CMU Athletics Mission Statement and our 4 Pillars

Department of Athletics Mission Statement: The Central Methodist University (CMU) Athletics Family seeks to advance the college’s mission by empowering student-athletes toward the following endeavors, the 4 Pillars of the CMU Athletic Experience:

1. The Passionate Pursuit of Excellence
2. Ownership of Responsibility and Accountability
3. Development of Leader Communication Skills
4. Pride and Loyalty in CMU, Team, and Self

Defining the 4 Pillars:

The Passionate Pursuit of Excellence: The CMU Athletic Department realizes that improvement is always possible; we want to make our weaknesses strengths, and our strengths even stronger. We desire this within our college, within each department and program, within each employee, and within our students. We must fight hard every day to fend off complacency, and the attitude that anything is just ‘good enough’. Often times, ‘Good’ is the enemy of ‘Great’.

We demonstrate the Passionate Pursuit of Excellence by eagerly accepting coaching, setting the bar high for ourselves and our teams, working hard and giving tremendous effort, being focused on the job at hand, and by willingly expending our energy even though victory may be far from certain.

Ownership of Responsibility and Accountability: The CMU Athletic Department recognizes the responsibilities that exist from the President of CMU all the way through the student-athletes within in the programs. We all have responsibilities bestowed on us by our positions, and in order for our teams to thrive and move forward at every level, we must own the responsibilities and desire to be held accountable for them.

We demonstrate Ownership of Responsibility and Accountability through academics, team interactions, housing interactions, community interactions, sport commitments, mistake corrections, positive freedom management, and by learning how to take a complement and be humble in success.

Development of Civil Communication Skills: The CMU Athletic Department embraces the importance of Civil Communication Skills for leaders. Clear, concise, and efficient communication is needed throughout CMU and the athletic department, as well as within each team. Thorough exchange of thoughts and ideas in a respectful manner greatly improves any organizations chances of success.
We demonstrate Civil Communication Skills by seeking clarity to given direction, active listening to others thoughts and feelings, and by addressing issues as they occur with the person or entity most likely to be able to improve the issue. Further, we seek to do this in a professional manner that leaves both sides feeling respected, which builds trust and increases team unity.

**Pride and Loyalty in CMU, team, and self**: The CMU Athletic Department builds pride and loyalty in the University, teams, and self by providing a quality experience for student athletes. The student-athlete experience is enhanced through safe and comfortable transportation, ample opportunities to demonstrate improvement, respectful communication with fellow teammates and coaches, and top level athletic facilities and athletic gear.

Pride and loyalty in CMU, team, and self is shown through positive interactions with others, clean appearance, leaving used facilities clean, proudly wearing CMU gear, supporting our teammates, supporting fellow CMU programs, and in choosing difficult tasks to increase improvement. We seek two things: Pride with Humility, and Appreciation without Entitlement.