

## Saint Joseph's University Interim Policy on Sports Wagering

### **I. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish Saint Joseph's University policy regarding sports wagering that reflects the values of the University and adheres to applicable National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA") bylaws and rules, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania law, and federal law.

### **II. Scope**

This policy applies to all Saint Joseph's University students, faculty, staff and members of the Board of Trustees. This policy also applies to all independent contractors and their employees who provide direct on-campus services to the Saint Joseph's University Department of Athletics, its athletic teams and/or student-athletes ("contractors"), including but not limited to athletic trainers, physicians, sports psychologists, game officials, equipment and apparel providers, and individuals providing maintenance and other services in athletics facilities.

### **III. Definitions**

Wager: Any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up any item of value (*e.g.*, cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.

Sports Wager: Placing, accepting, or soliciting a wager of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur, or professional team or contest in any sport in which the NCAA conducts a championship (including football, even though the NCAA technically does not conduct the College Football Playoff). Types of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; Internet sports wagering; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.

Examples of Sports Wagering include, but are not limited to:

- Betting on a round of golf with a friend, loser buys dinner
- Playing Super Bowl squares, but only if there is an entry fee and prize
- Playing in an NFL Fantasy Football league, but only if there is an entry fee and prize
- Entering a March Madness pool, but only if there is an entry fee and a prize
- Placing an illegal bet with a bookie on a hockey game
- Entering contests or placing bets through internet or online service providers such as Fan-Duel or DraftKings
- *Note that horse racing is NOT considered sports wagering*

Nonpublic Information: Information that could influence the outcome of an athletic event, such as student-athlete availability, physical or mental health, academic eligibility status, or any other factor that only those in proximity with a student-athlete or team or with special access to such information as part of their employee, contractor or Trustee duties could ascertain.

### **IV. Policy Statement**

The Saint Joseph's University policy regarding sports wagering varies based on the role of the member of the Saint Joseph's University community, as set forth below:

- **Attempt to Influence the Outcome of a Sporting Event**. Federal law (18 USC sec. 224) (and NCAA rules for those governed by such rules) prohibit any individual from participating in an attempt to influence the outcome of a sporting event, such as through "point shaving" or "fixing" games.

- **NCAA Prohibition on Any Sports Wagering.** NCAA rules *prohibit the specific individuals listed in this paragraph from engaging in any form of sports wagering in any amount.* The specific individuals prohibited from all sports wagering are:
  - (a) student-athletes;
  - (b) staff members (including coaches) who work in the Department of Athletics;
  - (c) the following Saint Joseph’s faculty, staff and others who, although not members of the Department of Athletics, have responsibilities within or over the Department of Athletics: the President, the Faculty Athletics Representative, and staff who work in Educational Support for Student-Athletes; and
  - (d) Contractors and their employees who provide direct on-campus services to the St. Joseph’s Department of Athletics, such as Main Line Health.
- **Prohibition on Sports Wagering on Behalf of an Individual Who is Prohibited from Sports Wagering:** Per NCAA rules and Pennsylvania state law, all students, faculty, staff, members of the Board of Trustees and contractors are prohibited from sports wagering on behalf of any individual who is personally prohibited from sports wagering as set forth above. *Example:* A student-athlete provides a fellow student with \$50 and asks him/her to place a bet on the 76ers to win the NBA Championship. The student-athlete would be in violation of this policy, the NCAA rules and Pennsylvania law, and the student would be in violation of this policy and Pennsylvania law.
- **Use of Nonpublic Information Relevant to Sports Wagering:** Per Pennsylvania state law, and the NCAA Rules to the extent set forth above, individuals who have access to nonpublic information concerning a Saint Joseph’s University student-athlete or team are prohibited from engaging in sports wagering on any event or individual performance in the sport or league in which that athlete or team are involved, and from communicating that non-public information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities.
- **Prohibition against Sports Wagering on Saint Joseph’s Department of Athletics Events:** Saint Joseph’s University is an institution built on community, in which we encourage all members to support one other in achieving personal, academic and spiritual growth. Allowing Saint Joseph’s University students, faculty, staff, contractors and members of the Board of Trustees to gamble on the performance of University student-athletes or staff members runs contrary to the sense of community that is so critical to the University. *As such, students, faculty, staff, contractors and members of the Board of Trustees are not permitted to place an otherwise legal sports wager on any team, contest or event, or individual affiliated with the Saint Joseph’s University Department of Athletics.*
- **Permissive Sports Wagering:** Unless otherwise prohibited by this policy, students, faculty, staff, members of the Board of Trustees and employees of contractors who do not provided direct on-campus services to the Department of Athletics may participate in legal sports wagering. Note that the rules and regulations governing sports wagering vary by state, including the minimum age (21 in Pennsylvania), the location of legal sports wagering (including whether online sports wagering is permissible), the legality of “prop betting,” and the legality of placing a sports wager on an in-state college or university team.

## **V. Reporting**

Students, faculty, staff, contractors and members of the Board of Trustees at Saint Joseph's University are required to report any attempt by a third-party to solicit nonpublic information or to encourage or solicit conduct that violates this policy. Reports shall be made to the following: Director of Athletics or the Vice President of Student Life (for students); the Chief Human Resources Officer (for staff); or a Department Chair or Dean (for faculty).

## **VI. Violations of the Policy**

Any individual who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the applicable University procedures that implements sanctions for students, faculty and staff. Independent contractors will be deemed to have committed material breach and any pending contract(s) will be terminated. In addition to University disciplinary action, individuals subject to NCAA rules will be subject to additional sanctions in accordance with NCAA rules.

## **VII. Gambling Addiction Resources**

Multiple resources are available if you or someone you know is engaging in problem gambling. Additional information is available at: <https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/?p=48>.