Managing Athletic/Academic Concerns

Important contacts:
Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR): David Owens (2020-2021) dowens@haverford.edu office 610-896-4295
Athletic Director: Wendy Smith wsmith@haverford.edu Athletics office 610-896-1120

Documentation to consult:
Community Guidelines on Academics and Athletics: on the web at:
https://www.haverfordathletics.com/information/saac/Community_Guidelines_on_Academics_and_Athletics.pdf
Athletic team schedules on the web at www.haverfordathletics.com

On schedules and scheduling conflicts:
• Students are generally left to declare and negotiate their own scheduling conflicts, and they usually do an excellent job!
• Classes are not generally scheduled between 4-7 pm.
• There is no set number of classes that can be missed for games: please approach student scheduling conflicts with a spirit of openness and negotiation.
• You should expect that student-athlete(s) with known conflicts should approach you as early as possible.
• Sometimes schedules change at the last minute: in these cases, please try to be as flexible as possible, but don’t be afraid to speak up for yourself or your class. Common causes are:
  o Postseason play and NCAA tournaments
  o Rainouts and rescheduled games (especially during the spring season)
• Students should not miss classes or leave class early for practice.

Best practices for faculty:
• Do not schedule special sessions, recitations, thesis group meetings, make-up classes, etc. between 4-7pm: these will also impact many students who are not varsity athletes.
• Consider scheduling seminar speakers outside of the 4-7pm window: your student attendance will be higher and the audience will be more engaged.
• Always provide maximum advance notice (on course syllabi if at all possible) for special events outside of regularly scheduled class time, especially events that will be required as part of a class. (For particularly important events, it is often useful to contact the Athletic Director ahead of time to uncover possible conflicts and address them ahead of time.)
• Contact the FAR and/or the Athletic Director with any questions or concerns, at any time.

Roles of the FAR:
• A potential first contact or mediator when:
  o You have questions about how to handle a specific scenario
  o A scheduling conflict can’t be immediately resolved to everyone’s satisfaction
  o A student declares a conflict at the very last minute
• A personal liaison to the Athletic Director (we meet weekly) and to individual coaches
• A listening ear and the community “monitor” around these issues

***Due to Covid-19 guidelines/accommodations/uncertainties, the 20-21 academic year will be based on flexibility and patience – please direct any questions to David or Wendy as all situations are fluid***