINIONS

A. The student athlete may elect to seek a second opinion in all matters of health and injury. However, should the student athlete elect to seek a second opinion on his/her own, The University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Department reserves the right to refuse payment for all or a part of the cost of such unsolicited second opinions.

B. The student athlete will be responsible for his/her transportation to the outside provider.

C. Should the student athlete seek a second opinion and be referred for rehabilitation, it will be the student athlete’s responsibility for all costs incurred at a physical therapy clinic. The USM Sports Medicine Staff has the right to refuse rehabilitative services in these cases due to liability measures.
D. The USM Sports Medicine Staff has the right to deny costs of medications prescribed by a physician outside of the USM Sports Medicine Physicians Team.
E. Should a student athlete seek a second opinion from an outside source, it is the student athlete’s responsibility to supply the USM Sports Medicine Staff all medical documentation from their physician/s.
F. The student athlete will not be cleared to participate in team activities including competition, weights or practice until all written documentation is received from the second opinion physician.

IV. INJURIES AND ILLNESSES – PROCEDURES

A. If injured during a practice or game, that student athlete must follow the instructions of any approved physician, orthopedic MD’s, dentists, or Sports Medicine staff as applicable.
B. All student athletes who are injured or ill and cannot compete will be placed on the athletic trainer’s daily injury report. A copy of this report may be given to the director of athletics, strength coaches and the athlete’s respective coaches.
C. If ill or injured, the final decision as to whether or not the student athlete may participate is left up to the Sports Medicine staff, any approved physician, orthopedic MD’s, or dentists as applicable.
D. If you are injured or ill, you must still report to all designated times for practices, treatments, and meetings unless specifically excused by your coach or confined to bed by the USM Sports Medicine staff or any approved physician.
E. The student athlete must follow all instructions of the USM Sports Medicine staff and any approved medical specialists. USM Sports Medicine staff and approved physicians will decide upon change and initiative of care, treatment, or rehabilitation programs.
F. The student athlete will be returned to the active list only upon the direct advice or consent of any approved physician, orthopedic MD’s, dentists, or medical specialists.

V. EYE GLASSES AND CONTACT LENSES

A. If a student athlete needs sports goggles or contact lenses during athletic events, it is their responsibility to inform the Sports Medicine staff of this upon arrival to campus. The University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Department will only cover the cost of sports goggles or contacts if it is deemed that the student athlete requires them for performance in his/her sport.
B. If a student athlete wears sports goggles or contact lenses, a copy of the prescription must be obtained for athletic training room records. If loss or damage occurs during athletic participation, it must be reported immediately.
C. If a student athlete wears sports goggles during practice or games, they must have safety impact resistant plastic lenses. Then frames must be sport goggles or sport safety frames.
VI. PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

A. The NCAA and The University of Southern Mississippi require an initial complete physical examination. All first time student athletes must have this examination before participation or practicing.

B. Returning student athletes must complete an interim physical examination each year.

C. No student athlete will be allowed to practice or participate in an intercollegiate sport until The University of Southern Mississippi approved physician has completed the proper physical examination. This includes the use of weight room facilities, conditioning and individual workouts. Only physical exams completed by The University of Southern Mississippi approved physicians will be allowed.

D. The University of Southern Mississippi, any approved physicians and medical specialists reserve the right to refuse payment for any diagnostic testing required to determine a student athlete’s eligibility for participation in intercollegiate athletics due to any pre-existing medical condition. In addition, the University may have the student athlete and his/her parents sign a waiver releasing the University of its obligations for pre-existing conditions.

E. Based upon the physical exam and medical history, The University of Southern Mississippi and its approved physicians and specialists reserve the right to disqualify a student athlete from athletic participation at The University of Southern Mississippi.

F. All student athletes are responsible for providing the USM Sports Medicine staff with results for Sickle Cell and CBC blood test at the time of their pre-participation physical exam mentioned above in section A. If no blood work results are provided, tests will be run at the time of the student athletes’ preparticipation physical at the student athletes’ expense.

G. Student athletes participating on any Cheer squad or the Southern Misses Dance Team will assume initial responsibility for pre-participation physical examination charges. If, and only if, the student athlete remains apart of the team for the entirety of the semester will The University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Department assume responsibility for these charges at the end of the respective semester. However, failure to remain on the roster will result in the student athlete assuming the incurred physical exam charge.

H. All Walk-On student athletes trying out or planning to participate on a sports team at The University of Southern Mississippi must present at the time of tryouts the following materials: Completed Tryout Waiver Form, proof of a completed physical done by a physician within the last year, a copy of all medical insurance cards, and a copy of Sickle Cell and CBC blood work results. Failure to present all the aforementioned materials at the time of tryout will result in the student athletes’ inability to participate in their respective sport tryout. If the student athlete is successful and is added to the official sport roster they will be required to go through a preparticipation sports physical as outlined in section A by a USM approved physician.
VII. MEDICATIONS

A. All prescriptions needed for an athletic injury/illness will be dispensed by an MD with a written prescription.
B. No prescriptions will be dispensed by the Sports Medicine staff, but may be administered per a doctor’s order.
C. It is mandatory that all student athletes advise the Sports Medicine staff of all prescriptions he/she is presently taking.
D. The University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Department will only cover the cost of medications prescribed by physicians during the student athlete’s competitive seasons (fall and spring semesters).
E. The student athlete must report to the athletic training room and receive a Medical Referral Form prior to seeing a physician for any illness or injury, failure to do so will result in the student athlete incurring the charges associated with the visit; this includes medications prescribed during the visit. Failure of the student athlete to return the Medical Referral Form to the athletic training room or to their respective staff athletic trainer will result in all charges associated with the visit being billed to the student athlete.

VIII. DENTAL CARE

A. The student athlete is responsible for reporting any injury to his/her teeth. It must be reported immediately after it occurs.
B. In sports that require mouth protection for all participants, the Athletic Department will provide mouth guards. It is the student athlete’s responsibility to make sure they maintain and wear such mouth guards during both practice and competition. If the student athlete sustains any injury (to head/mouth) and is ordered to wear a mouth guard by any approved dentists and/or physicians, and later sustains a re-occurrence injury without wearing the prescribed mouth guard, it will be the student athlete’s responsibility of all repairs needed.
C. The Athletic Department is not responsible for routine dental care such as having cavities repaired or dental problems not related to athletic injury.
D. If a student athlete receives an injury to his/her teeth during an athletic function, any approved dentist will determine the type and extent of repair.
E. It is the student athlete’s responsibility to arrange medical payments for all dental care not associated with athletic injuries incurred during athletic participation.

IX. NONSCHOLARSHIP ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

A. Insurance – To be eligible to practice and/or compete on a intercollegiate team at The University of Southern Mississippi: Non-scholarship student athletes must be covered by a primary medical insurance policy which will cover injuries sustained while competing in intercollegiate athletics. Proof of insurance must be documented before participation.
B. Glasses/Contacts – The University of Southern Mississippi will not pay for the
purchase of contact lenses or glasses unless they are replacements for lenses damaged by result of direct participation in sport.

C. The USM Athletics Department will only cover prescription costs associated with blood pressure, surgical, or injury related conditions. Any other condition is at the USM Sports Medicine Department’s discretion.

D. Pre-Existing conditions requiring medical attention are the student athlete’s responsibility for any/all costs incurred.

X. ATHLETIC TRAINING ROOM

A. General Rules:

1. In order to have an efficiently operated athletic training room, cooperation and help is of utmost importance.

2. USM athletic training rooms are coeducational; as such, appropriate attire is expected at all times. NO spandex, yoga pants, or compression clothing may be worn as outerwear in the athletic training room during treatment or rehabilitation.

3. All staff, student athletic trainers, and student athletes should be treated with respect at all times. Profanity, inappropriate jokes, pranks, horseplay, or behavior that may be offensive to others will not be tolerated. It is against department policy to participate in or condone such behavior.

4. Each time a student athlete receives treatment for an injury, they are required to sign out at the student athlete treatment kiosk prior to leaving the athletic training room.

5. Priority for taping and treatment will be given to the student athlete whose sport is in season.

6. The athletic training room will be open at 6:30 a.m. on weekdays during the school year.

7. Student athletes with illnesses must report daily at the appropriate treatment times to determine daily practice status (See I. A).

8. There is no reason for anyone to be late to practice because of needing care or taping in the athletic training room. The athletic training room will not be tolerated as an excuse to be late to team meetings or practices.

9. NO cell phones, headphones, etc. will be allowed during working hours in the athletic training room.

10. The athletic training facility is governed by the rules of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; therefore there can be NO eating or drinking in the rehabilitation and treatment areas.

11. If a student athlete is experiencing any kind of eating or diet difficulties, it is the student athlete’s obligation to bring this situation to the athletic trainer’s attention. All of these situations will be treated with confidentiality. Only the head athletic trainer is authorized to direct the student athlete to the appropriate professional medical assistance in these cases. Coaches and other staff are prohibited from making recommendations for products, supplements, and for professional assistance in matters regarding eating and diet for the student athlete. Only the Sports Medicine staff and the strength and


**conditioning coach** may provide non-muscle building nutritional supplements to a student athlete at any time for the purpose of providing additional calories and electrolytes, provided the substances fall within the guidelines of the NCAA rules and regulations.

B. Specific Rules:

1. NO CLEATED SHOES are allowed in the athletic training room except on game day.
2. Take nothing from the athletic training room without permission.
3. Profanity is not tolerated.
4. No horseplay or rough housing.
5. No cell phones, earphones, distracting devices are allowed for used in the athletic training room.
6. Shorts and t-shirts are required for effective treatment of most body parts. Student athletes with inappropriate attire will be asked to leave the athletic training room.
7. Shorts or bathing suites must be worn when receiving a whirlpool treatment.
8. It is an NCAA violation to chew or use tobacco products in athletic facilities.
9. The athletic training room is considered a medical health care facility. No food or drink is allowed in the athletic training room.
10. Behavior that exhibits a lack or respect for staff, student athletic trainers, and other student athletes will result in disciplinary action.
11. NO spandex, yoga pants, or compression clothing may be worn as outerwear in the athletic training room during treatment or rehabilitation.
I. INSURANCE:

A. It is The University of Southern Mississippi’s goal to provide medical services to all scholarship and non-scholarship student athletes in a timely manner. This coverage extends to athletes with remaining eligibility for practice and play as set forth by NCAA rules and regulations.

B. The University of Southern Mississippi provides a secondary or excess student athlete accident and injury insurance policy, which covers expenses associated with injuries, and illnesses resulting from supervised participation in intercollegiate athletics during allowable play and practice times as defined by NCAA regulation. THIS POLICY WILL COVER ALL ELIGIBLE EXPENSES REMAINING AFTER ALL BENEFITS HAVE BEEN PAID BY ANY PRIMARY INSURANCE POLICY WHICH IS IN FORCE.

C. Medical Services and Insurance coverage shall extend beyond the completion of eligibility only for athletically related injuries sustained during intercollegiate athletics participation at The University of Southern Mississippi. For coverage to be in place the injury must be documented and evaluated by an approved physician, of The University of Southern Mississippi, prior to the end of school in the year that the student athlete completes their eligibility. The coverage will extend only if the student athlete remains under the care of The University of Southern Mississippi approved physicians. The University reserves the right to place a time limitation on all injuries that continue past the student athlete’s participation in intercollegiate athletics. The University’s obligation will only continue for these documented injuries for a period of two years past the completion of the student athlete’s eligibility.

D. NON-SCHOLARSHIP student athletes must be covered by a primary medical insurance policy, which will cover injuries sustained while competing in intercollegiate athletics. Proof of insurance must be documented on the Primary Insurance Form, Affidavit of Insurance Form, and Walk-on Participation Authorization Form, prior to start of practice. If the student athlete’s primary insurance is terminated during his athletic tenure, he will be deemed ineligible to compete until he provides a new coverage policy. If the student athlete is injured and has an insurance policy that has termed, the USM Athletic Department has the right to deny medical coverage outside of the reasonable and customary discounted rates assigned by his/her former insurance policy.

E. All student athletes must have on file prior to commencement of practice a current Parent’s Information Form, Affidavit of Insurance Form, Authorization for Treatment Form, and Authorization to Release Medical Information Form. Failure to have the proper forms on file will result in an inability of the student athlete to participate in any practice, conditioning, or games.
II. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

A. The University of Southern Mississippi Department of Intercollegiate Athletics assumes no financial obligation or liability for medical/health services or treatment unless; such service or treatment have been authorized in advance by the head athletic trainer or assistant athletic trainer as designated by the head athletic trainer. No head coach or assistant coach may recommend a student athlete to seek medical care, or personally schedule an appointment for a student athlete’s medical care without the prior approval and authorization of the head athletic trainer or his designated assistant. Student athlete’s who seek medical care without such proper prior authorization will be responsible for all charges associated with such care.

B. The only exception to the above policy will be if (1) a student athlete is injured or becomes ill during travel or competition relative to a scheduled and supervised intercollegiate athletic contest out of town and that required treatment in that location, or (2) in the event a student athlete is referred to an out of town medical provider by a physician working in direct consultation with any approved physician of The University of Southern Mississippi.

C. The University of Southern Mississippi Department of Intercollegiate Athletics will only be responsible for illness that can be dealt with through the University’s Student Health Center. **Financial obligation that occurs as a result of off campus referral for an illness will be the student athlete’s responsibility. This includes any referral by the Moffett Student Health Center to the emergency room or any other medical facility for evaluation and for treatment.** The exception to this would be stated in part “B” above.

D. The University of Southern Mississippi will not assume financial obligation or responsibility for illnesses or injuries where a referral is sought outside of the University’s established student athlete health care program without prior knowledge and consent of the head athletic trainer, any approved physician, or athletic director.

E. The University of Southern Mississippi Department of Intercollegiate Athletics reserves the right to accept or reject financial obligation or responsibility relative to injuries or illnesses resulting from incidents which are indirectly related or unrelated to athletic participation at the intercollegiate level or which are related but occur in unsupervised activities taking place outside of play and practice seasons as defined by NCAA rules.

F. If the sports medicine staff, or any approved physicians in consultation with recognized health care professionals certify that a student athlete who had incurred an injury or illness is sufficiently recovered to reasonably permit participation in intercollegiate athletics, and that student athlete refuses to engage in such participation, all financial obligations of the University with respect to the provision of medical care and financial aid will simultaneously terminate.

G. Subject to provisions of the prevailing medical and accident insurance policy, if an injured or ill student athlete should withdraw or graduate from The University
of Southern Mississippi, provision of medical care and financial obligations for such medical care and for financial aid will simultaneously terminate.

H. When a student athlete completes a baccalaureate degree or the fifth year of enrollment, whichever comes first, the University will consider its obligation to provide medical care as well as expenses dependent upon the time left available on the student athlete’s athletic time clock.

I. **Athletically Related Injuries:** Expenses for medical treatment in excess of the coverage by the student athlete’s primary insurance coverage that are incurred by a student athlete as the result of an athletically related injury will be covered by the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics’ health and medical care program. The injury must be directly related to activities associated with intercollegiate athletics participation taking place during regular play and practice times as defined by NCAA regulations. Injuries occurring during the summer months are only covered as outlined in Part II sections D-G.

This policy applies only to student athletes who have remaining eligibility, as defined by NCAA regulation and those who have completed their eligibility if the injury occurred during their participation while eligible. Student athletic trainers and managers, graduate assistants, etc. are not covered by this policy. This policy for the non-scholarship athlete is modified by the requirement in part (I-D).

Injuries and illnesses not directly related to participation in athletics, and are not covered by this policy. As such, student athletes will be responsible for all costs incurred as a result of such injuries and illnesses.

J. **Prescription medications, injections, physical therapy:** Prescription medications, injections, and physical therapy that are required by a student athlete any time during the academic year to enable the student athlete to participate in intercollegiate athletics will be covered by the medical and health care program. Payment for such items will be paid by the athletic department’s secondary insurance policy or by the department of athletics after action by the student athlete’s primary insurance. A current Rx card and Insurance card from the athlete’s primary insurance must be on file with the university’s Sports Medicine staff. Physical therapy that is required for the student athlete at home during summer months, or holidays will be limited to what the student athletes insurance will allow, or per approval by the head athletic trainer. However, prior approval must be obtained for such services and will be organized by the Sports Medicine staff. This does not include the treatment of chronic conditions such as allergies, diabetes, birth control, etc.

This policy applies only to student athletes who have remaining eligibility, as defined by NCAA regulation and those who have completed their eligibility if the injury occurred during their participation while eligible. Student athletic trainers and managers, graduate assistants, etc. are not covered by this policy.
K. Medical examinations: Medical examinations at any time for enrolled student athletes will be covered by the medical and health care program if, in the opinion of the head athletic trainer, such examinations are necessary to allow the student athlete to participate in intercollegiate athletics. This applies only to student athletes who have remaining eligibility, as defined by NCAA regulation, and those who completed their eligibility if the injury occurred during their participation while eligible. Student athletic trainers and managers, graduate assistants, etc. are not covered by this policy.

L. Optical benefits: Contact lenses, and protective eyewear will be covered, for the scholarship student athlete, by the health and medical program, if in the opinion of the head athletic trainer and consulting eye professions all such visual correction is required to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Eyewear lost or broken in non-athletic activities will not be covered by this policy and the student athlete will be responsible for replacement costs. The student athlete may be able to qualify for these benefits under the NCAA student athlete special assistance fund.

This policy applies only to student athletes who have remaining eligibility, as defined by NCAA regulation and those who have completed their eligibility if the injury occurred during their participation while eligible. This policy is not applicable during summer months. Student athletic trainers and managers, graduate assistants, etc. are not covered by this policy.

M. Dental benefits: Teeth cleaning, teeth filling and other dental work will not be covered by the medical and health care program. Dental work that is a direct result of an athletically related injury, incurred during supervised play or practice will be covered within the policies and procedures of medical coverage. Dental benefits will extend only to natural, sound teeth. Dental benefits will not include routing, cleansing, or cosmetic dentistry. The student athlete may be able to qualify for these benefits under the NCAA and special assistance fund.

This policy applies only to student athletes who have remaining eligibility, as defined by NCAA regulation, and those who have completed their eligibility if the injury occurred during their participation while eligible. This policy is not applicable during summer months. Student athletic trainers and managers, graduate assistants, etc. are not covered by this policy.

III. GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

A. All policies and procedures relative to student athlete medical and health care programs at The University of Southern Mississippi will be administered in strict compliance with NCAA bylaw 16.4.

B. Student athletes who are treated by out of town physicians for any illness or injury not directly associated with travel to or from participation in a scheduled and supervised intercollegiate play or practice may not participate in intercollegiate athletics at The University of Southern Mississippi until they are released to do so
in writing by the involved physician. Such written release must be submitted to The University of Southern Mississippi’s head athletic trainer and approved by any approved physician prior to participation.

C. Specific situations or events not directly addressed by these policies and procedures may be presented to the Director of Athletics to obtain a determination regarding the University’s acceptance or denial of financial responsibility relative to such situations or events. Any questions regarding the specific application of these policies and procedures should be directed to the Director of Athletics, or his designated representative for such matters. All decisions of the Director of Athletics of his designee on these situations or events are final.

D. All student athletes who wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics at The University of Southern Mississippi must undergo a physical examination prior to participation; such physical examinations will be directed by any approved physicians and the Sports Medicine staff in consultation with recognized physicians. The Sports Medicine staff will schedule all physical examinations. Successful completion of a physical examination prior to the beginning of play and practice for a particular academic year will enable the student athlete to compete during the entire year baring the occurrence of a season ending illness or injury. The head coach is responsible for assuring that requirements for the physical examination are met by all student athletes participating in their respective sports.

E. Prior to participating in intercollegiate athletics, (any practice, conditioning session, or game), a student athlete must have the following information completed yearly and on file in the athletic training room: (1) primary insurance information and parent information form, (2), copies of the primary insurance prescription and health insurance cards, (3) student athlete local & emergency contact information, (4) affidavit of insurance, (5) authorization for treatment form, (6) medical history form or returning student athlete form (if applicable), (7) female athlete questionnaire (if applicable), (8) concussion policy acknowledgement, (9) warning statement regarding potential for injury form, (10) acknowledgement of athletic training policies and procedures, and (11) The University of Southern Mississippi administered physical examination with approved physicians signature. Such information must be updated as required and will be maintained in the athletic training room.

- **Primary insurance information form:** provides information necessary to expeditiously file insurance claims and process medical bills should the need arise.
- **Primary insurance and prescription cards:** facilitate a prompt filing and payment of medical claims.
- **Student athlete local information form:** provides the athletic training room with accurate local information for all student athletes (if applicable).
- **Affidavit of insurance:** indicates the status of the student athlete’s insurance coverage and authorizes the release of prior medical records and
information relative to the student athlete to The University of Southern Mississippi in the event such information is required.

- **Authorization for treatment form:** authorizes the athletic trainers and or any approved physicians to provide immediate care to the student athlete in the event such immediate care is deemed necessary.

- **Medical history form:** provides vital information relative to the past medical history and other significant conditions about the student athlete. It is used to inform and assist the Sports Medicine staff and consulting physicians in providing services within the University’s medical care program. A student athlete who does not disclose any injury or diagnosed illness sustained prior to enrollment at The University of Southern Mississippi will not be entitled to benefits under this policy in subsequent re-injury or if exacerbation of the illness occurs.

- **Returning student athlete form:** provides student athlete opportunity to report any new injuries that have occurred over the summer and as a follow-up from the previous year.

- **Female athlete questionnaire:** required for female athletes only (if applicable).

- **Concussion Policy Acknowledgement:** contains warnings about the signs and symptoms associated with a concussion that could be sustained during a student athlete’s participation in intercollegiate athletics. This form must be signed and on file before the student athlete will be cleared to participate in practice and competitions.

- **Warning statement regarding potential for injury form:** contains warnings about the inherent risks of injury associated with the student athlete’s participation in intercollegiate athletics. This form must be signed and on file before the student athlete will be cleared to participate in practice and competitions.

- **Acknowledgement of Athletic Training Policies and Procedures:** states that the student athlete and their parents have read and agree to the terms of the policies and procedures that govern The University of Southern Mississippi’s Sports Medicine Department. This form must be signed and on file before the student athlete will be cleared to participate in practice and competition.

F. At the discretion of the Director of Athletics, the University may continue to provide financial aid to a student athlete who has sustained an injury, which requires him/her to cease all future participation in intercollegiate athletics through the student athletes graduation or fourth year of enrollment, whichever comes first. However, the University will not be obligated by these or any other policies to provide such financial in all circumstances.