Philosophy and Value of Intercollegiate Athletics at Cornell

The Cornell College Athletic Department exists to provide a unique and valuable learning experience in the context of Cornell’s rigorous academic program. Each team contributes significantly to the development of the individual student and the enrichment of the college community overall. Through our sports program we seek to enhance the Student-Athlete experience by offering additional avenues of learning for them as well as elevating school pride.

Participation in athletics at Cornell provides a complimentary yet unique role within the educational setting at the college. Student-Athletes learn a wide array of lessons and skills in a manner unique from how they are taught elsewhere on campus. During their time on the “Hill Top” as participants in athletics our students learn about:

- Accountability
- Leadership
- Civic Engagement/Community Service
- Learning from Mistakes
- Competitive Excellence
- Persistence
- Discipline
- Problem Solving
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Professional Conduct
- Ethical Conduct
- Risk Taking
- Goal Setting
- Social Responsibility
- Sportsmanship
- Honor
- Team Work
- Individual responsibility
- Time Management
- Integrity
- Overcoming Adversity
- Work Ethic

Cornell Athletics as well as those who serve our Student-Athletes as coaches, support staff and administrators are honored to be a part of the process of guiding and supporting our Student-Athletes to use their talents and gifts to excel academically, athletically and socially. Participation in athletics allows us to teach and prepare students in a very special way in support of the College’s Mission. Rams Athletics also serves a role in civic engagement and community service in the greater Mount Vernon and local community in these ways:

- Through home competition we invite the community to be a part of our successes
- We instill pride and provide visibility for the broader college community
- Our Student-Athletes serve as role models, mentors and examples of what athletes can do as individuals and members of a team
- Our teams contribute over 2,000 hours annually of service to the community and campus

Above all else, athletics at Cornell College produce college graduates, champions and lifelong friends and supporters of the college.