

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT**

**HQ UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
ACADEMY INSTRUCTION 36-3518**

**20 NOVEMBER 2012**



**INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC  
PROGRAMS**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION  
IS MANDATORY**

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OPR: USAFA/ADPL

Certified by: USAFA/ADP  
(Col William Walker)

Supersedes: USAFAI 36-3518,  
26 February 2009

Pages: 12

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This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 36-35, *United States Air Force Academy*, and Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-3501, *Air Force Academy Operations*. This publication establishes policy and procedures for intercollegiate athletic programs and applies to all United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) personnel who participate or support intercollegiate athletic programs. This publication does not apply to the United States Air Force (USAF) Reserve, Air National Guard, and Civil Air Patrol members. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using an Air Force (AF) Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN 33-363), *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://www.my.af.mil/afirms/afirms/afirms/rims.cfm>. See Attachment 1 for a glossary of references and supporting information.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This revision updates the Certifying Authority's information (Header), updates office symbols and titles throughout the publication, updates team practice days (Paragraph 3.2.), updates the Athletic Team Attendance and Formations information (Table 2.), updates Military Physical Training requirements (Paragraph 3.5.), updates sign-in instructions (Paragraph 3.6.), updates requirements and information on Scheduled Wing-wide Military Training Weekends (Paragraphs 3.8.1. – 3.8.3.), updates air transportation information (Paragraph 5.1.1.), updates civilian

clothing requirements (Paragraph 5.1.3.), updates team workout clothing requirements (Paragraph 5.2.), updates Team Dining Pass information (Paragraph 6.2.), updates team table requirements (Paragraph 7.3.), updates practice and meals information (Paragraph 7.6.), updates Team Captain selection process (Paragraph 8.1.), updates Table Commandant responsibilities (Paragraph 8.3.2.), updates Training Event de-confliction process (Paragraph 9.1.), and updates Primary Season definition (Attachment 1).

## 1. General.

1.1. Responsibility. The Directorate of Athletics (USAFA/AD) at the USAFA will, in conjunction with the academic and military training programs, provide the necessary instruction and experience to all cadets so they will graduate with the knowledge, skills, and responsibility essential to become leaders and officers of character in the USAF.

1.2. Philosophy. The Academy athletic programs are an integral part of the overall Academy character development and training curriculum. Academy intercollegiate athletic programs emphasize fair and honest competition, and develop the leadership characteristics of self-confidence, determination, physical courage, and a highly competitive attitude related to activities both on and off the playing fields. Furthermore, the Academy intercollegiate program is designed to supplement the leadership opportunities available to all cadets, while maintaining a proper perspective within the institutional framework to ensure academic success, which culminates in a commission as a second lieutenant in the USAF.

## 2. Athletic Team Rosters.

2.1. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Requirement. Athletic teams consist of cadets who have completed the necessary eligibility paperwork and are listed on an official team roster by the respective coach. Each team is listed under a particular season (see Table 1.). Eligibility paperwork includes the NCAA Student-Athlete Statement, NCAA Drug Testing Consent Form and the Mountain West Conference Historical Report.

**Table 1. Team Seasons.**

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Football	Indoor Track*	Baseball
Cheerleaders*	Basketball*	Outdoor Track*
Soccer*	Hockey	Lacrosse
Waterpolo	Rifle*	Tennis*
Volleyball	Fencing*	Golf**
Cross Country*	Wrestling	Boxing
Golf**	Swimming*	
	Diving*	
	Gymnastics*	
	Cheerleaders*	
*Men's and Women's sports **Split competitive season <b>Note: USAFA/AD will provide the Commandant of Cadets (USAFA/CW) with the start and stop dates of each team's primary season at the beginning of each academic year.</b>		

2.2. **Mandatory Formation.** Cadets on team rosters will adhere to attendance at formations in accordance with the official Air Force Academy (USAFA) Schedule of Calls and appropriate excusals approved by the Academy Board and/or Scheduling Committee. Unless a higher priority activity is required, cadets on intercollegiate teams must attend scheduled practices and contests. Activity priorities may be referenced in USAFAI 36-2014, *Allocation of Cadet Time* (will renumber to USAFAI 36-3536).

2.3. **Intramural Participation.** While on intercollegiate athletic team rosters, cadets will not participate in intramurals unless specifically cleared by the coach. If a cadet is dropped from a team, the coach will inform the Directorate of Athletics' Scheduling and Grading Branch, Intercollegiate Compliance Branch, Intramural Branch, and the Air Officer Commanding (AOC) and/or Academy Military Trainer (AMT). The cadet must notify his or her AOC and the squadron chain of command (to include the squadron chief of athletics [SCOA] for intramural accountability) within two academic days of being dropped from a team. A dropped cadet is required to participate in squadron intramurals and will sit at squadron tables for the noon meal. The Directorate of Athletics' Intercollegiate Liaison Branch (USAFA/ADPL) will distribute team rosters to coaches on a monthly basis to ensure accuracy.

2.4. **Manager Requirements.** Cadet intercollegiate team managers will be considered members of their athletic teams and their names will appear on the official roster of the team. Managers on athletic, conduct, aptitude, or honor probation will be removed from the team roster. Managers on academic probation will be referred to the appropriate team eligibility committee. If a cadet is converted from a player to a team manager, the coach will notify Scheduling and Grading Branch, Intercollegiate Compliance Branch and the AOC and/or AMT of the change.

**3. Athletic Scheduling.** USAFA/AD will provide a list of each sport's primary season start and stop dates to the Commandant of Cadets (USAFA/CW) and Cadet Wing Commander (AFCW/CC) no later than the beginning of each academic year. The remaining weeks in the academic year for a particular sport are considered non-primary (i.e. practice and conditioning and/or weight training).

3.1. **USAFA Schedule of Calls (SOC).** Intercollegiate athletes will comply with the USAFA Schedule of Calls.

3.2. **Team Practice.** Scheduled intercollegiate practice is conducted in accordance with the USAFA SOC, Monday thru Saturday, and will not exceed the NCAA maximum weekly practice hour limitations. During this time, any scheduled intercollegiate practice takes precedence over regularly-scheduled military training and formations (Table 2.). Practicing twice a day will be allowed on a case-by-case basis with approval from the USAFA/AD and USAFA Scheduling Committee.

3.3. **Military Formations.** All intercollegiate athletes are required to attend all military formations that occur outside the excusal time granted by the USAFA Schedule of Calls (SOC) or an approved Scheduling Committee Action (SCA).

**Table 2. Athletic Team Attendance at Formations.**

ACTIVITY	EXCUSAL
Monday through Friday (parades, retreat)	All scheduled intercollegiate practices and competition IAW USAFA SOC and/or SCA
Silver Weekends (Friday)	All scheduled intercollegiate practices and competition IAW USAFA SOC and/or SCA
Silver Weekends (Saturday)	Primary season practices and SCA for competitions
Blue Weekends (To include discretionary training)	All scheduled intercollegiate practices and competitions.
Mandatory Meal Formations	Comply with scheduling committee action or Schedule of Calls.
Academics	As authorized by USAFAI 36-2014 (will renumber to USAFAI 36-3536) and approved by the USAFA Scheduling Committee.
Major Training Events (i.e., Recognition)	As agreed upon by the Commandant and USAFA/AD as documented in governing SCA(s) and or OPORD

3.4. Cadet Athletes are excused from all formation, meal, meeting, or appointments 4-1/2 hours prior to the contest start time, or the block of time approved by the SOC or specific SCA.

3.4.1. Intercollegiate athletes who have a team meal scheduled and do not have SCA approval to miss the Noon Meal Formation will participate in the Noon Meal Formation. Athletes will march with their squadron or flight and remain with the Cadet Wing until they are excused by Wing Staff. Wing Staff will generally excuse cadets 10 minutes after the command "Wing Take Seats."

3.5. Military Physical Training. Intercollegiate athletes will not take part in military physical training activities the day before or the day of a scheduled contest. Intercollegiate athletes will participate in morning physical training IAW the SOC and Commandant Guidance. Since mandatory meal formations and marching are not physical training, all cadets without SCA will be present, to include athletes.

3.6. "Sleep Throughs." Except for cadets returning from an academy sponsored trip after Taps, there are no events that warrant a "sleep through" during the week. Per USAFAI 36-2014 (will renumber to USAFAI 36-3536), teams that return after Taps will sign-in and resume attending mandatory activities not earlier than 7½ hours after their return, i.e. classes, squadron details, Charge of Quarters (CQ), calling minutes, etc. Intercollegiate athletes must sign in NLT 1 hour after arriving at USAFA and Team Captain must notify the Command Center what time the team arrived at USAFA.

3.7. Team Meals. Team meals are mandatory military formations and cadets will show up on time in the uniform of the day or team travel attire as approved by USAFA/AD and the Commandant.

3.8. Scheduled Wing-Wide Military Training Weekends (i.e., Silver Weekends, Parades, Retreat).

3.8.1. Per the USAFA SOC, intercollegiate time takes precedence Monday through Saturday during training activities.

3.8.2. Teams in their primary season are excused from all scheduled wing-wide military training and/or activities for a scheduled intercollegiate practice or competition. Cadets excused from a Saturday Morning Inspection (SAMI) will have their rooms in Morning Inspection (AMI) order if practicing. Teams with home contests will not have their rooms inspected. Their roommates not on teams will go to another room for the SAMI. USAFA/ADPL will provide a list of teams requiring competition rest to CW 2 days prior to the training event. Excused cadets will wear the short sleeve blue shirt to and from athletic practices, competitions, and to all Mitchell Hall meals during scheduled training times.

3.8.3. Per USAFAI 36-2014 (will renumber to USAFAI 36-3536), intercollegiate teams participating in varsity or junior varsity competitions on Silver Weekends will be excused from military training preparation and from military training (SAMIs, Operational Readiness Inspections [ORI], parades, etc.) from 12 hours prior to the start of their SCA excusal to 15 hours after sign-in from the competition.

3.9. Supplemental Wing-Wide Military Training Weekends (i.e., Blue Weekends). Teams will be excused from any cadet-directed group or supplemental military training and formations on Blue Weekends when they have scheduled intercollegiate practices or competitions (primary or non-primary season).

#### **4. Eligibility.**

4.1. Academic Requirements.

4.1.1. NCAA Requirements. Eligibility for competing in an intercollegiate athletic contest will, as a minimum, be in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the NCAA. NCAA eligibility standards include both minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) criteria and satisfactory progress toward graduation.

4.1.1.1. Intercollegiate eligibility requirements will, at a minimum, adhere to NCAA requirements. Intercollegiate eligibility requirements are intentionally different and may not mirror requirements for club sport.

4.1.2. Ineligibility. A member of an intercollegiate squad whose cumulative GPA falls below the standards in Table 3. at the time a new semester begins becomes ineligible for competition until the beginning of the next semester (if he or she meets the cumulative GPA requirement).

**Table 3. NCAA Intercollegiate Eligibility GPA Requirements.**

Beginning of Semester	Cumulative GPA
3	1.80
4	1.80
5	1.90
6	1.90
7 and subsequent semesters	2.00

4.1.3. Additional Academic Standards. In addition to the NCAA standards in Table 3., student-athletes are ineligible with: Multiple F grades in the same semester, an F in a repeat course, Major's GPA less than a 2.00 during the first-class year, or a cumulative Military Performance Average (MPA) or Physical Education Average (PEA) below a 1.50. Only the USAFA Superintendent (HQ USAFA/CC) can approve waivers to these USAFA standards.

4.2. Eligibility Committees. The eligibility committees for intercollegiate teams will determine a proper course of action for deficient cadet-athletes. The decision to retain deficient cadet-athletes on the team rests with the eligibility committee. [Cadet-athletes on honor probation may not represent the Academy during competitions.] Eligibility committee composition and procedures are covered in detail in USAFAI 36-3523, *Review and Disposition of Deficient Cadets*.

4.3. Athletic Probation. If a head coach elects to not have an athlete participate in reconditioning, they will provide the Directorate of Athletics' Fitness and Testing/Reconditioning Branch with a proposed workout plan to ensure the individual makes progress toward graduation requirements. Eligibility Committee Chairs will provide input regarding the progress of cadets on athletic probation in the published eligibility committee meeting minutes.

## 5. Team Attire.

5.1. Team Attire. Team attire will be in accordance with Air Force Cadet Wing Manual (AFCWMAN) 36-3501, *The Cadet Sight Picture*, and is outlined here for reference.

5.1.1. Air Transportation. Short sleeve blue shirts and athletic jackets will be the standard attire for commercial air travel. For military air travel, flight suits, Airman Battle Uniforms, or team sweat suits are authorized. Teams traveling as part of a contingent will ensure they are uniform with the contingent. The head coach or Officer Representative (OR) may require modifications to the uniform based on weather conditions such as long sleeve shirts and ties, service dress uniform, or no athletic jacket. Neither the Head Coach nor the Officer Representative (OR) can deviate from this guidance without approval of their Sports Administrator.

5.1.2. Ground Transportation. An approved team uniform may be worn. Coaches and ORs are responsible for ensuring the team uniform favorably represents the Academy and is worn by the entire team. The competition or game uniform may be worn if traveling directly to and from a local contest if no intermediate stops are planned or if facilities

and/or locker rooms are not available. Team meals may be eaten at a public establishment as long as the meal is eaten as a team.

5.1.3. Civilian Clothing. When civilian clothing is required, it must be approved by the Senior/Sport Administrators. Athletes should wear attire that is appropriate and in good taste. Otherwise, team travel sweats will be worn by all team members while at away contests (i.e., to and from meals, hotels, contests, etc.).

5.1.4. Security. USAFA/AD, in coordination with the Commandant, can make changes to the uniform at their discretion based on security concerns.

5.2. Team Workout Clothing. Teams will be in the designated attire determined by the coach and must be in "Air Force Athletics" colors (blue, grey, white, black) with only Air Force Athletics' logos and/or team name. Members will not mix uniform types (USAFA T-shirt and gray shorts, blue sweats under normal Physical Conditioning running suit, etc.). Intercollegiate athletes will wear the issued USAFA Running Suit or UOD to and from practice during the duty day. (Practice is the last military duty for intercollegiate athletes.)

5.3. Team Issued Running Suit in Mitchell Hall. The team issued running suit is only allowed in Mitchell Hall when the team is departing on a bus trip and the wear of the running suit will not overlap with a scheduled wing wide formation or meal. In addition, this uniform combination will be coordinated with Mitchell Hall via USAFA/ADPL and/or the Intercollegiate Logistics Branch when the team meal is set up.

## **6. Alcohol and Team Social Functions.**

6.1. Alcohol Consumption. Cadets will not consume alcoholic beverages on team trips unless approved by the HQ USAFA/AD and the Commandant.

6.2. Team Dining Pass. Teams are allowed one team dining pass per month. Coaches will coordinate through USAFA/ADPL no later than two days prior to the planned event to ensure there are no conflicts. Teams will comply with the blanket dining pass SCA. As a general guideline, Dining Passes are not to be used on Silver Weekends. Teams utilizing their Dining Pass must be accompanied by a Coach or Officer Representative.

## **7. Dining Hall Procedures.**

7.1. Purpose. The purpose of team tables is to provide extra meal portions and nutritionally balanced, low-calorie options for intercollegiate athletes dependent on their training year calendar. Team tables provide leadership opportunities as well as an open line of communication through coaches to team captains and athletes. Intercollegiate athletes will sit at team tables for the noon meal during the academic year. Only those athletes who are current roster members will sit at team tables.

7.2. Use of Formal Dining Room. On select pre-coordinated days, the football traveling team (primary season) will normally be the only athletic team to use the informal dining room for noon meals. Other intercollegiate teams will be seated by team for the noon meal on the floor with the Cadet Wing. Decorum guidelines for intercollegiate team tables are documented in Attachment 2.

7.3. Team Table Requirements. Team table requirements (i.e. Training and Light or Regular tables) will be coordinated through USAFA/ADPL and the 10th Forces Support Squadron Mitchell Hall (10 FSS/FSLF).

7.4. Pre-Game and/or Post-Game Meals. Pre-game meals and/or box lunches will be coordinated through the USAFA/ADSL in accordance with (IAW) USAFAI 34-104, *Operating the Cadet Dining Facility*.

7.5. Team Table Conduct. USAFA/AD reserves the right to close team tables on an individual team basis if decorum falls below an acceptable level. Team captains and coaches are responsible for the conduct of the team. USAFA/ADPL will ensure coaches are scheduled to oversee decorum at team tables per Attachment 2.

7.6. Practice and Meals. Every team shall ensure practices end with enough time for cadets to make the evening buffet meal. Intercollegiate time per the SOC includes time for the evening meal.

## **8. Team Captains.**

8.1. Selection. USAFA/AD approves all team captains after approval recommendation is received from each team's senior administrator. A team captain is selected from the members of the in-coming First-Class cadets. Justification is required if someone other than a First Class cadet is selected. Teams should strive to appoint one team captain. Team captains will be approved by the USAFA/AD and the list will be forwarded to the Dean and Commandant.

8.2. Cadet Rank. Team captains will wear rank in accordance with their assigned chain-of-command or staff duty position. The team captain has command authority over all respective team members for all actions pertinent to the team. Team captain insignia includes a silver lightening bolt centered above the rank on the individual's shoulder boards.

### **8.3. Responsibilities and Instructions.**

8.3.1. Enforcement of Rules and Standards. The team captain is responsible to the head coach, the OR, and Commandant for the enforcement of all instructions and the observation of proper discipline by the team. Team captains also provide liaison between the coach and the team.

8.3.2. Table Commandant. The team captain will act as Table Commandant of his or her dining table and will exercise supervision over all other tables assigned to the team. If there is more than one table for a given team, the Team Captain will assign a first class cadet team member as Table Commandant. A Second-Class cadet team member may sit as Table Commandant if a First-Class cadet team member is not available. Table Commandants are responsible for the conduct, accountability, and decorum of their cadets. Table Commandants will not leave Fourth-Class cadets unsupervised at team tables.

8.3.3. Travel Sign-In. Team members will sign-in to their squadron within 1 hour of the teams' arrival at USAFA. ORs should notify the Cadet Command Center at 333-2910 and the specific sport supervisor when teams are considerably delayed for inclusion in the Wing Status Summary.

## **9. Training Event Deconfliction.**

9.1. In order to allow for maximum four class participation during major training events, USAFA/AD will attempt to avoid scheduling competitions that conflict with proposed event dates.

9.2. USAFA/AD and Commandant coordination is required at the start of each academic year to anticipate training conflicts.

DR. HANS J. MUEH  
Director of Athletics

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

AFCWMAN 36-3501, *The Cadet Sight Picture*  
AFI 36-3501, *Air Force Academy Operations*  
AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*  
AFPD 36-35, *United States Air Force Academy*  
USAFAI 34-104, *Operating the Cadet Dining Facility*  
USAFAI 36-2014, *Allocation of Cadet Time*  
USAFAI 36-3523, *Review and Disposition of Deficient Cadets*

***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AF**—Air Force  
**AFCW**—Air Force Cadet Wing  
**AFCWMAN**—Air Force Cadet Wing Manual  
**AFMAN**—Air Force Manual  
**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive  
**AMI**—Morning Inspection  
**AMT**—Academy Military Trainer  
**AOC**—Air Officer Commanding  
**CQ**—Charge of Quarters  
**GPA**—Grade Point Average  
**IAW**—In Accordance With  
**MPA**—Military Performance Average  
**NCAA**—National Collegiate Athletic Association  
**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility  
**OR**—Officer Representative  
**ORI**—Operational Readiness Inspection  
**PEA**—Physical Education Average  
**RDS**—Record Disposition Schedule  
**SAMI**—Saturday Morning Inspection

**SCA**—Scheduling Committee Action

**SCOA**—Squadron Chief of Athletics

**SOC**—Schedule of Calls

**UOD**—Uniform of the Day

**USAF**—United States Air Force

**USAFA**—United States Air Force Academy

**USAFAI**—United States Air Force Academy Instruction

### *Terms*

**Competitions**—Competitions are defined as those with another NCAA school or outside organization previously approved by the USAFA Scheduling Committee. Scheduled intra-squad games and/or matches are also considered competitions.

**NCAA**—The governing body for USAFA participation in athletics at the collegiate level.

**Non—Primary Season**—The part of the academic year that does not include the primary season.

**Primary Season**—The primary (i.e., practice and competition) season for a particular sport is the approximate 5 months during the academic year that represents the most crucial training period for each sport. Some sports will have Primary Season dates in both the Fall and the Spring.

**Scheduled Intercollegiate Practice**—A scheduled intercollegiate practice is a mandatory coach-monitored practice. This coach may be a coach within the particular sport, weight-training coach, or conditioning coach. Any optional, individual, or “team captain” practice does not constitute a scheduled intercollegiate practice.

**Team Dining Pass**—SCA approved pass for teams to dine at a restaurant of their choosing. These passes are limited to one per month.

**Attachment 2****DECORUM AT TEAM TABLES**

**A2.1.** Team captains are responsible for the decorum and actions of all cadets on their team. Student Athletes are expected to set the standard of decorum.

**A2.2.** Table commandants are responsible for decorum and actions of all cadets at their table.

A2.2.1. Team tables are a privilege extended by USAFA/AD and Commandant of Cadets.

A2.2.2. Table commandants and/or senior ranking cadets will be removed from team tables if they fail to control decorum violations by any cadet at the table and are subject to possible disciplinary actions.

**A2.3.** Good Posture--elbows off the table.

**A2.4.** Good Manners.

A2.4.1. At no time will anything be thrown during the meal.

A2.4.2. Police all spills before leaving table--tablecloth should be left as clean as practical.

**A2.5.** Proper Etiquette.

A2.5.1. Begin eating after "wing take seats."

A2.5.2. Cadets will rise when addressed by an officer or upper-class cadet who is standing.

**A2.6.** Prior to Mitchell Hall being an at rest facility:

A2.6.1. A First or Second Class cadet will remain at table until the last Fourth Class cadet departs.

A2.6.2. Fourth Class cadets will remain at attention until the staff tower announces wing take seats and may then sit at rest.

A2.6.3. Fourth Class cadets will return to attention as they rise from the table to depart.