

ANTI-HAZING REPORT

Person(s) reviewing the report are encouraged to review how the institution defines the following: institutional definitions for hazing, violation, and resolution.



LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY	DATE REPORTED	DATE RESOLVED
Men's Rugby Team	Initial Report : Wednesday, September 3, 2025 Initial Investigation: September 24, 2025 Ended Investigation: October 8, 2025	Outcome Letter: October, 15, 2025. Appeal: No appeal, five business days to appeal

DESCRIPTION OF FINDING	SANCTION(S):
<p>On September 3, 2025, the University received a hazing complaint involving the Men's Rugby team. Allegations included an off-campus party with underage drinking, new members wearing costumes on campus, and disruptive behavior in dining halls. Public Safety initiated an investigation under the University's Hazing Policy, later transferring findings to Community Standards and Conflict Resolution.</p> <p>During the inquiry, it was confirmed that new Rugby team members participated in a long-standing tradition of dressing in costumes for bonding purposes. While no coercion was reported, alcohol was present at an off-campus team gathering, and one student, became intoxicated and combative. Subsequent information revealed the student was pressured to drink and physically assaulted during initiation. He expressed fear of retaliation and was offered counseling resources.</p> <p>The investigation concluded that hazing behaviors—though framed as “tradition”—occurred and involved underage drinking and unsafe practices. Additional interviews confirmed these activities have persisted for several years. Recommendations include reinforcing the Hazing Policy, educating athletic teams on prohibited conduct, and implementing preventive measures to ensure student safety.</p>	<p>Members of the Team were required to complete educational training (Parts 1 and 2) in Vector - Hazing Prevention, and provide 3-5 questions you have about the training due 11/3/202 and submit to the Director, Community Standards and Conflict Resolutions. No group work or submission of the same question; if this happens, it is considered incomplete and the student must redo the assignment. Training for the team is suspended from Sunday, November 23, 2025 to Monday, January 12, 2026</p>