

## **Proposed Policy for Baker Field Events for the Remainder of the 2005 Football Season**

*Respectfully submitted by: Barnard SGA, CCSC, ESC, and GSSC*

### **Rationale**

Student response since implementation of the revised Baker Field tailgating guidelines indicates widespread discontent with the actions taken by the Athletics Department. As evidenced by the sparsity of student tailgating events at Baker Field this year, it is clear that the student body found the changes in the policy unsatisfactory. The sense of community surrounding football games was largely undermined due to a policy that inhibits student-alumni interaction and unnecessarily prohibits the legal consumption of alcoholic beverages. While we respect the University's efforts to meet New York State law and to encourage a safe and fan-friendly environment, we believe that the following proposal will address University concerns without undermining a cherished aspect of the Columbia experience.

As the representatives of the undergraduate student body, we are proposing a solution that addresses student concerns in three core areas:

- Clear Communication
- Manageable Alcohol Policy
- Acceptable Tailgating Policy

### **Clear Communication**

A clear statement of the tailgating policy should be posted on the Athletics website in a timely manner. Prior to its posting, this statement should be reviewed by all organizations represented by this document. This posted policy should clearly describe the acceptable actions of students at Baker Field (i.e. what students are permitted to do/not do).

### **Manageable Alcohol Policy**

We understand University concerns of past underage drinking at Baker Field. We also agree that drinking should only be allowed within State law. We propose a solution that is compliant with both University and State regulations, as well as manageable (through University proctors and community responsibility), to ensure a safe and fan-friendly environment at Baker Field:

- Those who are of legal drinking age should be allowed to carry in up to 6 cans of an alcoholic beverage. This number is a compromise to promote responsible drinking by individuals of legal age.
- All those who are carrying in alcohol must present 2 valid IDs at the entrance of Baker Field, at which point alcohol proctors will wristband the student to identify that they are of legal age.
- An additional ID/wristband table will be stationed at the entrance to the tailgating zone for those who wish to consume, but did not bring in their own alcoholic beverage.
- University trained alcohol proctors will patrol the tailgating area to ensure a safe environment. Upon observing a student without a wristband consuming an alcoholic beverage, the proctor will ask the student to leave the tailgating area.

### **Acceptable Tailgating Policy**

The current Lions Tail-Gate area should be reserved as a tailgating zone open to all students. This area is to be separate from the general picnicking area outside this zone.

- Previously delineated space around the perimeter of the tailgating area should be reserved for student use on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Students who are tailgating should be allowed to drive into the stadium to drop off their food, grills and supplies to their tailgate area.
- Tailgating areas will be accessible throughout the entire game.

The preservation of tailgating space will foster student-alumni relationships, thus continuing the alumni connection with the University.

*All aspects of the finally accepted policy should be revisited at the conclusion of the 2005 Football Season by all organizations represented on this document.*

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