

LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Educating our Student-Athletes to be Exemplary Citizens in Diverse Communities, Lifelong Learners, and Champions On and Off the Fields of Competition.

In order to meet the mission of the University of Colorado and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, all student-athletes will be provided with personal development and theory based experiences to understand and practice basic leadership principles and skills. Through a developmental approach, all student-athletes will have opportunities to explore leadership both from a personal perspective as well as through theory and practice; understanding that one cannot be an effective leader for a group or organization if one does not take personal responsibility for their own self-leadership. Through their participation, student-athletes will exhibit a commitment to the core values to oneself, team, department, the university and the community as a whole.

Personal Development and Leadership

Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron White was the epitome of a leader. The graduate of the University of Colorado and football All-American was a scholar, athlete, public servant and humanitarian. It was said that he knew himself and his convictions and acted accordingly—personal leadership. A student-athlete at CU, through their various experiences, will have several opportunities to understand the topics and challenges relevant to achieving success. Beginning with our First Year Experience Program and ending with a purposeful transition program their senior year (STEPS), student-athletes will have formal and informal opportunities to develop strategies around career development, financial planning, personal wellness and other life skills.

Theory and Practice of Leadership

It is the belief of many that leadership skills can be learned, improved and ultimately implemented. Through the Leadership Development Program, all student-athletes will have annual opportunities to gain first-hand knowledge of those skills and then use them on their teams as well as in the university and community. Through workshops, seminars, and service, all student-athletes will hear from presenters to educate and motivate. In addition, programs will be offered with a series of seminars over a year focusing on leadership development topics and leadership training for team leaders.