

THE CITADEL
The Military College of South Carolina
171 Moultrie Street
Charleston, SC 29409

MEMORANDUM
NUMBER 2-111

24 JULY 2024

GROOMING POLICY FOR NON-CADET STUDENT-ATHLETES

1. PURPOSE

Representing The Citadel should be a matter of personal pride for all members of The Citadel community. A neat and well-groomed appearance by all of The Citadel's athletes is fundamental to the school and contributes to the pride and *esprit de corps* essential to success. The purpose of this policy is to establish non-cadet student-athlete grooming practices at The Citadel.

2. REFERENCE

S.C. Code Ann. 59-121-10, *et. seq.*

3. DEFINITIONS

None.

4. POLICY

A. Pre-Matriculation Standards

Non-cadet student-athletes (NCSA) will report for their pre-matriculation sport camps or fall post-matriculation sport camps in compliance with current Citadel cadet grooming standards, unless granted a documented exception, e.g., medical, religious. NCSA must be in compliance with current Citadel cadet grooming standards: (1) for team and individual, in-uniform pictures; and (2) when representing The Citadel in any official capacity.

B. In-Season Non-Cadet Grooming Standards

1. General

- a. NCSA will ensure their hair is kept in a neat, clean manner. Extreme or fad style haircuts or hair styles are not authorized. If dyes, tints, or bleaches are used, color used must appear natural or similar to human hair and not present

an extreme appearance. Use of hair products that produce an oily or greasy appearance will not be used.

- b. Fingernails will be kept clean and neatly trimmed so as not to interfere with the performance or present a safety hazard. Only clear nail polish is authorized. Females will not exceed a nail length of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, as measured from the tip of the finger. Males will keep nails trimmed so as not to extend beyond the fingertip.
- c. The face will be clean-shaven. If appropriate medical authority prescribes beard growth, the length required for medical treatment will also be specified. For example, "a neatly trimmed beard is authorized. The length will not exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ inch."

2. Male Haircut Requirements

- a. The hair on top of the head will be neatly groomed. The length and bulk of the hair will not exceed three inches, present a ragged, unkempt, or extreme appearance. Hair will present a tapered appearance and when combed will not fall over the ears or eyebrows. The hair at the back of the head will be tapered and not blocked. In all cases the bulk or length of the hair will not interfere with the proper wearing of athletic equipment.
- b. Sideburns will be neatly trimmed. The base will not be flared and will be a clean-shaven horizontal line. Sideburns will not extend below the middle of the ear canal.
- c. Faddish haircuts (such as Horseshoes" and "Teardrop") are not authorized. Males are not authorized to wear braids, cornrows, twists or dreadlocks.

3. Female Haircut Requirements

- a. All females will ensure that their hair is neatly groomed, that the length and bulk of the hair are not excessive, and that the hair does not present a ragged, unkempt, or extreme appearance.
- b. Trendy styles that result in shaved portions of the scalp (other than the neckline) or designs cut into the hair are prohibited. Only straight parts are authorized.
- c. Females may wear braids, as long the braids lie snugly on the head, and any hair holding devices comply with current Citadel standards.

- d. Braids, cornrows, twists, and locks will be of uniform dimension and have a diameter no greater than ½ inch. Each must be spaced the same.

C. Out-of-Season Non-Cadet Grooming Standards

When out-of-season, NCSA are permitted to wear well-groomed, neatly trimmed, tapered, and tidy mustaches and beards. However, if they are not in compliance with current Citadel cadet grooming standards, to include being clean-shaven (i.e., no mustaches nor beards) they will not be allowed to appear in the media, e.g., live or recorded, regardless of format (video, photo, traditional, social media, etc.) and their appearances (images, likeness) will be represented by their official Citadel individual, in-uniform photos.

5. COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension from team activities, removal from athletic teams, and suspension, dismissal or expulsion from The Citadel.

6. NOTES

A. Dates of Official Enactment and Amendments

Approved by the President on 24 July 2024.

B. Responsible Department

Office of the President

C. Responsible Official

Chief of Staff

D. Cross References

None.

7. RESCISSION

None.

8. REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed on a biennial basis.

OFFICIAL

s/ GLENN WALTERS
President of The Citadel
Gen. USMC (Ret.)