University Policies and Procedures

06-09.02- TAILGATING POLICY

I. Policy Statement:

Towson University (“TU” or “University”) recognizes that University Athletic Events are an important part of the University experience. As such, the University encourages safe and responsible socializing for those students, alumni, and fans who attend these events. This includes support for Tailgating and other event-day activities that build community, show support for student-athletes, and offer opportunities for social interaction. The Athletics Department manages tailgating events hosted, arranged, or associated with NCAA-sanctioned sporting events. The Campus Recreation Department manages Tailgating events hosted, arranged, or associated with a Division 1, Tier 5 Campus Recreation recognized athletic team.

The University expects that all members of the University community who participate in Tailgating (including students and guests) will abide by local, state, and federal law, as well as TU policies and procedures. In particular, every individual participating in Tailgating must act in a safe and responsible manner that allows everyone to enjoy University Athletic Events. A Tailgating participant who violates any local, state, or federal law or University policy and procedure is subject to criminal prosecution, fines, removal from University premises, loss of parking and/or Tailgating privileges, and/or applicable disciplinary action under the University’s Code of Student Conduct.

As set forth in its Tailgating Policies, which may be amended from time to time, the University permits reasonable consumption of certain alcoholic beverages in specific non-glass containers during designated Tailgating hours and in Designated Areas. [Hyperlink to Procedures]. In accordance with this Policy and its Procedures, the University requires that all members of the University community, third parties and guests participating in Tailgating pursuant to the University’s Tailgating Policy, act in a responsible and smart manner to ensure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience. In order to maximize the positive nature of the Tailgating experience, the University encourages respectful treatment, language and behavior towards others. The University does not and will not tolerate harassment, abusive or threatening behavior. Such behavior may be a violation of the University’s anti-discrimination and harassment policy as well as local, state and federal law.

II. Definitions:

A. “Alcoholic Beverage” is any liquid containing at least one-half percent (0.5%) alcohol by volume, including, though not necessarily limited to, beer, wine, liquor/spirits, or mixed drinks.
B. “Designated Areas” are those locations (typically in or around parking lots) at which the University allows Tailgating to occur.

C. “Glass Container” includes any and all bottles, glasses, jugs, pitchers, etc. made out of glass; glass items are strictly prohibited during Tailgating.

D. “Open Container” is a can, or other non-glass receptacle (e.g., box, bag, flask, etc.) containing an Alcoholic Beverage that is open, has a broken seal, or from which the contents are partially removed.

E. “Possession” is the act of having, transporting, own, distributing, or consuming an Alcoholic Beverage.

F. “Tailgating” is a social event or activity, typically held prior to or after a University Athletic Event, intended to build community, provide opportunities for social interaction, and support student-athletes. Tailgating occurs in a designated area/location and/or setting up temporary amenities such as tables, chairs and tents to consume food and beverages.

G. “University Athletic Event” is (i) an NCAA-sanctioned sporting event or (ii) a Division 1/Tier 5 sporting event managed by the Campus Recreation Department.

III. Responsible Executive and Office:

   Responsible Executive: Vice President for Student Affairs

   Responsible Offices: Office of Student Affairs
   Athletics Department
   TUPD

IV. Entities Affected by this Policy:

This Policy applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, guests, and third-parties.

V. Procedures:

Procedures relating to Tailgating, which may be amended from time to time without the need to amend this Policy, are available at:

- Tailgating Procedures.

VI. Related Policies:

06-09.01 – Parking Policy.
06.01.00—Prohibiting Discrimination on the Basis of Race, Color, Religion, Age, National Origin, Sex and Disability