

Cazenovia College
Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

DRUG TESTING PROGRAM

PHILOSOPHY

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at Cazenovia College (hereafter referred to as the “Department”) believes that the use of illicit drugs will compromise the health and safety, as well as the academic ability of the student-athlete. In order to attempt to prevent the risk associated with illicit drug use, the Department has developed and implemented the following drug testing program.

PURPOSES

The purposes of the drug-testing program are as follows:

- To educate the student-athlete about the harmful physical, psychological, and social effects of illicit drug use/abuse.
- To discourage the use/abuse of experimentation with illicit drugs.
- To demonstrate that illicit drug use/abuse by student-athletes is a serious concern of the Department and will not be tolerated.
- To maintain the integrity of the individual student-athletes, the Department, Cazenovia College, the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC), the Eastern Athletic Conference (ECAC), and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

PROGRAM

The Department reserves the right to require a urine specimen from any participant involved in Intercollegiate Athletics at Cazenovia College. Participants are full-time, matriculated students enrolled in a baccalaureate program of study at Cazenovia College chosen by a Head Coach to represent the school in competition. All student-athletes, both male and female will be required to participate in the Department’s drug testing program.

The drug-testing program will be coordinated and administered by the Head Athletic Trainer, Department administration, and the testing laboratory.

At the beginning of each academic year or at the beginning of each athletic season, a presentation will be made to all members of intercollegiate athletic teams including the Cheer/Dance team and Equestrian team at Cazenovia College to explain the intercollegiate athletic drug-testing program. A copy of the program will be given to, and reviewed with, each student-athlete. At this time, each student-athlete will be required to sign the following document: (See Appendix A).

1. A form verifying the understanding of the program.
2. Informed consent and release of liability form.
3. A form authorizing the release of medical information and records under the Cazenovia College Department of Intercollegiate Athletics drug-testing program.
4. A form authorizing the release of drug testing information to a select group of individuals.

The drug-testing program will be conducted randomly from the months of September through May. All student-athletes selected for testing will be selected randomly. Each student-athlete will be assigned an identification number. The numbers will be selected randomly through a computer generated random number selection program. A student-athlete will be notified of selection by the Head Athletic Trainer a minimum of 8 hours prior to testing. Once notified, the student-athlete will be expected to arrive for testing at the designated time and testing site, with proper identification.

Student-athletes may also be required to participate in the drug testing when the Department in its sole discretion has probable cause to believe a student-athlete is or has been using any banned substance or has possession of a banned substance. In this instance, the 8 hour minimum notification is void, and testing will take place immediately.

The drug-testing program will consist of the collection of a urine sample from the student-athlete under the supervision of the Head Athletic Trainer. The collection will take place in the rest room next to the Athletic Trainer's Office. Each urine sample will be analyzed for the presence of drugs by an outside laboratory contracted by the Department to provide such service. Every possible step will be taken to assure and maintain the accuracy and confidentiality of the test results, including the maintenance of a documented chain of sample custody to insure the identity and integrity of the sample throughout the collection and testing process.

The drugs being tested for include THC, cocaine, opiates, phencyclidine (PCP), amphetamines, ecstasy, and substances used to alter test results. All substances as banned by the NCAA may be tested for randomly.

A positive test result is defined as a test result in which the presence of one or more of the banned substances are present in the student-athletes urine as determined by the laboratory's testing procedures. The College may take action as set forth in the Program if any banned substance is detected in the specimen. Furthermore, substances taken to alter the test results will be detected in the specimen. If detected, this will be considered a positive test result.

In the event of a positive test result, the testing agency will notify the Head Athletic Trainer. Test results will be received 48-72 hours after the testing date. The Head Athletic Trainer will notify immediately via telephone or in person athletes testing positive.

TEST RESULTS

A first positive test by a student-athlete will result in an immediate suspension from all intercollegiate athletic activity. The student-athlete testing positive will be required to sit out 10% of the remainder of the season immediately. If the suspension percentage falls during or within a contest, the athlete must sit out that entire contest as well. The student-athlete will be required to attend an incident review board (IRB - See Appendix B) hearing to determine if any further sanctions are needed, a mandatory counseling session with a counselor from the College Counseling Center, and a medical evaluation by a physician. The incident review board will determine if further suspension is necessary after their review of each individual case. This board will be headed by the Head Athletic Trainer who will be assisted by the counselor and physician. The student-athlete will be allowed to return to intercollegiate athletic activity upon the recommendation of the incident review board. Failure to abide by the stated sanctions will be treated as a second positive test result.

A second positive test will result in an immediate suspension from all intercollegiate athletic activity for one year from the date of violation. The student-athlete will be required to meet the Incident Review Board (IRB – See Appendix B) and the physician, attend counseling sessions throughout the suspension, and obtain negative drug screens (frequency and dates to be determined by the IRB and will be at the athlete's expense). Further sanctions against, or expectations of the athlete, will be determined at the discretion of the IRB. Failure to abide by the above stated sanctions will be treated as a third positive test result.

A third positive test result will result in permanent loss of athletic department eligibility.

Any student-athlete has the right to challenge the test result as a “false positive”. The student –athlete must notify the Head Athletic Trainer within 24 hours after notification of a positive test result to discuss the test results. Upon receiving notice of the challenge, the student-athlete will meet with the Athletic Trainer for further discussion about the reliability of the test to determine whether an additional test should be administered. If an additional test is administered, the original urine sample will be used.

If the Head Athletic Trainer determines that the test result reflects a true positive, the test results may be communicated to, but not necessarily limited to, the Director of Athletics, head coach of the respective sport, and the parent or guardian identified by the student-athlete.

In the event that a student-athlete refuses to give a urine sample, or who fails to appear at the time scheduled for testing, it will be treated as a first positive test and sanctions will be imposed accordingly.

APPENDIX B INCIDENT REVIEW BOARD PROCEDURES

The purpose of the Department's Incident Review Board (IRB) is to review, in the presence of the student-athlete, any alcohol or drug use accusations, whether factual or of probable cause, made by campus or off campus officials, and all violations of the Department's alcohol or drug policy, and of drug testing program.

The IRB will consist of the Head Athletic Trainer, a counselor, and a physician.

All proceedings of the IRB will follow the judicial hearing guidelines as stated in the Cazenovia College Student Handbook. Confidentiality of the proceedings, consistent with the terms of any waiver signed, will be respected and maintained.

Any student-athlete who has sanctions placed upon him/her by the IRB has the right to appeal the decisions made by the IRB. All appeals will go through the Vice President for Student Life. Appeal procedure will follow the appeal procedure guidelines as stated in the Cazenovia College Student Handbook.