Medical Hardship Waivers  (Bylaw 14.2.4)

**GUIDELINES FOR MEDICAL HARDSHIP WAIVER REQUESTS**

1) The student-athlete may not have participated in more than 30 percent of the team's completed contests/dates of competition.

2) The injury or illness must occur prior to the completion of the first half of the season.

3) The injury or illness must leave the student-athlete unable to compete for the remainder of the season.

**IMPORTANT POINTS**

- The injury or illness does not have to occur during practice or competition.

- All percentages are calculated according to "contests" or "dates of competition," depending on how your sport's competitive opportunities are counted. Percentages for individual sports are calculated on the basis of days from the team's first competition to final competition.

- Only contests or dates of competition occurring during the championship (traditional) season are included in the calculations.

- Conference tournaments are counted as one contest or date of competition, regardless of the actual number of contests played or dates used.

- If the percentage calculation for the 30-percent rule results in a decimal -- any decimal -- the number is always rounded up.

  *EXAMPLE:* The lacrosse team competed on 17 dates. Thirty percent of 17 is 5.1. A student-athlete who competed on 6 of the first 8 dates does qualify for a medical hardship waiver.

- To meet the first-half-of-the-season requirement, all competition must have ended prior to the start of the contest or date that begins the second half of the season.

  *EXAMPLE:* Any competition in the 10th game of a 19-game season would prevent a soccer player from receiving a medical hardship waiver.

- A student-athlete who is injured in the first half of the season, then attempts to play in the second half and aggravates the original injury, does not qualify for a medical hardship waiver.

- An application must be filed with the ACC Office in order to receive a medical hardship waiver. The waiver may not be applied for until the completion of the sport's traditional (championship) season. Documentation regarding diagnosis and treatment must be provided by a physician. Contemporaneous documentation of treatment, rehab, etc. must be provided by VT sports medicine and/or another medical entity.

- A student-athlete may receive a medical hardship waiver and still participate in his/her sport's non-traditional season (e.g. spring volleyball, spring soccer).