

# HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE

## Tiger Tracks

Career options for  
Hampden-Sydney students  
interested in  
Sports Management

*Sports Management  
as a career allows one  
to stay connected  
to sports as well as to  
interact with people  
who share a passion  
for athletics.*

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING  
WITH A DEGREE FROM  
HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE

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## Sports Management

### MINDSET

- Typically three-quarters of Hampden-Sydney students were varsity athletes in high school and many carry their love for sports with them throughout their lives.
- Potential jobs in this field are numerous, such as sports information director, athletic director, general manager, sports attorney, sports agent, team owner, facility manager, event coordinator, pro team service sponsor, media rights coordinator, and marketing director—all within amateur or professional sports.
- Take time to consider and solidify what aspect of Sports Management is of greatest interest to you, and evaluate and strategize your personalized approach to that role.
- Do internships of some sort. Experience and connections are essential.

### COURSES

Clear communication ability and basic business understanding are essential skills for positions across the realm of Sports Management. In addition to absorbing the broad liberal arts curriculum at Hampden-Sydney, pursuing areas of interest to you and to your chosen niche within Sports Management will help prepare you for your career.

*Suggested Courses:* These courses either relate directly to the graduate-school course work required for an MS in Sports Management or have an immediate relevance for the Sports Management field.

*Psychology Research Methods • Public Finance • Labor Economics & Labor Relations  
Economics of Sports • Statistics • Leadership and Ethics • The Psychology of Sport • Statistical Methods  
Logic • Social Philosophy • Psychology as a Social Science • Creative Nonfiction • Accounting*

### COLLEGE PROGRAMS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **Varsity Team Manager:** Varsity athletic programs at Hampden-Sydney employ student managers every season to travel with the team and earn hands-on experience with college athletics.
- **Student Assistant Coach:** Students with appropriate interest, experience, and expertise may be invited to participate within a particular program as a student assistant coach.
- **Fitness Center:** Student assistants get experience with facility management and maintenance.
- **Game Day Assistant:** The Athletic Director's office regularly employs students to assist with the many activities of game day. The athletic administration office also hires students to help with internal operations.
- **Intramural Program Leader:** There are opportunities for student leadership in Hampden-Sydney's intramural program, including team captain, referee supervisor, or assistant administrator.
- **Varsity Athlete:** If you are a varsity athlete considering a career in Sports Management, your position affords you a great platform to network with professionals in a variety of related positions.

### SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Sports Camp Counselor:** Working as an administrator at a summer sports camps would be great opportunity to practice leading and mentoring young people through athletics.
- **Minor League Sports Intern:** Interning for a minor league professional sports team is a great learning and networking experience. Investigate opportunities with your local team.
- **Career Development Office:** A good place to search for more specific internships or to identify networking opportunities within the Hampden-Sydney alumni Sports Management network.
- **Youth Sports Team:** Be creative. If there is a team or sports program that you can help manage—your old AAU basketball team, your high school football team, your little brother's rec league t-ball team—do what you can to help. Experience of any kind is valuable.

### GRADUATE SCHOOL OPTIONS

- **Master's in Sports Management or Administration:** The most common graduate degree for individuals interested in Sports Management, it may require the GRE for admission (check with your specific program). While there are different labels for similar programs throughout the country, Sports Management is the heart of the emerging graduate school programs in the field. Numerous college programs are now established, both for M.S. and Ph.D. work. The considerable growth over the past decades of the amateur and professional sports business has created a much higher demand for personnel with graduate school backgrounds in the field.
- **North American Society of Sports Management:** Check out the NASSM website as you begin your research on the nearly 250 Sports Management programs around the nation. The COSMA website may also be helpful.
- **GRE:** If you intend to apply to graduate school for Sports Management, we recommend you start preparing for the GRE admissions test in the spring or summer of your junior year so you can report your scores for the fall application deadlines.
- **Traditional Graduate Degrees:** Advanced degrees such as the MBA or JD may be applicable to your career, depending on the niche of your interest in the Sports Management field.

# HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE

Forming good  
men and  
good citizens  
since 1776



## MAC FREEMAN '89

*Senior Vice President of Business Development, Denver Broncos*

Mac majored in political science and was a member of the lacrosse team. During his senior year he worked an internship with SMG, the company that managed the Richmond Coliseum. The Monday after graduation he began working as the marketing manager for SMG. Eventually he became assistant general manager of Three Rivers Stadium, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Steelers, and general manager of the old Mile High Stadium in Denver.

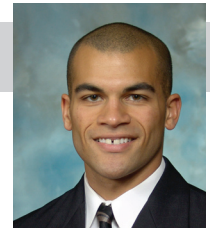
When the Broncos began construction on what became Invesco Field at Mile High, they hired Mac as a consultant to help with the construction process. In the new facility Mac held the position of Vice President of Stadium Operations for eight years, overseeing nearly 4,000 employees. In 2009, he was promoted to Sr. VP of Business Development for the Denver Broncos, to oversee the business operations of the team including Marketing, Community Development, Ticketing, Premium Seating Sales, and the Stadium itself.

Mac is also the President of the Denver Outlaws, a professional lacrosse team playing in the MLL.

## MATT GREEN '07

*Sports Information Director & Senior Associate Athletic Director, Shorter University*

Matt was captain and point guard of the 2007 ODAC-champion basketball team, ODAC Basketball Scholar Athlete of the Year (as a mathematical economics major), and the Gammon Cup Award recipient. After graduation, Matt became Hampden-Sydney's sports information director. While working here, Matt earned a Master's in Sports Administration from VCU and its Sportscenter program, a mix of online and on-campus courses. In 2009, Matt became SID at Shorter University; he was promoted to Senior Associate Athletic Director in June 2010.



## GRAHAM WILSON '04

*Executive Services Coordinator, Georgia Dome, Atlanta*

A psychology major and varsity soccer player, Graham enrolled in the University of South Carolina's Sports and Entertainment Management master's program. There he worked with the "Monday after the Masters" Celebrity Pro-Am Tournament and assumed his current position at the Georgia Dome, serving as the primary contact for over 1,100 season-ticket holders and coordinating facility maintenance of the Verizon Wireless Club Level and game-day operations for executive services.

## TIM BURKE '03

*Box Office & Call Center Manager, Tampa Bay Rays*

An economics major, in his senior project Tim examined efficient ways to build a Major League Baseball team. He volunteered with varsity lacrosse, the SID, and the College's alumni office. After graduation, Tim took a position with Smith Barney in Raleigh, working parttime as a Durham Bulls fan host and applying to every MLB team. Eventually, he got a call from an H-SC alumnus with the Tampa Bay Rays, which led to his position in ticket operations at Tropicana Field.



## JONATHAN PARIS '96

*Executive Director, Massachusetts Sports Partnership, Boston*

A four-year Tiger football player, Jonathan served as a student trainer for two years and worked in the athletic offices for two years during his off-season. He was also a member of the Student Court. After H-SC, he worked for one year at a county parks & recreation department before attending graduate school for sport management at Georgia Southern University. He subsequently interned at the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl and the Atlanta Sports Council, before moving to Boston and working for the Massachusetts Sports Partnership. For the past four years as the executive director, Jonathan has led the organization's efforts to attract major sporting events to Massachusetts.

## TIM FITZPATRICK '81

*Director of Athletics, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, Texas*

After graduating with a degree in English, Tim enrolled at Ohio University's nationally-respected Master's in Sports Administration program. His first position in sports administration was as West Point's assistant marketing director. Tim has since served as Assistant Commissioner of the Southwest Conference, Senior Associate Athletics Director at the University of North Texas (which he helped transition to Division I), Associate Athletics Director for External Operations at West Point, and Senior Associate Athletic Director at Indiana University. As Director of Athletics at TAMUCC, he oversees fourteen varsity athletic teams and is working to bring football to the school.



## MICHAEL WHEELER '88

*COO & General Manager, Cherokee Town & Country Club, Atlanta*

A psychology major, Michael was a brother of Phi Gamma Delta and played both basketball and golf. After graduating and managing a restaurant in his hometown, he became assistant manager at a private club and then pursued his MBA. Michael managed several well-respected country clubs in Maryland, Kentucky, and Illinois, all the while pursuing his Club Manager's Certification (CCM) from the Club Managers Association of America (CMAA). At Cherokee Town and Country Club—voted the "Very Best Private Country Club" in America five times in the past fourteen years—Michael is continuing his education, aiming to become a Master Club Manager (MCM), of whom there are now only 15 in the US.