

Forward

This Manual was developed to help each coach understand and operate within the guidelines, policies, and procedures of the Athletic Department. Examples are provided for each form. Questions should be directed to the Director of Athletics, Associate Athletic Director for Marketing and Media Relations, Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academic Support, Administrative Assistant, Business Manager, or Equipment Room Manager. Coaches are expected to administer their program ethically, within the guidelines of the university, the Peach Belt Conference, and the NCAA, and efficiently, within the parameters of their individual budgets.

The Manual will not duplicate information and forms readily available in other formats; in addition, each coach is expected to be familiar with and to operate within policies and guidelines published in the NCAA Manual and such University publications as the Francis Marion University Manual for Administration and Staff, the Purchasing and Procurement Manual, the University Catalog, the Student Handbook, and the Student-Athlete Handbook.

Philosophy and Purpose of the Intercollegiate Athletics Program Francis Marion University

In accordance with the institutional mission of Francis Marion University, the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is an integral part of the institution providing high quality, comprehensive programs accessible to all university students, personnel, and the outside community. The Department offers extensive opportunities for both men and women to participate in varsity intercollegiate athletics by sponsoring sports which maintain Peach Belt Conference and National Collegiate Athletic Association affiliations. The Department staff and coaches will comply with NCAA, Peach Belt Conference, university, and state regulations and laws. The Department offers coaching and supervision, which encourage sportsmanship and emphasize amateurism, while enhancing the physical and emotional well-being and social development of student-athletes, including gender issues, ethnic diversity and sexual orientation-related issues. The Department strives for competitive excellence while stressing academic success, reflecting a clear understanding of the educational support role of athletics in the broader mission of the institution. The policies and actions of the Athletic Department personnel continually strive to ensure that the best interests of the university, its administration, financial assistance, faculty, staff, students, and student-athletes are well served.

In August of 2005, the University's Board of Trustees approved the Athletic Department's philosophy and purpose.