**Virginia Tech Athletics Department**

**Protocol on Student-Athlete Participation in Research**

***Research Subcommittee:***

Danny White – Senior Associate Athletics Director, Student-Athlete Services/University Affairs

Bridget Brugger McSorley – Senior Associate Athletics Director, Strategic Affairs

Mark Rogers – Chief Medical Officer and Head Team Physician

Zack Maust – Research Coordinator, Sports Medicine (Chair)

Ally Onyon – Senior Director, Sports Nutrition

\*Head Coach(s) of student-athletes/teams requested to be represented in proposed research

***Summary:***

Virginia Tech Athletics Department receives numerous requests for student-athletes and teams to participate in research. As part of the university community, we would like to foster research opportunities within the community in a safe, productive, and ethical manner. In order to protect our student-athlete’s welfare and privacy, we require that all proposed research projects be sent to our research subcommittee for review and approval before having any contact with our coaching staff or student-athletes. The subcommittee will not review any applications without an IRB approval.

***Procedure:***

All research projects that wish to involve Virginia Tech student-athletes as subjects must be reviewed by the research subcommittee. A representative from the research team should complete the attached research application for review and send to Zach Maust at [zmaust4@vt.edu](mailto:zmaust4@vt.edu) The subcommittee will meet to review the application. The representative will then be notified of the subcommittee’s decision.

It is recommended that representatives complete an application at least 30 days in advance of their proposed research start date.

Goals of the review process:

* Protect the student-athlete welfare while fostering a research environment within the community
* Protect the safety of each student-athlete and the team overall
* Protect the privacy of the student-athletes involved
* Ensure only ethical research is being conducted on our student-athletes

The Virginia Tech research subcommittee and the proposed research team assume:

* Consent for participation and approval may be removed at any time.
* Confidentiality is of highest priority.
* IRB approval will be obtained prior to subcommittee review.
* Any source of funding or conflict of interest must be disclosed up front.
* Student-athletes must be clearly informed that participation is at their own free will and will not be coerced into participating. Playing time is in no way connected to participation.

**Virginia Tech Athletics Research Application Form**

Principal Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Research Topic:

Title of Proposed Research:

Description of Project:

Briefly describe your interest in using student-athletes as your research participants:

Other pertinent information to be shared with Athletics Department:

**Please attach the following:**

IRB Letter of Approval (including approval date and approval expiration date)

Copy of the Informed Consent Form

Any known conflict of interests

Expected commitment and inconveniences for student-athlete participants

(For Athletic Department Use only)

* The Athletic Department approves this research to be conducted on its student-athletes.
* The Virginia Tech Athletic Department DOES NOT approve this research to be conducted on its student-athletes for the following reasons:

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(Senior Associate Athletic Director, Student-Athlete Services/University Affairs) (Date)

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(Senior Associate Athletic Director, Strategic Affairs) (Date)

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(Associate Athletics Director, Sports Medicine) (Date)

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(Research Coordinator, Sports Medicine) (Date)

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(Senior Director, Sports Nutrition) (Date)

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(Sport(s) Representative, Coaching Staff) (Date)