AAPC: The Council welcomes this policy. Several faculty members commented that they have been pressured by coaches to give athletes special consideration.

**POLICY:**

Georgia Perimeter College recognizes a code of ethical conduct that serves as a professional guideline in gaining and maintaining the respect and confidence of athletes, other coaches and the public, as well as providing coaches with incentive to conduct themselves in a highly ethical manner.

**PROCEDURE:** [Comment: The following is policy, not procedure.]

It is the responsibility of each coach to never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character. The Athletic program is designed to enhance academic achievement of all student athletes and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. The code of conduct will be reviewed each year as part of the yearly training for all coaches. Any violation of the Coaches Code of Conduct may be cause for suspension and/or termination.

A. Principles

1. Coaches will maintain a standard of excellence with regard to education and information related to their particular sport.

2. Coaches will promote the entire interscholastic program of the college and direct his or her program in harmony with the total college program.

3. Coaches will exercise integrity in the practice of coaching and be honest, fair and respectful of others.

4. Coaches will respect the fundamental rights, welfare, dignity, values, opinions and worth of all student athletes and will be sensitive to cultural and individual differences including those due to age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language and socio-economic status.

5. Coaches will not exploit or mislead student athletes during the recruiting process.

6. Coaches are a representative of Georgia Perimeter College and will conduct themselves accordingly.

B. Ethical Standards
1. Coaches will not engage in or condone discrimination based upon age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, socioeconomic status or any other basis prescribed by law.

2. Coaches will not engage in sexual harassment which includes but is not limited to sexual solicitation, unwelcomed physical advances and inappropriate verbal or non-verbal conduct. Even if the student athlete has filed a complaint or is the subject of a sexual harassment claim, Coaches will not deny student athlete the right to participate in any activity.

3. Coaches will not exert pressure on faculty or staff to give student athletes special consideration.

4. Coaches will not engage in or condone behavior which is harassing, harmful or demeaning to student athletes.

5. Coaches will take reasonable steps to prevent impaired performance by recognizing a personal problem and seeking assistance for it.

6. Coaches will take reasonable steps to avoid harm being caused to student athletes whether it be physical, verbal or through electronic/social media.

7. Coaches will not exploit or have a sexual or intimate relationship with student athletes.

8. Coaches will not intentionally make a statement which is deceptive, false, fraudulent or misleading.

9. To avoid any misunderstanding with student athletes, coaches will discuss the nature and course of training with them and answer any questions they may have.

10. Coaches will refrain from using alcohol, tobacco or performance enhancing or recreational drugs. Coaches will not tolerate the use of alcohol, tobacco or performance enhancing or recreational drugs by student athletes.

C. Resolving Issues

1. Coaches will be familiar with the Code of Conduct. Lack of awareness or misunderstanding of general principles or ethical standards included in the Code of Conduct will not excuse violations of the Code.

2. Coaches will consult with the Director of Athletics when they are uncertain if a particular situation or course of action violates the Code of Conduct.

3. Coaches will inform student athletes that the student athletes have the right to report perceived violation of ethical conduct to the Director of Athletics.
4. Coaches will cooperate with any investigation, proceeding or resolution related to a perceived violation of the Code of Conduct as mandated by Georgia Perimeter Colleges Department of Athletics. Failure to cooperate is in itself a violation of the Code of Conduct.

PPAB Approval Date: __________

Policy Council Review Date(s):

SAPC: 9/20/12