What happens when a student gets caught drinking at a football game?

A. Anyone whose behavior violates stadium policy (drinking, fighting, etc.), and attracts the attention of police, is taken to the police command post on the NW side of the stadium. Information is gathered during observation. Underage fans, impaired by alcohol, may be cited and released to a responsible (and sober) friend or family member. If there is no safe ride home, they might be sent home in a taxi. Highly intoxicated fans may be taken to a hospital.

Drinkers under the age of 21 may be cited for a MIP (Minor in Possession) which means that alcohol is found on the person, or in the body. Students will also be cited for violation of the UA code of conduct and referred to the Dean of Students. In lieu of an MIP citation, students may be assigned to a diversion program.

When disruptive action, illegal behavior, or other misconduct is involved (fueled by alcohol consumption or not), the fan’s ticket is taken and they are not allowed back in the game. Persons clearly out of control or violent may be arrested and carted off to jail. Fans seeking a non-confrontational response to an issue with other fans may text their concerns and the exact Section, Row, and Seat information to gameops@arizona.edu. Appropriate stadium personnel will arrive to address concerns.

Police and security officers are positioned throughout Arizona stadium to keep a close eye on fan behavior. Some officers survey the stands with binoculars while others walk about the stands, observing actions that might threaten the safety of others. Contrary to what some students believe, the police are not out to “ruin the fun.” Police serve, protect, and work in partnership with the community to make the game experience better for all in attendance.

Sources: UAPD Officer Bethany Wilson and 2011 Arizona Football Gameday Guide.