

Sports Wagering Policy – FAQ

1. Why is Butler banning sports wagering, when it is legal in Indiana?

Though the State of Indiana allows sports wagering on NCAA Division I sports, this policy was created to safeguard the integrity of competition and the well-being of student athletes, coaches and others connected to our athletic programs. Butler trustees, faculty, staff, students, and independent contractors may be afforded greater access to information about the University's student athletes, coaches, or training staff that could impact the outcome of contests. When trustees, faculty, staff, students, and independent contractors refrain from placing sports wagers on Butler and its student athletes and coaches, we foster a culture of honesty, integrity, and fair play and we protect our teams, student athletes, and coaches from potential undue influence and improper conduct.

2. Who does this policy apply to?

This policy applies to all Butler University trustees, faculty, staff, students and independent contractors. It applies to these individuals wherever located and whether employed or enrolled full time, part time, or on a temporary basis.

3. Are Butler graduates subject to this policy?

No. Butler graduates who are not trustees, faculty, staff, or independent contractors are not subject to this policy.

4. Are adjunct and emeritus faculty subject to this policy?

Yes. Adjunct faculty and emeritus faculty who are engaged in teaching, scholarly or research activities on Butler's campus are subject to this policy.

5. Are prospective students subject to this policy?

No. All students officially enrolled at Butler are subject to this policy. A student is officially enrolled once he or she has participated in at least one session of a registered course. This includes undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who may be enrolled part-time or full-time.

6. Are individuals who only take online classes subject to this policy?

Yes. Individuals who take online classes are still enrolled and attending Butler, and are subject to the policy.

7. Can I participate in a March Madness bracket pool?

You can participate in a March Madness bracket, but may not pay to participate, or accept any type of award, prize, or item of value. In other words, you may participate for bragging rights only!

8. Can I participate in fantasy sports?

Yes. Fantasy sports leagues are not prohibited under this policy.

9. How will this policy be enforced?

There will be no active “policing” of this policy by way of flagging, blocking or filtering certain websites, creation of electronic fences, etc. Students, faculty, staff, contractors, and members of the Board of Trustees at Butler University are required to report any attempt by a third-party to solicit non-public information, or to encourage or solicit conduct that violates this policy.

Reports shall be made to the following: Director of Athletics (for student athletes or athletics staff); the Vice President of Student Affairs (for students); the Associate Vice President of Human Resources (for staff); a Dean (for faculty); or the Board of Trustees Chair (for trustees).

Faculty and staff members found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate employment discipline, up to and including termination. Students found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate discipline, up to and including dismissal under the Student Handbook. Trustees found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to appropriate discipline, up to and including removal by vote of the entire board.

10. I have a longstanding bet with my friend every year during the Butler vs. Villanova men’s basketball game where the loser buys the other person dinner. Can that continue?

No. This falls under the policy’s definition of a sports wager– any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value contingent upon the outcome of, or occurrence within, an athletic or sporting event or upon the performance of any individual participating in that event. This example technically meets the definition of a sports wager and is not permitted under this policy.

11. Can I bet on games that don't involve Butler?

Yes. As long as Butler is not involved in the event. The policy only prohibits wagers that involve Butler University teams, student-athletes, coaches, contests, and events. However, please note that if you are a student-athlete, member of the Athletics Department, or person providing support to an athletic program, NCAA bylaws prohibit sports wagering regardless of the change in Indiana law.

12. Can my family and friends bet on Butler games?

The policy applies to Butler trustees, faculty, staff, students, and independent contractors who provide services to the Butler University Department of Athletics, its athletic teams, and student-athletes. Note that trustees, faculty, staff, students, and independent contractors are prohibited from using or communicating nonpublic or exclusive information concerning a Butler University student-athlete or team to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities.