UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

Student-Athlete Conduct Policy Regarding Involvement in Internet-Based Social Networking Communities Effective August 1, 2006

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Student-Athlete Name

Internet Social Networking Community Sites. Internet sites such as Facebook.com, MySpace.com, Xanga.com, Friendster.com and others provide individuals with an opportunity to interact with an extraordinarily expansive universe of new people and connect with current friends. Postings on personal profiles, groups and chat rooms are in the public domain and easily accessible by anyone including reporters, parents, coaches, groupies, predators, employers, and graduate school admissions officials. Once information is posted, it can be retrieved by computer savvy individuals even after it has been deleted.

Athletic Department Policy. Participation in intercollegiate athletics at the University of Michigan is a privilege, not a right. Athletic Department conduct policy currently states, *"Student-athletes shall deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their behavior shall AT ALL TIMES reflect the high standards of honor and dignity that characterize participation in competitive sports at the University of Michigan*." While the Athletic Department does not prohibit student-athlete involvement with internet based social networking communities, this high standard of honor and dignity encompasses comments and postings made to internet sites. The Athletic Department reserves the right to take action against any currently enrolled student-athlete engaged in behavior that violates University, Department, or team rules, including such behavior that occurs in postings on the internet. This action may include education, counseling, team suspension, termination from the varsity team and reduction or non-renewal of any athletic scholarships.

Recommendations. Immediately review any internet websites you may have posted on the internet to ensure that the postings are consistent with University, Department, and team rules and that they present you in a way you want to be portrayed. For your safety and privacy, you should refrain from posting and should promptly remove any personally identifiable information such as telephone number, address, class schedule and places frequented as well as any photos you may have posted. Alert the Compliance Services Office of any sites that falsely appear to be yours as this constitutes identity theft, and the University will assist your efforts to have the offensive site removed. Be cautious about which chat groups you join to be sure you want to be publicly associated with that group. Once you become a member, you are linked to the discussion that takes place within that group. Only the group's administrator is able to delete your group membership or postings made to a group site.

By my signature below, I hereby affirm that I have read and understand the Athletic Department's Student-Athlete Conduct Policy Regarding Involvement in Internet Communities (e.g., Facebook.com, MySpace.com, etc.). Furthermore, I understand that failure to adhere to this policy could result in action up to and including termination from participation in intercollegiate athletics at the University of Michigan and loss of any athletic scholarships.

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Student-Athlete Signature *Date*