

IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!!

July 6, 2010

TO: Parents/Guardians of Lander University Intercollegiate Athletes

FROM: Kent Atkins, MS, ATC
Asst. AD for Sports Medicine
Lander University

CC: Jeff May, Athletics Director

We are extremely pleased to have your son/daughter as a student-athlete at Lander University and hope that he/she will achieve academic, social and athletic success.

The NCAA recommends that all new incoming student-athletes be given a physical examination by our team physician or designee prior to participation on an intercollegiate athletic team. In the event the physician requires further examination and/or tests to determine clearance to play, it will be the financial responsibility of the student-athlete to pay for such examinations and/or test. Returning student-athletes will be given a health history review form to fill out. The final decision on physical qualifications or reasons for rejection will be the responsibility of the team physician. The team physician or head athletic trainer also makes the decision on when an athlete may return to competition after a previous injury.

The NCAA discourages any colleges or universities from providing coverage or paying the bills incurred for expenses related to illnesses, injuries or conditions which are not sustained as the **direct** result of an accident in our intercollegiate sports program. (This includes pre-existing conditions and non-athletic injuries.) **In addition, Lander University will not be responsible for any medical bills that have incurred to student-athletes that do not go through the head athletic trainer or team physician regarding a referral to a medical specialist or for referrals to specialist for any injury that has not been reported to the athletic training staff.**

The athletic accident insurance at Lander University provides secondary insurance coverage for your son/daughter for accidents while participating in supervised play or official team practice of intercollegiate sports, including sponsored and authorized team travel. The athletic department at Lander University requires ALL student-athletes to provide primary insurance coverage that allows benefits in South Carolina. Student-athletes that do not have primary insurance coverage that covers athletic injuries in the state of South Carolina can purchase a policy thru the athletic department that only covers athletic injuries. This policy is \$1,015. In addition, if coverage runs out or there is a failure to notify the athletic training staff of any changes in the status of coverage will result in the forfeiture of our secondary policy benefits. Consequently, the student-athlete will become responsible for all medical expenses occurred in the event of an athletic injury. Please note that Medicaid DOES NOT qualify as primary insurance. Those with this coverage will be required to purchase the plan mentioned above.

All medical bills for your son/daughter incurred as the result of an accident in the intercollegiate sports program will be filed directly to your insurance company/plan or sent directly to your home address, unless the university has instructed the medical vendor otherwise. In some cases the athletic department

may get a copy of the bill, **but in no case is the athletic department to be the primary place for the billed incurred to be sent.**

If there remains a balance after being filed with your insurance, send the “**Explanation of Benefits**” form **from the insurance company and a copy of the itemized bill** to the university’s athletic department in care of my name. If you receive a letter of denial, then send the letter of denial and a copy of the bills incurred to the university’s athletic department.

If the bills incurred are not paid by your insurance company the claim will be sent from the athletic department to our insurance company to pay the remaining balance, if any. If they need any additional information, please cooperate with them and they will process the claim in the least possible amount of time. It is in your best interest to have the claim settled promptly since all the bills incurred are in your name.

PLEASE NOTE: If the primary family coverage is through an HMO (Health Maintenance Organization) or PPO (Preferred Provider Organization) you must follow the proper procedures required by your plan in order for the university’s insurance to satisfactorily complete its portion of the claim. This is especially important if your plan requires pre-authorization to have your son/daughter treated out of your plan’s service area.

Parents should retain this letter for future reference. In addition, we ask that you complete the enclosed form **In Detail** and return to us as soon as possible. Your cooperation in this important area will help make this program successful in minimizing delays and accomplishing the purpose for which it is intended. **YOUR SON/DAUGHTER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE UNTIL THE FORM IS RETURNED IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE!!!!!!**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The NCAA has implemented guidelines regarding the use and prescribing of ADHD medications. We now need to have supporting documentation including evaluation methods on file in the athletic department in case you son/daughter get tested and tests positive for these substances. No longer is just a copy of the prescription sufficient. There needs to be documentation that psychological testing has occurred. Please see the attached insert that goes into detail what documentation is needed. If you have any questions, please contact Kent Atkins at 864-388-8818.

New Athletes Only, Please Note:

Enclosed you will find a medical history form that needs to be filled out before your physical. Your coach will be in contact with you about when your physical is scheduled. Please take the time to fill out the medical history and return it along with your insurance form in the self-addressed stamp envelope enclosed. Please be as accurate when providing the information on the medical history. By filling this out now, it will save a little time when you are getting your physical.