The Cornell College Department of Athletics (the “Department”) has adopted this Code of Conduct (“Code”) to ensure that all student-athletes comply with Cornell College standards and the Department standards, and that all student-athletes understand the potential consequences associated with failure to comply with these standards.

1. Responsibility and Sportsmanship
   a. Student-athletes are highly visible representatives of Cornell College (“Cornell” or the “College”) and are required to abide by all College policies and regulations, including, but not limited to, the policies set forth in The Compass: Student Policy Handbook (the “Compass”). Student-athletes are also required to abide by all rules and regulations set forth by the NCAA, the Midwest Conference, the Department, specific intercollegiate team rules, regulations and policies and federal, state and local law. In addition, student-athletes, by their participation in intercollegiate athletics at Cornell, understand and agree to abide by the Department Code.
   b. Student-athletes are expected to conform to established guidelines of sportsmanlike conduct in intercollegiate athletic competition, both on and off the playing field. Acts of fair play include, but are not limited to, showing respect toward all who are in attendance at an athletic event including officials, coaches, athletes, opponents, spectators, and the media. Student-athletes are responsible for understanding good sportsmanship and fair play in the context of their sports as well as defined by their coach. Unportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to, inappropriate behavior in language, gesture, or action which demeans, physically intimidates, or endangers others. Student-athletes are expected to conform to the established guidelines of sportsmanlike conduct at all times, including, but not limited to practices, scrimmages, competition, team travel, team meetings, and other team, College, Midwest Conference and NCAA events.

2. Academics
   a. Student-athletes are students first and, as such, are responsible for knowing and following all regulations and responsibilities for academic life, as outlined in the Compass.
   b. Student-athletes are also responsible for maintaining their academic NCAA eligibility, by maintaining full-time enrollment (at least 3 blocks per semester) and remaining in good academic standing, as defined by the College, in its sole discretion.

3. NCAA compliance
   a. Student-athletes shall read and sign the required NCAA compliance forms on an annual basis. These forms include the Student-Athlete Statement Concerning Eligibility, the Buckley Amendment consent, the Promotion of NCAA Championships permission, and Results of Drug Tests release. Other forms may be required in certain circumstances.
b. Student-athletes shall abide by all NCAA rules and regulations, including, but not limited to those rules and regulations pertaining to Ethical Conduct, Amateurism, Drug Testing and Eligibility.

4. **Online Social Networking and Digital Platforms**
   a. Student-athletes are not restricted from using on-line social media sites and/or digital platforms. Any content posted by a student-athlete via on-line social networks or digital platforms, shall comply with all policies, rules and regulations of the College, the Midwest Conference and the NCAA, as well as with federal, state and local law. Failure to comply with said policies may subject the student-athlete to discipline as set forth in the Code and the Compass.
   b. Student-athletes should remember to be thoughtful before posting content to social media and respect the purpose of the community where you are posting. Remember, that there is no such thing as a “private” social media site. Comments can be forwarded or copied, and the archival systems save information even if you delete a post. If you feel angry or passionate about a subject, it is suggested that you delay posting until you are calm and clear-headed.
   c. Student-athletes shall not post content to social media sites on behalf of the College, the Department or any intercollegiate athletic team unless expressly assigned by Department staff. “**Student Social Media Waiver**” must be signed prior to posting content to social media sites on behalf of the College, the Department or any intercollegiate athletic team.
   d. Student-athletes shall exercise appropriate caution if they choose to participate in social media sites. Student-athletes are reminded that all policies listed in this Code and in the Compass apply to the virtual environment, including social media sites.

5. **Alcohol and Drug Policy**
   a. Cornell College prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by student-athletes. The college will impose sanctions on student-athletes who violate this policy consistent with local, state, and federal law. Athletes will be subject to the ‘Failure to Comply Procedures’ specified in the Code and in the Compass.
   b. Cornell College and our athletic department is committed to offering counseling and/or referral to the appropriate agencies for problems associated with drugs and alcohol. For student-athletes, the campus counseling center is available for confidential counseling and referral.

6. **Hazing**
   a. The NCAA defines hazing as “any act committed against someone joining or becoming a member or maintaining membership in any organization that is humiliating, intimidating or demeaning, or endangers the health and safety of the person. Hazing includes active or passive participation in such acts and occurs regardless of the willingness to participate in the activities. Hazing creates an environment/climate in which dignity and respect are absent.”
   b. Hazing constitutes harassment, as set forth in the Compass, and violates state and local laws. Hazing is prohibited at the College, and student-athletes shall not engage in or otherwise participate in hazing. The College will adhere to the policies and procedures pertaining to harassment, as set forth in the Compass, when handling an alleged hazing incident. Any student-athlete who participates in hazing may be subject to discipline,
including, but not limited to, the discipline set forth in the Code, the Compass and potential criminal and civil liability.

7. **Athletic Training Protocols**
   a. The Cornell College Athletic Training Department operates under the guidelines set by the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook and follows standard operating procedures created by Cornell College’s staff of licensed athletic trainers in conjunction with the Cornell Student Health Services and the Department team physician.
   b. All student-athletes shall read and complete the required medical forms prior to participation in any athletics activity. Full disclosure and honesty are required for safety and liability protection of all student-athletes, coaches and medical staff members.
   c. Student-athletes must have primary insurance coverage to participate in intercollegiate athletics. The College provides secondary insurance coverage for student-athletes, who are injured during an official, coached practice or game. Students and their families must work with the athletic training staff for insurance claims through the secondary policy.

8. **Hosting Prospective Students on Campus**
   a. Any student-athlete who is serving as an overnight host for a recruit must abide by all College rules and regulations, including, but not limited to the policies regarding visitors and minors, contained in the Compass.
   b. The prospective student-athlete is not permitted to consume any alcohol during his/her visit. The student-athlete who is hosting the prospective student-athlete takes responsibility for the welfare of the prospect during the visit, and therefore must follow the itinerary provided by the coach, remain with the prospect during all social events and shall not provide the prospect with alcohol. Further, student-athletes, at all times, shall comply with the College’s alcohol policy.

9. **Team Policies/Rules**
   a. In addition to the expectations outlined in the Code, each student-athlete shall also abide by the specific team policies and rules, consistent with College policies, for his or her respective team. The head coach of each athletic team has authority to impose sanctions for violations of team policies and rules, consistent with College policies.

10. **Failure to Comply Procedure**
    a. Student-athletes who fail to abide by the Code may be subject to disciplinary action from the head coach and/or the Department, consistent with College policies. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, sanctions up to and including possible termination of athletic participation.
    b. This process is subject to Department policies, and is separate and distinct from the College’s conduct process. To the extent the College’s conduct process has been initiated, the Department will defer to the College’s conduct process.
    c. When a violation is suspected the Director of Athletics, Assistant Athletic Director, the head coach and/or any pertinent staff members will take reasonable steps, to initiate an investigation, to verify the validity, reliability and accuracy of the report. In most cases, a meeting will be held with the student-athlete to discuss the facts before any disciplinary action is imposed.
    d. Possible sanctions, per this Code and College policy, may include, but are not limited to:
       i. Written warning
       ii. Probation – limited participation/status for a set period of time
iii. Required educational or counseling sessions  
iv. Drug testing  
v. Restitution  
vi. Suspension – removal from some or all athletic activities for a set period of time  
vii. Expulsion – permanent removal from all athletic activities  
e. Sanctions may be appealed to the Dean of Students office. Appeals must be made in writing and submitted within seven days of the decision. The Department retains the authority to implement the sanction pending the appeal.

**Agreement/Waiver**

I understand and agree that, as a condition to participate in the intercollegiate athletics program, I am required to know, understand, and follow the standards contained in the Cornell College Student Athlete Code of Conduct and the College policies. I understand the sanctions that will be imposed due to a violation of these standards. If I have further questions regarding this Student Athlete Code of Conduct I understand that I can ask my coach, Director of Athletics, Keith Hackett, Senior Women's Administrator, Lindsay Smith, or Assistant Athletic Director, Jeff Meeker.

SPORT(S): _______________________________ DATE: ____________________________

PRINTED NAME: ________________________________

SIGNATURE: ____________________________________________

**Photography Release**

I hereby authorize PEC-Photo or any other photographer acting pursuant to the College’s authority to:

- Record my likeness and voice on video, audio, photographic, digital, electronic or any other medium.
- Use my name in connection with these recordings.
- Use, reproduce, exhibit or distribute in any medium (e.g., print publications, videos, Internet/www) these records for any purpose that the College, and those acting pursuant to its authority, deem appropriate, including, but not limited to, promotional and advertising efforts.

I release the College and those acting pursuant to its authority from liability for any violation of any personal or proprietary right that I may have in connection with such use. I understand that all such recording, in whatever medium, shall remain the property of the College and/or those acting pursuant to its authority. I have read and fully understand the terms of this release.

SIGNATURE: ____________________________________________