

Vernon College Athletics 2018-2019 Drug Testing Policy

In order to protect the student/athlete, and the integrity of the Vernon College Intercollegiate Athletic Program, the Athletic Department reserves the right to randomly drug test any student/athlete using the following policy.

Vernon College's drug testing policy is outlined below:

1. Vernon College and the athletics program stringently follow NJCAA and NIRA Guidelines with reference to drug abuse. The unauthorized use of any substance on the NCAA banned substance list is expressly prohibited.
2. ***Vernon College will test in a random, unannounced, mandatory basis. Refusal to undergo testing will be viewed in the same manner as a positive test.***
3. Any athlete who voluntarily approaches a Vernon College authority for help with an alcohol or drug problem prior to Vernon College's request for testing will be accorded confidentiality and referral for professional help.
4. Sanctions for substance or alcohol abuse may include, but are not limited to:
 - A. suspension from intercollegiate teams
 - B. loss of athletic scholarship aid
 - C. permanent prohibition against competing in the intercollegiate program at Vernon College
 - D. immediate removal from college housing
 - E. other disciplinary sanctions as stated in the current Vernon College Student Handbook.

Chain of Custody

1. The Head Athletic Trainer will be responsible for securing the contract with a designated testing facility for sample collection. All samples will be collected by the designated testing facility.
2. All samples will be sent to an outside lab for testing.

Positive Test Sanctions

1. The Head Athletic Trainer will notify the Athletic Director (AD), Dean of Student Services and the President of Vernon College of the positive test. The AD and Head Athletic Trainer will notify the Head Coach. The AD, the Head Athletic Trainer and the Head Coach will notify the student-athlete in person. The student-athlete will be informed of the current disciplinary action and consequences of the positive test.
2. Due to the well-documented dangers of cocaine, heroin, certain prescription drugs, hallucinogenics, methamphetamines and marijuana the Department of Athletics has chosen to put these substances in a special class of drug abuse. Anyone testing positive of cocaine, heroin, certain prescription drugs, hallucinogenics, methamphetamines or marijuana will automatically be dealt with IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL AND TERMINATION OF ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP AID.

Appeal Process

1. The student-athlete may make a request for a re-test within 24 hours of being informed of the positive test.
2. All athletes that test positive have the right to an appeal hearing.
3. The hearing will be held within two (2) weeks following the athlete being notified of a positive result.
4. The hearing will be conducted according to the Non Academic Grievance Procedures outlined in the Student Handbook.
5. The athlete must abide by the findings of the Student Appeals Committee.
6. The student/athlete will not be permitted to compete or practice during the appeals process.

Counseling

Vernon College Counselors may conduct the initial counseling and referral for any athletes that test positive.

A letter concerning a positive test will be filed with the AD and Dean of Student Services. All other documentation of the positive test results will be filed with the student-athletes athletic medical file located in the Head Athletic Trainer's office.

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Drug Testing Policy

I _____ a student/athlete at Vernon College have read and understand the drug testing policy at Vernon College. By my signature I understand all ramifications of a positive test as described in the Vernon College Athletics Drug Testing Policy.

Signature

Date

Refusal Section

(Please read carefully. **DO NOT** Sign in this section unless refusing to abide by VC Testing policy)

I _____ refuse to sign the above stated policy with the understanding that this constitutes removal from participation as a Vernon College student/athlete.

Signature

Date