

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS
BOARD POLICY

Policy Number: 800

Subject: Role of Athletic Programs

Date Adopted: 05/92 Revised: 05/08, 1/21

The Board of Trustees adopts the following statement of the role of athletic programs for the University of Central Arkansas:

Varsity and intramural athletic programs play a significant role at the University of Central Arkansas. They provide students with valuable extra-curricular activities and other individuals and groups with an important sense of community.

Individuals who participate in collegiate athletics must be, first and foremost, students, subject to the same privileges and requirements as other students. As members of the university community, they should not be segregated by policy or practice from others in the student body, in housing accommodations or otherwise. Athletic events and activities should, to the extent possible, be scheduled to avoid conflict with academic programs and requirements.

Although athletic programs may open professional opportunities for some students, the recreational and social aspects should predominate at the varsity level. The university and its athletic programs should avoid excessive emphasis upon winning and should give all students reasonable opportunities to participate in either varsity or intramural events.

Athletic programs are significant activities for all segments of the university community, and each segment may be appropriately involved in various aspects of their operations. In all instances, however, the university should ensure that rules and regulations are scrupulously followed and that the programs and activities are consistent with the university's academic mission.

The Board of Trustees retains responsibility for the policies under which athletic programs operate, and the president is primarily responsible for administration. However, the faculty, staff and students should also be closely involved in the development of policy and in the periodic review of program operations.

Administrative structures which would allow athletic programs to operate outside the university's normal rules and procedures of governance should not be allowed to develop. The focus of the programs should be upon the university community rather than upon entertainment of large audiences unaffiliated with the university.

The Board of Trustees fully supports compliance with all NCAA, ASUN Conference and university policies.