The College of New Jersey

Hazing Policy

The College of New Jersey strictly prohibits hazing of any kind in any student organization at the college. Students at TCNJ are held accountable for both violations of state law and college policy as it relates to hazing.

New Jersey Statutes: 2C: 40-3
A. A person is guilty of hazing, a disorderly person offense, if, in connection with initiation of applicants to or members of a student or fraternal organization, he knowingly or recklessly organizes, promotes, facilitates, or engages in any conduct, other than competitive athletic events, which places or may place another person in danger of bodily injury.
B. A person is guilty of aggravated hazing, a crime of the fourth degree, if he commits an act prohibited in subsection a. which results in serious bodily injury to another person.

2C: 40-4
Notwithstanding any other provision of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to a prosecution under this act.

2C: 40-5
Conduct constituting an offense under this act may, at the discretion of the prosecuting attorney, be prosecuted under any other applicable provision of Title 2C of the New Jersey State Statutes; and

Other behaviors or activities in addition to those prohibited under N.J.S.A 2C:40 et seq. defined as hazing by a college or university with respect to its students.

College Regulations

The College of New Jersey defines hazing as “any action taken, created, or situated which intentionally or recklessly subjects any person to the risk of bodily harm, mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule; or causing or encouraging any person to commit an act that would be a violation of law or college regulations; for the purpose of initiating, promoting, fostering, or confirming any form of affiliation with a student group or organization.”

Examples of hazing include, but are not limited to:
- Forced consumption of alcohol or other drugs;
- Required ingestion of any substance;
- Dietary restrictions of any kind;
- Sleep deprivation;
- Creation of excessive fatigue;
- Paddling, whipping, beating or physical abuse of any kind;
- Forced tattooing or branding;
- Calisthenics or any type of physically abusive exercise;
- Exposure to the elements;
- Compulsory servitude;
− Work projects without the participation of the full membership;
− Scavenger hunts, treasure hunts, road trips, kidnapping, drop-offs, or any other such activities;
− Assigned or endorsed pranks such as borrowing or stealing items, painting property or objects, or harassing other individuals or groups;
− Verbal harassment including yelling and screaming;
− Line-ups, kangaroo courts, or any interrogation not consistent with the legitimate testing for information about the purposes and history of the organization;
− Any activity which interferes with one’s ability to study or complete one’s course of study;
− The wearing of apparel in public which is conspicuous or not normally in good taste;
− Participation in sexual rituals or assaults;
− Mentally abusive or demeaning behavior;
− Deceptions and/or threats contrived to conceive new member that he/she will not be permitted to join;
− Requiring the use of a side door entrance not normally used to enter a building;
− Requiring the answering of phones or doors with songs, chants, riddles;
− Requiring yelling or screaming upon entering or leaving a facility;
− Requiring new members to “greet” initiated members;
− Activities that promote or encourage the violation of state law or college policy;
− Collective behavior such as marching;
− Requiring member to escort each other on campus;
− Dressing alike, etc; and
− Requiring the carrying of items such as bricks, pumpkins, pledge books, lunch boxes, items for members, etc.

The organization or any individual involved in hazing commits a violation of college policy by:

1. Engaging in hazing
2. Soliciting, encouraging, aiding, or directing another engaged in hazing
3. Intentionally or knowing permitting hazing to occur
4. Having first-hand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred and failing to report said knowledge in writing to the Vice President of Student Affairs.
The College of New Jersey

Statement of Expectations for Off Campus Behavior

The College of New Jersey encourages excellence in citizenship by having students, facility, and staff sustain and advance the communities comprising our campus, township, state, and nation. All individuals affiliated with The College shall serve these interrelated communities as responsible citizens, both on and off campus. Accordingly, all members of the TCNJ community are expected to develop and enhance each of these communities in a manner consistent with the applicable codes of ethical conduct established by The College, as well as local, state, and federal laws.

Although The College neither substitutes for nor interferes with regular legal processes, there may be circumstances when The College should take action through its own applicable judicial or disciplinary processes that potentially overlap with external criminal or civil proceedings. When an act committed off-campus (1) poses a substantial and continuing danger to the safety and/or property of The College or members of its community (for example, sexual assault, the illegal distribution of controlled substances); and/or (2) otherwise constitutes a serious criminal offense, The College may take official internal action to protect its orderly functioning as an academic community. In such cases, the college administrative officials will advise affected parties or sources of appropriate assistance.

Effective: July 1, 2002
Recommended by CSCC: December 5, 2001
Approved by Cabinet: April 22, 2002

Advisory Regarding Off Campus Behavior

All students who live off campus are considered members of not only The College of New Jersey but also the local community. As adults living off campus, students are expected to know their rights and responsibilities and understand the consequences of their actions. All members of the College community are representatives of TCNJ, whether residing on or off campus, and the College, in partnership with the Township of Ewing and other municipalities, will address inappropriate behavior in a serious manner. Therefore, those residing in off campus housing should be aware of the following:

- If you live off campus, you are expected to be a good neighbor, be responsible for the behavior of your guests, communicate with your neighbors and landlord to resolve issues, and know all local ordinances.

- As an off campus resident, you are governed by all federal, state and municipal laws. It is the responsibility of local law enforcements, such as Ewing Police, to enforce these laws.

- If a students living on or off campus is cited for violations off campus, that individual is subject to judicial action within the campus judicial system as governed by the Statement of Expectations for Off Campus Behavior and the Associate Dean of Students/Director of Student Conduct. ([www.tcnj.edu/~studlife/handbook/policies/offcampusbehavior.html](http://www.tcnj.edu/~studlife/handbook/policies/offcampusbehavior.html))
• If you are an off campus student, you should establish a positive relationship with your landlord, who is also accountable to the township. Realize that your behavior may put your landlord at risk for township fines.

• Associate Dean of Students/Director of Student Conduct staff located in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, as well as staff in the Ewing Township municipal offices, can assist you in working with your landlord. For more information on related college policies or procedures, including the student code of conduct, please go to http://www.tcnj.edu/~studlife/handbook/index.html.

The College, in collaboration with the Ewing Police Department, and the Township and College Together (TACT) committee has launched a new “Community Watch” initiative this year. In an effort to structure a means to proactively address disruptions which occur when students and guests attend social events in the surrounding community, “walking patrol teams” will be sent out to monitor local neighborhoods on select nights and weekends. Members on the patrol teams will mostly include concerned residents of the township who will report their findings to Ewing Township Police and TCNJ administration. Those serving patrol will have no police authority but will instead be expected to call the police if they see something suspicious.

Finally, any faculty, staff, or alumni who live locally or own rental properties are urged to support the college’s efforts to keep the neighborhood in which we reside safe, well-maintained, and civil. I welcome your assistance in this collective effort and ask that all members of the campus community do their part to assure that we are being good neighbors in the local community. The following offices are available to assist in this effort:

• Vice President for Student Affairs (Associate Dean of Students/Director of Student Conduct) (609.771.2201) – judicial issues, understanding student rights.
• College and Community Relations (609.771.2368) – liaison with Ewing Township and local agencies.
• Campus Police (609.771.2167)
• Ewing Municipal Township (609.883.2900)

Advisory issued by the College President, August 30, 2006.
NJAC Policies and Procedures Manual / Section 5: Code of Conduct

The New Jersey Athletic Conference policy regarding the conduct of its coaches, administrators, support staff and student-athletes of member institutions in conference-related activities is listed below.

A. Competition
1. Every member of the athletic department staff and all student-athletes are expected to observe the tenets of good sportsmanship: honesty, fairness, civility, and respect. They are evidence not action or reaction to situations or occurrences which might foster, by example, adverse action by other members of the coaching staff, the team members, the opposing team, and/or the spectators. This expressly includes negative, critical reaction to officials or officials’ calls.

2. Each athletic director (or his/her on-site designee) is responsible for insuring that representatives of his/her institution observe these same tenets regardless of the stress and strains they may encounter, or be subject to before, during, or after any contest.

3. Member institutions are encouraged to make a public address announcement prior to the start of a contest or event reminding coaches, staff, student-athletes and spectators of the conference’s code of conduct. The following announcement is suggested by the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct:

“The NCAA, the New Jersey Athletic Conference and (name of host institution) promotes good sports conduct by student-athletes, coaches, staff and spectators. We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and officials in a positive manner. Profanity, racist, sexist or homophobic comments or other intimidating actions directed at officials, student-athletes, coaches, team representatives or spectators will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the site of competition without refund.”

4. In the case of a flagrant unsportsmanlike incident, a request to investigate and sanction must be made to the Commissioner within two days of the alleged incident. (Refer to Section 7, Disciplinary Procedures, for details on filing a formal complaint.)

5. Contact with the Commissioner is restricted to members of the Board of Athletic Administrators, their delegates, sports information directors, and compliance officers.

B. Recruiting
All members of the athletic department’s staff and all student-athletes are expected to uphold the highest standards of ethical recruiting practices. Specifically, this means:

1. Promoting the positive aspects of your own program rather than speaking negatively of another institution.

2. Honoring the attendance decision and commitment of the prospective student-athlete.

3. Adhering to the letter and spirit of all NJAC and NCAA regulations and policies regarding financial aid, playing and practice sessions, and transfer actions. SELF RELEASE WITHIN THE NJAC IS NOT PERMITTED!

4. Communicating in a timely manner, either coach-to-coach or AD/SWA-to-AD/SWA, any concerns relating to suspected recruiting violations or related ethical misconduct.
C. Code of Conduct Statement
All members of the athletic department’s staff and all student-athletes are required to sign the NJAC Code of Conduct statement.