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Sixteen Student-Athletes Will Face Disciplinary Action Over Alcohol

Winthrop University

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Sixteen Student-Athletes Will Face Disciplinary Action Over Alcohol

Quick Facts

- The charges included eight for transferring alcohol to a person under 21; eight for possession of alcohol under 21, and one for resisting police.
- The student-athletes cited include: baseball players John Menken, Austin Lawrence, Brad Kaczka, Roger Gonzales, Carson Gregory, and Mitch Spires; lacrosse player Alexis Cantwell-Badyna; volleyball players Emily Teelon and Mallary McFadden; women's track athletes Taryn DeLeon and Sabrena Reid; and cheerleaders Angelika Davis, Erial Maple, Tabitha Owens, Charnelle Swift, and Brittani Gunn.



Tom Hickman

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA - Winthrop athletic director Tom Hickman announced today that **16 student-athletes** have been charged with the transfer of alcohol to a person under 21 or the possession of alcohol by a person under 21.

The **student-athletes** cited include: **baseball players** John Menken, Austin Lawrence, Brad Kaczka, Roger Gonzales, Carson Gregory, and Mitch Spires; **lacrosse player** Alexis Cantwell-Badyna; **volleyball players** Emily Teelon and Mallary McFadden; **women's track athletes** Taryn DeLeon and Sabrena Reid; and **cheerleaders** Angelika Davis, Erial Maple, Tabitha Owens, Charnelle Swift, and Brittani Gunn.

The charges included **eight for transferring alcohol to a person under 21; eight for possession of alcohol under 21, and one for resisting police.**

"These 16 student-athletes, along with 11 other Winthrop athletes who participated in two separate off-campus social gatherings involving underage consumption of alcoholic beverages, will face disciplinary action from the athletic department including suspensions from upcoming games. Abusing alcohol will not be tolerated and these students will be held accountable for their actions," said Hickman.

According to **Frank Ardaiole**, Winthrop's vice president for student life, "All students who face legal charges from violations of city, state, or federal law are also held accountable to the Winthrop University Student Conduct Code. Every such student will be charged appropriately with an alleged violation(s) of the Code, such as violating our alcoholic beverage and/or disorderly conduct policies as their individual circumstances dictate."

He continued to say, "If a student is deemed responsible, sanctions are imposed to assist the student in identifying acceptable parameters of their activities and consequences of future behaviors and to protect the campus community from conduct that is detrimental to the educational process of the university. Sanctions can range up to expulsion."

In **alcohol misuse violations**, students are also typically required to attend an **alcohol education program** and may also be **assessed for signs of possible sustained alcohol abuse.**

"Winthrop takes any such incident very seriously as both a matter of law and a matter of student development and safety," said **Winthrop acting president Debra Boyd**. "We continue to work with all students to encourage good choices in all aspects of life; and when necessary, we address the behavior of individual students who may err along the way to emphasize accountability, both to themselves and their larger community."

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