

*The Drake Group Webinar Series – Critical Issues in Collegiate Athletics
Hosted by 2aDays.com*

“Lack of Accountability for Athlete Abuse in College Athletics”

Thursday, March 24, 2022 – 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST

Over the last few decades, reported stories of athlete abuse in college athletics have become more frequent and more egregious. Incidents of abuse - including physical, mental and sexual - have been swept under the carpet, and perpetrators are often able to resign and find employment at other institutions. The media as a whole is often complicit, choosing to preserve their access to programs, coaches, and administrators rather than ask the tough questions about accountability. The Larry Nasser abuse case is one of the most well-known cases of sexual abuse that went unaddressed and left hundreds of victims in its wake, but it is just one of many. What mechanisms can be put in place to hold colleges, universities, coaches, and athletic staff members accountable for incidences of abuse in college athletics?

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MODERATOR, TAMMI GAW, MS, ATC, Esq. Founder, Advantage Rule, LLC, a consulting group focused on athlete health and safety, with an emphasis on amateur athletes’ rights. As one of only a handful of professionals licensed as both an attorney and an athletic trainer, her career has included in-house counsel positions, non-profit management and board participation, and C-suite level work with integrated planning for large and medium scale sporting events. Tammi is an international speaker on issues around sports business, law, medicine, and social justice.



EMMETT GILL, Ph.D., MSW, LMSW is the Chief Visionary Officer for Athletes and Advocates for Social Justice in Sports, Member, The Drake Group Board of Directors, and the founder of *AthleteTalk*, a wellness app for athletes. Formerly, Gill served as the Director of Student-Athlete Wellness and Personal Development at the University of Texas at Austin where he provided clinical services for college athletes and created signature programming including initiatives for injured athletes and substance use and was also a clinical professor in the Steve Hicks School of Social Work.



KATIE LEVER, a member of The Drake Group Board of Directors and doctoral candidate at the University of Texas, where she researches NCAA rhetoric and policy. Katie is a freelance sportswriter whose work has been featured in *Fansided*, *Extra Points*, *Global Sports Matters*, and *Forbes*. Her work with *2aDays* discusses NCAA policy and sports law, and their effect on college athletes. Katie's debut novel, *Surviving the Second Tier*, launched in February 2022. Lever graduated from Western Kentucky University in 2016 with a B.A. in Communication Studies and in 2018 with an M.A. in Organizational Communication. At WKU, she was a Division I athlete running track and cross country and was a two-time Sun Belt Conference champion in indoor and outdoor track and field.



JESSICA W. LUTHER, Investigative Journalist, Author and Podcaster. With Dan Solomon at *Texas Monthly* and *Deadspin*, she reported about how Baylor University's football team responded to reports of sexual violence by players and with *USA Today's* Nancy Armour and Kenny Jacoby, revealed Louisiana State University's failures to respond adequately to reports of sexual harassment and assault (winner of an Associated Press Sports Editor award in 2020 for investigative journalism). She is the author of *Unsportsmanlike Conduct: College Football and the Politics of Rape* and her work has appeared in *ESPN Magazine*, *New York Times Magazine*, *The Texas Observer*, *Huffington Post*, and *Sports Illustrated*, among others.



JANET SIMON, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Division on Athletic Training, School of Applied Health Sciences and Wellness, and College of Health Sciences and Professions, Ohio University. Dr. Simon has published over 70 peer-reviewed articles in various sports medicine and orthopedic journals and has been principal investigator or co-investigator on Department of Defense and National Institutes of Health grants. Research interests include measuring the outcomes of various rehabilitation interventions, evaluating health related quality of life of high school and college athletes who suffer sport-related injury, and the use and development of patient-based instruments to measure outcomes of healthcare services

