Sickle Cell Testing 2018-19

Please note that you only need one of these forms per 4 years of competition

About Sickle Cell Trait:

- Sickle cell trait is not a disease. It is an inherited condition affecting the oxygen-carrying substance, hemoglobin, in the red blood cells. Individuals are born with sickle cell trait; it cannot be developed over time or contracted like a disease.
- Sickle cell trait is a common condition and occurs in more than three million Americans. Although sickle cell trait occurs most commonly in African Americans and those of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Indian, Caribbean, and South and Central American ancestry, persons of all races and ethnicities may test positive for this condition.
- Those with sickle cell trait usually have no symptoms or any significant health problems. However, sometimes during very intense, sustained physical activity, as can occur with collegiate sports, certain dangerous conditions may develop in those with sickle cell trait, leading to blood vessel and organ (kidneys, muscles, heart) damage that may cause sudden collapse and death. Some of the settings in which this may occur include timed runs, all out exertion of any type for two or three continuous minutes without a rest period, intense drills and other bursts of exercise after doing prolonged conditioning training. Extreme heat and dehydration increase the risks.
- For more information regarding Sickle Cell Trait please see the NCAA “Fact Sheet for Student-Athletes” on the Sports Medicine page at www.rwuhawks.com website

Sickle Cell Trait Confirmation Requirement:

- The NCAA requires that colleges and universities confirm the sickle cell trait status of incoming student-athletes before participation in intercollegiate athletics. Such may be accomplished with one of the following three options:
  1. Show proof of a prior test with results (most states require testing at birth, check with your hospital or pediatrician);
  2. Have a current blood test to check for sickle cell trait (cost of testing is the responsibility of the athlete); or
  3. Sign a testing waiver declining options 1 and 2.

  Whichever option is chosen, this form must be completed before the athlete participates in any intercollegiate athletics events including practices or competitions.

- Athletes who are positive for the trait will be allowed to participate in intercollegiate athletics; this does **NOT** prohibit you from playing.

Test Results or Sickle Cell Trait Testing Waiver:

After reviewing the above information and the attached NCAA Fact Sheet I have elected to (please check and fill in):

- [ ] I will provide documented proof of my sickle cell trait status from previous testing to the Athletic Training Department (as well as answer below):
  - Test Results (circle): Positive  Negative

- [ ] I, the undersigned student-athlete, understand and acknowledge that the NCAA and Roger Williams University (“University”) recommend that all student-athletes have knowledge of their sickle cell trait status. Additionally, I have read and fully understand the aforementioned facts about sickle cell trait. Recognizing that my true physical condition is dependent upon an accurate medical history and a full disclosure of any symptoms, complaints, prior injuries, ailments and/or disabilities experienced, I hereby affirm that I have fully disclosed in writing any prior medical history and/or knowledge of sickle cell trait status to the University Athletic Training Department. I do not wish to undergo sickle cell trait testing and I voluntarily agree to release, discharge, indemnify, and hold harmless the University, its trustees, officers, employees, and agents from any and all costs, liabilities, expenses, claims demands, or causes of action on account of any loss or personal injury that might result from my non-compliance with the recommendation of the NCAA and the University regarding sickle cell trait. I have read and signed this document with full knowledge of its significance. I further state that I am at least 18 years of age and competent to sign this waiver.

Names & Signatures:

Student-Athlete Name & Signature __________________________________________________________  Date _______

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18 years of age) ________________________ Sport____________________________