Policy Number/Title:	5.3.2 Tailgating Policy
Effective Since:	11/12/2019
Last Revision Approved:	02/10/2026
Responsible Office:	Winthrop University Police Department

1. Scope:

Winthrop University community, faculty, staff, students, visitors, and alumni

2. Definitions:

Tailgating is defined as parking and/or gathering in a designated location/area and consuming food and beverages, including alcohol for those individuals of legal age, for the premises outlined below as specifically approved for public consumption of beer or wine therein, particularly with regard to such activities before and after an approved event or intercollegiate athletic game at Winthrop University.

3. Policy:

3.1 The University wants to provide a fun and energetic atmosphere for approved intercollegiate athletic games and events for pre and post activities.

3.2 All tailgaters are asked to respect all attendees.

3.3 Tailgating at Winthrop is designed to be a positive experience for all attendees; anyone disrupting the use of the facilities or associated grounds will be asked to leave.

3.4 Tailgating will be typically permitted in the following areas only which are specifically approved for public consumption of beer or wine by those of legal age (unless additional locations are permitted for special events by the Director of Athletics, the Vice President for Student Affairs, and the Chief of Winthrop University Police Department):

A. North and South paved parking lots at the Winthrop Coliseum.

B. Paved parking lot adjacent to Track/Soccer field. Paved softball parking lot. Tailgating is limited to directly behind your parked vehicle. Roadways cannot be

blocked for any reason. Oversized grills may be directed to a designated location (when available) determined by Coliseum parking attendants or WUPD.

3.5 Tailgating areas will open six hours prior to the beginning of an approved event or intercollegiate athletic game. Attendees must vacate the tailgate areas and parking lots no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the approved event or intercollegiate athletic game. Winthrop University reserves the right to determine disruptive behavior.

Prohibited Activities

3.6 The above designated areas are the only locations approved for tailgating. Consumption of alcohol outside designated areas and/ or time periods constitutes a violation of the Winthrop University tailgating policy. Violators are subject to prosecution under the Winthrop University Student Conduct Code, the laws of the City of Rock Hill, and the State of SC. Winthrop University Police Department will maintain an active presence and patrol during all tailgating activities and respond accordingly to any violations.

The City of Rock Hill Ordinance regarding display or consumption of beer or wine in public place: It shall be unlawful to openly display or consume any beer or wine in or from any unsealed container on any public street or sidewalk, in any public parking area, or at any public gathering place, excepting premises specifically licensed for public consumption of beer or wine therein; provided that this charge shall not be asserted when any other charge is made relating to or growing out of consumption of beer, wine or whiskey. (Source: City of Rock Hill Municipal Code, www.municode.com/library/sc/rock_hill/codes/code_of_ordinances)

3.7 Winthrop University does not sanction the consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by underage persons; nor does it sanction the violation of Federal, State or Local Law. Please review the Alcohol Beverage Policy in the Winthrop University Repository.

3.8 Tailgating activities must not impede vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic.

3.9 Prior to the approved event or intercollegiate athletic game, tailgating overnight, parking vehicles and/or setting up tailgate supplies overnight are prohibited.

3.10 Pegging or staking tents is prohibited and tents are not allowed on surface lots.

3.11 No animals will be permitted. Service dogs are welcomed.

3.12 Riding bicycles, scooters, skateboards, and rollerblades, etc., are prohibited within the designated tailgate area and surface lots.

3.13 No household furniture, sofas, recliners, staging, etc., are allowed within the designated tailgate areas and/or surface lots.

3.14 The selling and/or distribution of any item in violation of the Solicitation and Distribution policy is prohibited. Please reference the Winthrop University Policy Repository.

3.15 Any violation of the policy below by any attendee may result in termination of tailgating privileges and/or criminal prosecution. If the violator is a Winthrop student, disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct may also be a result.

Alcohol:

3.16 Kegs and other common containers are prohibited

3.17 Glass containers are prohibited

See related procedures for further instructions regarding the approval and permission process.

4. Procedures:

- All participants will be responsible for complete cleanup of their tailgating area. This includes proper disposal of garbage and charcoal.
- Propane grills, charcoal grills, and electrical fryers are allowed. Grills are prohibited on sidewalks and must be at least 15ft away from facilities. Open flames and pit fires are prohibited. Embers must be disposed of in appropriate containers and are the responsibility of the individual tailgating.
- Tents should be no larger than a 10x10 space in designated tailgate areas. Winthrop University reserves the right to prohibit tents.
- All applicable statutes, regulations, and ordinances are strictly enforced by law enforcement.
- Alcohol:
    - Anyone who consumes alcoholic beverages at such events must be able to produce, upon request, a valid driver's license or other valid photo ID that reflects the person's age.
    - If a person becomes noticeably intoxicated while tailgating, a University official or event support staff member may require him/her to leave the tailgating area and/or campus.
- Individuals attending events at Winthrop University are expected to conduct themselves in a manner respectful of the nature and character of the University. Persons acting in a disruptive, disrespectful or disorderly manner may be asked to leave the premises or be subject to arrest. Students may also be charged with a violation of the Student Conduct Code.

- During Homecoming, tailgaters are responsible for purchasing their designated tailgate spot in advance of the approved event or intercollegiate athletic game.

5. Resources:

Winthrop University Student Handbook
Winthrop Solicitation and Distribution Policy
Winthrop Alcohol Policy

6. History of Revisions:

02/10/2026	Minor Revisions (Link Update)
07/25/2025	Minor Revisions
11/12/2019	Minor Revisions
07/17/2019	Policy first established

7. Approvals:

President Signature/Date: