

Contact: Aimee Claeys

PROPOSED BOARD POLICY– SPORTS WAGERING

Action Requested: Approve, as a first and final reading, the addition of Board Policy Manual Chapter 1.9 – Sports Wagering as provided below.

Executive Summary: On May 13, 2019 Senate File 617 (88GA) was enacted. The Act authorizes sports wagering and fantasy sports contests in Iowa. On August 15, 2019, wagering and contests began in the state of Iowa. In order to provide the Board of Regents and Board office staff with clear guidance on acceptable conduct with regards to sports wagering, Board authorization of the following Sports Wagering policy is requested. The purpose of this policy is to remove any question of a potential conflict of interest with regard to legal sports wagering on Regent university athletic events.

New Chapter 1.9 prohibits members of the Board of Regents and Board office staff from wagering on any athletic event in which a NCAA team of a Regent university is a participant. The policy further prohibits wagering on any Regent university NCAA team, student-athlete, or coach. These prohibitions apply at any regulated or licensed gambling facility, any gambling facility operating pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, or any licensed or regulated internet site or application. This policy does not apply to fantasy sports contests.

The following new policy proposal has been reviewed by Board Office staff and is submitted as a first and final reading.

New Chapter 1.9 – Sports Wagering

1. Scope. This policy shall only apply to members of the Board of Regents during their term(s) on the Board, and employees of the Office of the Board of Regents during the term(s) of their employment.
2. Definitions. The following definitions apply to this Chapter 1.9 – Sports Wagering:
 - A. Bookmaking Activities – accepting the bets or wagers of others on the outcome of a contest.
 - B. Regent Athletic Event – any practice, single-game competition, or tournament-level (single-game) competition in which a Regent NCAA Team is a participant.
 - C. Regent NCAA Team – any athletic team of a University under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents for which eligibility requirements for participation by a student athlete are established by the National Collegiate Athletics Association or other national association that promotes or regulates collegiate athletics.
 - D. Wagering – any activity in which an individual pays money or another item of value to participate in a game of chance, with an uncertain outcome, which entitles the winner to money or another item of value.

3. Policy. Members of the Board of Regents and employees of the Office of the Board of Regents are prohibited from all of the following:
 - A. Wagering on any Regent Athletic Event, Regent NCAA Team, or Regent NCAA Team's coach(es) or student-athlete(s) at any casino, pari-mutuel racetrack enclosure, excursion gambling boat, gambling structure, or other entity licensed by either (i) the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission or (ii) the applicable regulatory body or commission of a State outside of Iowa.
 - B. Wagering on any Regent Athletic Event, Regent NCAA Team, or Regent NCAA Team's coach(es) or student-athlete(s) at any casino, pari-mutuel racetrack enclosure, excursion gambling boat, gambling structure, or other entity operating pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.
 - C. Wagering on any Regent Athletic Event, Regent NCAA Team, or Regent NCAA Team's coach(es) or student-athlete(s) on any internet site, mobile application, or similar electronic platform sponsored, owned or operated by an entity licensed as provided in subsections 3.A and B of this policy.
 - D. Providing information about a Regent NCAA Team or a Regent NCAA Team's coach(es) or student-athlete(s) which is not otherwise generally available to the public to individual(s) or entities involved in Wagering or Bookmaking activities.
4. Exceptions. Subsections 3.A – C of this policy shall not apply to a "fantasy sports contest" or "internet fantasy sports contest" as those terms are defined in Iowa Code Chapter 99E.
5. Any employee of the Office of the Board of Regents found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to appropriate discipline.