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Student-Athletes and Drug Abuse Policies: A Study of Drug Abuse Policies of Athletics Departments in a Major Intercollegiate Athletics Conference

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Student-Athletes and Drug Abuse Policies

A Study of Drug Abuse Policies of Athletics Departments in a Major
Intercollegiate Athletics Conference

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Capstone Project
April 11, 2013

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Background

In the past few years, athletics and drug abuse have been big topics in the media. Athletes are increasingly making headlines due to drug abuse incidents; however, drug abuse policies among collegiate athletic programs are inconsistent, allowing for widely varying interpretations of what constitutes drug abuse in the collegiate environment. Chancellors and Presidents of large athletic institutions are exploring the idea of creating common conference drug abuse policies in order to provide consistency within a conference. Understanding policies regarding sanctions for drug abuse and misuse by student-athletes at a major intercollegiate athletic conference can help position policy makers who work with that population to be of assistance.

NCAA Drug Policies

The National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA, is an association composed of 1,281 institutions, conferences, organizations, and individuals centered on athletic programs of colleges and universities across the country.¹ As defined by the NCAA, the NCAA was “founded more than one hundred years ago as a way to protect student-athletes, the NCAA continues to implement that principle with increased emphasis on both athletics and academic excellence.”² To do this, the NCAA enforces a variety of rules and regulations which athletic programs, colleges, and universities need to abide by. In relation to this mission, the NCAA provides rules and regulations on the use of drugs and medications among athletes within the NCAA.

According to an NCAA Study of Substance Use and Abuse, student-athletes are most likely to abuse alcohol, marijuana, and smokeless tobacco but other types of substances are still abused. Anabolic steroid use was reported at 1.1% overall rate of abuse, and athletes claimed the substance was obtained from a physician other than the team physician.³ This study is a good demonstration of the wide variety of substances abused by student athletes and the breakdown of abuse among different sports and different divisions in the NCAA.³

There are many theories as to why student-athletes are likely to abuse banned substances. Student athletes engage in riskier behavior, have higher misperceptions about their peers' use of alcohol, and many student athletes do not view alcohol as a legitimate threat to social, academic, or athletic performance.⁴ It is theorized that student athletes have more to balance than other students, with academics and athletics leading to added pressure, difficulty adapting to social challenges and lack of leisure time, dealing with success and failure, weight management issues, and minimizing injury.⁴

According to the NCAA's Sport Medicine Handbook, institutions that are members of the NCAA are responsible for ensuring compliance with the NCAA's drug testing program requirements as defined in the NCAA Drug Testing Program book and the NCAA bylaws.⁵

The Drug Testing Program Book, most recent addition from 2010-2011, has defined the banned substances, educational guidelines, and drug testing program protocols

institutions must follow in order to be compliant with the NCAA. The following is a list of banned substance classes the NCAA has defined:

- a. Stimulants;
- b. Anabolic Agents;
- c. Alcohol and Beta Blockers (banned for rifle only);
- d. Diuretics and Other Masking Agents;
- e. Street Drugs;
- f. Peptide Hormones and Analogues;
- g. Anti-estrogens; and
- h. Beta-2 Agonists.

Note: Any substance chemically related to these classes is also banned. The institution and the student- athlete shall be held accountable for all drugs within the banned drug class regardless of whether they have been specifically identified.⁴

Alcohol, tobacco, and other drug-education guidelines are outlined in Chapter 3 of the NCAA Drug Testing Program book. The NCAA bylaw 30.5 requires that the director of the athletic department (or a designee) educate student-athletes about NCAA banned substances and the products that contain them. Student athletes, administrators, coaches, compliance officers and sports medicine personnel should all participate in drug education.¹ The institution must also have a written policy on alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, which must include a statement about recruiting activities, drug testing, discipline, and counseling/treatment options. A list of banned substances must also be included in the student athlete handbook. Conference and institution rules and regulations must also be identified and addressed.¹

The NCAA also reserves the right to drug test any NCAA athlete. Specifically, the NCAA has laid out requirements to its drug program:

18.4.1.5.1 Duration of Ineligibility. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Executive Committee) shall be charged with the loss of a minimum of one season of competition in all sports if the season of competition has not yet begun for that student-athlete or a minimum of the equivalent of one full season of competition in all sports if the student-athlete tests positive during his or her season of competition (the remainder of contests in the current season and contests in the following season up to the period of time in which the student-athlete was declared ineligible during the previous year). The student-athlete shall remain ineligible for all regular-season and postseason competition during the time period ending one calendar year (365 days) after the collection of the student-athlete's positive drug-test specimen and until the student- athlete tests negative (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Executive Committee) and the student-athlete's eligibility is restored by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement. If the student-athlete participates in any contests from the time of collection until the confirmation of the positive result, he or she must be withheld from an equal number of contests after the 365-day period of ineligibility. *(Revised: 1/10/90 effective 8/1/90, 1/16/93, 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96, 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 4/28/05 effective 8/1/05, 11/1/07)*¹

Within the NCAA, institutions are divided into divisions and then further divided into conferences. Institutions join conferences based on the commonalities shared among them including geographical region, missions, research and funding, and athletics.²⁶ The Southeastern Conference (SEC) is a conference comprised of large state institutions (mostly public universities) located in the southeast with one school in the mid-west. The Southeastern Conference has fourteen institutional members in the conference. Athletic

institutions include Alabama, University of Arkansas, Auburn, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of Kentucky, Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, Ole Miss, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee, Texas A&M, University of Missouri, and Vanderbilt. Each institution publishes its own drug policy. Each institution has the liberty to create its own policy; therefore, each policy has different rules and expectations for student athletes.

SEC Drug Policies

In recent years, the Southeastern Conference (SEC) has faced media scrutiny with regards to its institutions' varying drug abuse policies. Other conferences have also received scrutiny for the lack of consistency among conference drug policies. For example, in 2010, the Big Ten schools' drug policies were called to attention by the media. Iowa had a news conference explaining its drug abuse policies because of Derrell Johnson-Koulianos' arrest on several drug charges.²⁷ Because of this incident, ESPN.com evaluated the Big Ten schools' policies for their stringency and consistency. Each Big Ten school had a different policy, similar to the system of the SEC, and each policy outlined different procedures and penalties for student athletes.

In the same year, Fanhouse.com made public record requests from all of the BCS conference schools. At the time, all of the SEC schools made their drug policies public (excluding Vanderbilt). An article was then published on MrSEC.com comparing the differences among all the institutions, subjectively comparing each policy with regard to

what happens after each documented positive drug test.⁶ The published results can be seen in Figure 1.

| School | 1st Strike | 2nd Strike | 3rd Strike | 4th Strike | 5th Strike |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Alabama | None | 15% of games | One year | Dismissal | — |
| Arkansas | None | 10% of games | 50% of games | Dismissal | — |
| Auburn | None | 50% of games | Dismissal | — | — |
| Florida | None | 10% of games | 20% of games | 50% of games | Dismissal |
| Georgia | 10% of games | 50% of games | Dismissal | — | — |
| Kentucky | 10% of games | 50% of games | Dismissal | — | — |
| LSU | None | 15% of games | One Year | — | — |
| Ole Miss | None | None | Three games | — | — |
| Miss. State | None | 50% of games | One Year | Dismissal | — |
| S. Carolina | None | 25% of games | Dismissal | — | — |
| Tennessee | None | 10% of games | Dismissal | — | — |

Figure 1. Details provided by 11 SEC public institutions about the penalty for each failed drug test for a student athlete. % games is referring to the amount of game times an athlete is suspended from after a positive drug test. Note: all of the SEC schools require counseling sessions and/or drug classes for first-time offenders.

According to this article’s analysis, Georgia and Kentucky were considered to have the most stringent policies.⁶ They were the only institutions in which game time is lost after the first positive drug test. Auburn, South Carolina, and Tennessee were next in line because of their policy of dismissal after three positive drug tests.⁶ For Mississippi State, Alabama, and Arkansas, a student-athlete requires four strikes before dismissal. The worst institution policies, according to the article, were LSU, Ole Miss, and Florida. Florida had five strikes before dismissal policy, Ole Miss has no automatic dismissal stage, and LSU has minimal game time loss with maximum loss only being one year.⁶

In 2012, more than five articles were published from different news outlets exploring the differences among SEC drug policies. SI.com, MrSEC.com, Columbiatribune.com, ESPN.com, and Bleacherreport.com have all published negative opinions about the drug

policies of the SEC.⁷⁻¹¹ According to all of this media attention, it is generally viewed that individual institution's drug policies are not sufficiently stringent or consistent enough for student-athletes. In an article published by SI.com, the commissioner of the SEC stated the in his 10 year tenure as commissioner, the topic of a common conference drug policy has been on the meeting agenda twice.⁷ He also stated, before the October 2012 meeting, that a common drug policy amongst SEC schools will not be discussed until appropriate data has been collected from each institution.⁷

Project Purpose

Currently, there is no objective measure to evaluate athletic institution's drug policies. Without an objective measure, it is hard to objectively compare program policies and truly understand the stringency each policy has to offer. A scoring system would provide an objective, quantitative way to compare the stringency of institution's drug policies. In this project, I develop a scoring system in order to categorize and rank each individual drug policy. The policies are then compared to one another by evaluating the differences among the scores. The scoring system will allow policy makers and conference leaders to objectively compare drug policies and to make objective observations and decisions about future drug policy review.

Methods

For this study, drug abuse policies from the 14 Southeastern Conference institutions were collected from each Department of Athletics. A drug abuse policy is a document created by each athletic department describing the requirements for athletes and the athletic departments when dealing with drugs and drug related issues. The policy is created to address what will happen to an athlete after each positive drug test conducted by the university. It also describes the types of punishments an athlete can accrue and the type of drug and/or alcohol educational requirements an athlete must participate in after a positive test. It is important to note that this project only addresses policies and consequences as define by each particular drug policy. It does not address the education and counseling dimension of the drug policies. This is only addressed as a function of punishment.

Each institution creates a drug policy as required by the NCAA. While the NCAA requires a program to create a drug policy and distribute it to its student athletes, there are very few requirements as to what each individual policy must state. This allows for a lot of variability among program policies.

For this study, each policy was reviewed, and specific characteristics common among all policies are identified to display commonalities between policies. The drug policies' analyzable characteristics include the number of positive tests before penalized with loss of participation time, how much game participation time is lost, number of positive drug tests to team dismissal, number of positive drug tests to drug counseling/education,

and the option for the athlete to reinstated after a probationary period. These are the most consistent measures between the drug policies and allow us to understand the true differences among each program.

The stringency score for each program is based on these common characteristics from each program with a point value assigned to each characteristic. This is an additive score value because there is no way to definitively prove what quality represents more or less stringency.

Stringency Score = Number of positive tests until loss of game participation + Initial game participation time lost (0-24% loss = 3pts; 25-49% loss = 2pts; $\geq 50\%$ loss = 1pt) + Number of positive tests for team dismissal + Education Not Required (1pt) + Option to Reinstate (3pts)

Results

Policy Analysis

After collecting drug policies from the 14 SEC institutions, 22 policies were identified. Some schools have all-inclusive policies and others have separate policies for different substances, such as alcohol and marijuana. Consequently, there are more policies than schools in my comparison of policies.

Table 1. Types of Drug Policies

| | Alcohol Policy | Marijuana Policy | Drug Policy | Combined Policy |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Alabama | | | | 1 |
| Arkansas | | | 2 | |
| Auburn | | 1 | 1 | |
| Florida | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Georgia | | | | 1 |
| Kentucky | | | | 1 |
| LSU | | | | 1 |
| Mississippi State | | | 1 | 1 |
| Missouri | | | | 1 |
| Ole Miss | 1 | | 1 | |
| South Carolina | | | | 1 |
| Tennessee | | | | 1 |
| Texas A&M | | | 2 | |
| Vanderbilt | | | | 1 |
| Totals | 2 | 2 | 8 | 9 |

The first characteristics identified in each policy are the number of positive drug tests before game time participation is lost and the amount of time lost with this initial punishment. Figure 2 shows these characteristics.

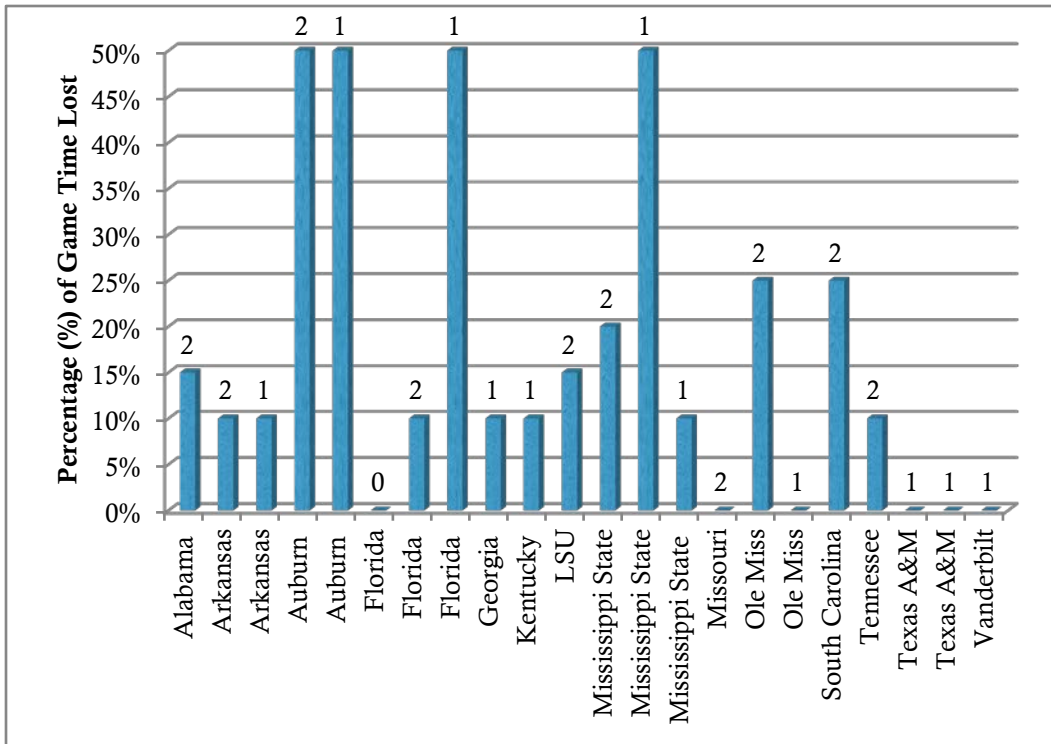


Fig. 2. Number of positive drug tests before the athlete loses competition time and the percentage of competition time lost. The bars represent the percentage of game time lost by an athlete and the number above each bar represents the number of positive drug test an athlete must have to lose game time.

Table 2 is a breakdown of each positive drug test and the consequences for the student-athlete as a result of each test. Consequences include game time loss, as described by percentages, and team dismissal. Some teams have no dismissal consequence and only

require the athlete to lose a year of playing time. Some policies do not specifically describe percentage of game time lost; those are left blank.

Table 2. Positive Drug Test Consequences

| School | Type of Policy | 1st Positive Drug Test | 2nd Positive Drug Test | 3rd Positive Drug Test | 4th Positive Drug Test |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Alabama | Everything | 0 | 15% | 1 year | |
| Arkansas | Street drugs, stimulants, alcohol, beta blockers | 0 | 10% | 25% | Dismissal |
| Arkansas | Anabolic agents, growth hormones, masking agents | 10% | 1 year | Dismissal | |
| Auburn | Marijuana | 0 | 50% | Dismissal | |
| Auburn | All other banned substances | 50% | Dismissal | | |
| Florida | Marijuana | 0 | 10% | 20% | Dismissal |
| Florida | All other drugs | 50% | Dismissal | | |
| Florida | Alcohol | 0 | | | |
| Georgia | Everything | 10% | 50% | Dismissal | |
| Kentucky | Everything | 10% | 50% | Dismissal | |
| LSU | Everything | 0 | 15% | 1 year | |
| Mississippi State | Marijuana or Alcohol | 10% | 20% | Dismissal | |
| Mississippi State | Other drugs | 50% | 1 year | Dismissal | |
| Missouri | Everything | 0 | 7 days | Dismissal | |
| Ole Miss | Everything | 0 | 25% | Dismissal | |
| Ole Miss | Alcohol | 0 | 25% | Dismissal | |
| South Carolina | Everything | 0 | 25% | Dismissal | |
| Tennessee | Banned substance | 0 | 10% | Dismissal | |
| Texas A&M | Recreational or street drugs | 0 | 0 | Dismissal | |
| Texas A&M | Anabolic steroids/performance enhancers | 0 | | Dismissal | |
| Vanderbilt | Everything | 0 | | Dismissal | |

Table 3 shows the final scores for each school for each policy type. As can be seen, there is a large range of scores from the most to the least stringent. The most stringent is Auburn’s treatment of all other banned substances (omits marijuana) with a score of 4; the least stringent is Florida’s treatment of marijuana infractions, with a score of 12. Also note that Florida treats alcohol infringements much more stringently than marijuana (6 v. 12). (See Appendix A for a complete breakdown of the score calculations for each policy)

Table 3. Stringency Score

| School | Policy Type | Score |
|--------------------------|--|-------|
| Alabama | Everything | 12 |
| Arkansas | Street drugs, stimulants, alcohol, beta blockers | 9 |
| Arkansas | Anabolic agents, growth hormones, masking agents | 7 |
| Auburn | Marijuana | 6 |
| Auburn | All other banned substances | 4 |
| Florida | Marijuana | 12 |
| Florida | All other drugs | 7 |
| Florida | Alcohol | 6 |
| Georgia | Everything | 7 |
| Kentucky | Everything | 7 |
| LSU | Everything | 11 |
| Mississippi State | Marijuana or Alcohol | 7 |
| Mississippi State | Other drugs | 5 |
| Missouri | Everything | 8 |
| Ole Miss | Everything | 7 |
| Ole Miss | Alcohol | 6 |
| South Carolina | Everything | 7 |
| Tennessee | Banned substance | 8 |
| Texas A&M | Recreational or street drugs | 10 |
| Texas A&M | Anabolic steroids/performance enhancers | 10 |
| Vanderbilt | Everything | 7 |

Sensitivity Analysis

In order to test the sensitivity of the stringency score, I changed the weights of different variables. This shows that changing the weight of a variable will not affect the overall rankings of the policies based on this stringency score. Table 4 shows the results of the sensitivity test.

This sensitivity model shows that there is very little change within the rankings of drug policies by changing the weights of different variables. The score I developed is not sensitive to the weights assigned to different variables, and while the score calculations may vary slightly, the rankings are unchanged. (See Appendix B for a full breakdown of each score comparison model)

| School | Policy | Original | Comparison 1 | Comparison 2 | Comparison 3 |
|--------------------------|--|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Auburn | All other banned substances | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Mississippi State | Other drugs | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Ole Miss | Alcohol | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Florida | Alcohol | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| Auburn | Marijuana | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Vanderbilt | Everything | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| South Carolina | Everything | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Ole Miss | Everything | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Mississippi State | Marijuana or Alcohol | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Kentucky | Everything | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Georgia | Everything | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Florida | All other drugs | 7 | 7 | 5 | 5 |
| Arkansas | Anabolic agents, growth hormones, masking agents | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Tennessee | Banned substance | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Missouri | Everything | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Arkansas | Street drugs, stimulants, alcohol, beta blockers | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Texas A&M | Recreational or street drugs | 10 | 10 | 8 | 8 |
| Texas A&M | Anabolic steroids/ performance enhancers | 10 | 10 | 8 | 8 |
| LSU | Everything | 11 | 11 | 9 | 9 |
| Florida | Marijuana | 12 | 12 | 10 | 10 |
| Alabama | Everything | 12 | 14 | 10 | 12 |

Table 3. A comparison of four different stringency score models in order to test the sensitivity of the original score. Original score: the stringency score used in the data analysis of programs. Comparison 1: The weight of education was changed to 3 points. Comparison 2: The weight of option to reinstate was changed to 1 point. Comparison 3: The weight of education was changed to 3 points and the weight of option to reinstate was changed to 1 point.

Discussion

A primary reason as to why institutions align within a conference is to group with similar institutions. It is to provide an even playing field among competing institutions and provides a fair and competitive environment for athletic programs. When it comes to drug policies, each institution within the SEC is at liberty to develop its own drug testing policies, systems, and consequences.

According to the SEC's bylaws, the purpose of the conference is to facilitate and assist its member institutions in maintaining intercollegiate athletic programs compatible with the higher standards of education and competitive sports.²⁸ Currently, there is no policy in place from the collegiate level that addresses this purpose in relation to drug policies among the SEC institution. There is no required consistency among schools within the same conference. This project has shown that the lack of conference regulations has allowed for great inconsistencies among institutional policies.

There is very little consistency found among program policies. Drug education or counseling was the one characteristic that all but one program (Alabama) required of their student-athletes. Other consistencies noted among the policies are the types of drug testing conducted by all of the institutions. All require random drug testing as well as additional testing for probable cause and reason for suspicion. It is also specifically noted in all of the drug policies that all student-athletes are eligible for testing. Some policies further state that other athletic personnel, such as trainers, managers, and coaches, are also subject to testing.

The bulk of the inconsistencies among policies are in punishment and consequences for each positive drug test. Institutions range from not punishing students in the first positive drug test to suspending students for up to 50% of game time.

With this scoring system, it is easier to objectively compare institutional drug policies. The lower the score, the more stringent the policy; the higher the score, the more lenient the policy. By scoring each policy, it is easy to look at a policy and objectively evaluate how stringent a school's drug testing and consequences are for a student athlete.

Auburn has the most stringent policy, according to the qualitative analysis and the stringency score. For all banned substances (other than marijuana), athletes lose 50% of game time with the first positive drug test and are dismissed from the team with the second positive drug test. For marijuana, it is three strikes and you're out policy.

Alabama has the least stringent policy, allowing student athletes to have a positive drug test three times before suspension. Suspension is only one year and then the student-athlete can be re-evaluated and have the option to be reinstated with the team. There is no education or counseling required for a positive drug test and when game time is lost after the second positive drug test, only 15% of game time is lost.

It is important to note, that all of the data for this project was collected during the summer of 2012. Some SEC institutions may have updated drug policies since this has been a major discussion at all of the SEC meetings, including that of the Athletic Directors and the Faculty Athletic Representatives. When the preliminary data was collected and analyzed (before the score was created), the data was presented at the American Society of

Health Systems Pharmacists National Midyear Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. At this meeting I was approached by the Dean of Pharmacy from an SEC institution. It was there he examined my project, asked for a copy of my research, and reported back to his institution's athletic director. I received further email communication once I was home, accompanied with an updated drug policy and further intrigue into the final results of the stringency score. It is important to note that the new policy was not taken into consideration for data collection since data collection was closed at this point of the study.

The Big 12 Conferences is an example of a conference that has successfully implemented a conference wide drug testing policy. It explains in their handbook that this was an effort to deter the use of banned substances and protect the athletes of the Big 12 Conference.²⁹ The Big 12 Conference's policy has a stringency score of 5. It would match up in the SEC as one of the more stringent policies.

There are a few options the SEC can evaluate in order to tackle the issue of inconsistent policies within the conference. The first is to do nothing. The second is a drug-testing program run by the SEC.

Drug policies from the conference level would require a common drug policy and sharing of costs and resources. Currently, the SEC runs off a \$270 million dollar budget. This number is divided into 15 shares. Fourteen of the shares go to the 14 SEC institutions and the last share goes to the operations of the central office. A drug-testing program run by the conference would be paid for out of the \$18 million central office budget.

A separate drug-testing program with its own drug policies run by the SEC would make policies, testing, and consequences among the SEC institutions consistent. This is important from a conference standpoint because it creates an even playing field among all institutions within the SEC. Also, because of the SEC's cost sharing structure, it creates fairness amongst programs pulling money from the same pot.

Further research should be done comparing drug policies of other conferences and even other division of the NCAA. It would also be interesting to survey student athletes about their drug policies and procedures to see how effective the policies in place are.

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Appendix A

| School | Policy | Number of positive tests until game time lost | Initial Game time lost 0-24% (3pt) | Initial Game time lost 25%-49% (2pts) | Initial Game time lost >50% (1pts) | Number of positive tests for team dismissal | Education NOT required (1pt) | Option to Reinstate (3pts) | Score |
|--------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Alabama | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 12 |
| Arkansas | Street drugs, stimulants, alcohol, beta blockers | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Arkansas | Anabolic agents, growth hormones, masking agents | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Auburn | Marijuana | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Auburn | All other banned substances | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Florida | Marijuana | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 12 |
| Florida | All other drugs | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 7 |
| Florida | Alcohol | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Georgia | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Kentucky | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| LSU | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 11 |
| Mississippi State | Marijuana or Alcohol | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Mississippi State | Other drugs | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Missouri | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------|
| Ole Miss | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Ole Miss | Alcohol | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| South Carolina | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Tennessee | Banned substance | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Texas A&M | Recreational or street drugs | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| Texas A&M | Anabolic steroids/performance enhancers | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| Vanderbilt | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |

Appendix B

Comparison 1 Stringency Score Model: Education is weighted with 3 points

| School | Policy | Number of positive tests until game time lost | Initial Game time lost 0-24% (3pt) | Initial Game time lost 25%-49% (2pts) | Initial Game time lost >50% (1pts) | Number of positive tests for team dismissal | Education not required (3pt) | Option to Reinstate (3pts) | Score |
|--------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Auburn | All other banned substances | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Mississippi State | Other drugs | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Auburn | Marijuana | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Florida | Alcohol | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Ole Miss | Alcohol | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Arkansas | Anabolic agents, growth hormones, masking agents | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Florida | All other drugs | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 7 |
| Georgia | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Kentucky | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Mississippi State | Marijuana or Alcohol | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Ole Miss | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| South Carolina | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Vanderbilt | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Missouri | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Tennessee | Banned substance | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Arkansas | Street drugs, stimulants, alcohol, beta blockers | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Texas A&M | Recreational or street drugs | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| Texas A&M | Anabolic steroids/performance enhancers | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| LSU | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 11 |
| Florida | Marijuana | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 12 |
| Alabama | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 14 |

Comparison 2 Stringency Scoring Model: Option to Reinstate weighted with 1 point

| School | Policy | Number of positive tests until game time lost | Initial Game time lost 0-24% (3pt) | Initial Game time lost 25%-49% (2pts) | Initial Game time lost >50% (1pts) | Number of positive tests for team dismissal | Education not required (1pt) | Option to Reinstate (1pts) | Score |
|--------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Auburn | All other banned substances | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Mississippi State | Other drugs | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Auburn | Marijuana | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Florida | Alcohol | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Ole Miss | Alcohol | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Arkansas | Anabolic agents, growth hormones, masking agents | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Florida | All other drugs | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Georgia | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Kentucky | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Mississippi State | Marijuana or Alcohol | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Ole Miss | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| South Carolina | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Vanderbilt | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Missouri | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Tennessee | Banned substance | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Arkansas | Street drugs, stimulants, alcohol, beta blockers | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| Texas A&M | Recreational or street drugs | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| Texas A&M | Anabolic steroids/performance enhancers | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| LSU | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| Florida | Marijuana | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| Alabama | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 10 |

Comparison 3 Stringency Score Model: Education weighted with 3 points and Option to Reinstate weighted with 1 point

| School | Policy | Number of positive tests until game time lost | Initial Game time lost 0-24% (3pt) | Initial Game time lost 25%-49% (2pts) | Initial Game time lost >50% (1pts) | Number of positive tests for team dismissal | Education not required (3pt) | Option to Reinstate (1pts) | Score |
|--------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Auburn | All other banned substances | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Mississippi State | Other drugs | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Auburn | Marijuana | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Florida | Alcohol | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Ole Miss | Alcohol | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Arkansas | Anabolic agents, growth hormones, masking agents | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Florida | All other drugs | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Georgia | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Kentucky | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Mississippi State | Marijuana or Alcohol | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Ole Miss | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| South Carolina | Everything | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Vanderbilt | Everything | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Missouri | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Tennessee | Banned substance | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Arkansas | Street drugs, stimulants, alcohol, beta blockers | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| Texas A&M | Recreational or street drugs | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| Texas A&M | Anabolic steroids/performance enhancers | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| LSU | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| Florida | Marijuana | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 10 |
| Alabama | Everything | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 12 |