Outside Competition

**Competition on an Outside Team**
A student-athlete may compete outside the institution’s declared playing & practice season as a member of an outside team in any non-collegiate, amateur competition during any official vacation period published in the institution’s catalog (i.e., spring break, summer break).

The number of student-athletes from any one institution shall not exceed the following limits:

- Baseball - 4
- Basketball - 2
- S/A can ONLY participate in certified leagues
- Cross Country - 2
- Fencing - 4
- Field Hockey
- Football - 5
- Golf - 2
- Ice Hockey - 4
- Lacrosse - 5
- Rowing - 4
- Skiing - 4
- Soccer - 5
- Softball - 4
- Swim/Dive - 5
- Tennis - 2
- Track & Field - 7

**Outside Competition as an Individual**
A student-athlete may participate in outside competition as an individual during the academic year in their sport as long as they only represent themselves and does not engage in such competition as a member of or receive expenses from an outside team.

**Prize Money**
A student-athlete may accept prize money for their placement in an outside competition only up to the amount of money that they spent on actual and necessary expenses to compete in that competition. For example, if a student-athlete spent $250 on registration, travel and lodging for a competition and they won $400, they could only accept $250. Accepting anything over $250 would be a violation and the student-athlete’s eligibility for intercollegiate competition would be in jeopardy. Prior to accepting any prize money, the student-athlete must contact the Compliance Office to discuss the process for accepting prize money. The student-athlete must have documentation on file to demonstrate actual and necessary expenses for the competition.

**April 1: Incoming Freshmen can request Final Amateurism**
As of April 1st, incoming freshman for the Fall 2017 semester will be able to request Final Amateurism Certification through the NCAA Eligibility Center. Incoming freshman are responsible for listing ALL team and/or competitions they have participated in.

The Eligibility Center processes amateurism cases based on the enrollment date. Please encourage your incoming student-athletes to verify that they entered FALL 2017 as their initial enrollment period.

**How to Request Final Amateurism:**
- Log in to account at www.eligibilitycenter.org
- Click **My Planner** (near bottom right)
- Select the “Request Final Amateurism” button to start the process.
  - A separate request is needed for additional sports (i.e., Cross Country and Track and Field)
Mississippi Valley failed to monitor its certification process

Mississippi Valley did not monitor its certification process when it improperly certified the eligibility of 28 student-athletes in seven sports, according to a Division I Committee on Infractions panel. A former head cross country coach also acted unethically when she directed three student-athletes to compete under the names of eligible student-athletes before the university completed its certification process for them.

This case was resolved through the summary disposition process, a cooperative effort where the involved parties collectively submit the case to the Committee on Infractions in written form. The NCAA enforcement staff, university and participating parties must agree to the facts and overall level of the case to use this process instead of a formal hearing.

The certification violations were discovered by the university through an NCAA Academic Performance Program audit. The panel found the university misapplied eligibility rules, did not certify the academic credentials of its student-athletes and did not verify the amateurism certification of student-athletes. The violations resulted from staff turnover and the inability to replace individuals in compliance, academic services and the registrar’s office. Inadequate education and training on the certification process also contributed to the violations.

The panel also found the former head cross country coach acted unethically when she knew three student-athletes’ eligibility was still pending, but allowed them to compete because she thought the university would ultimately certify them for competition. Ultimately, two of the student-athletes did not meet certain eligibility requirements and the third withdrew from the university.

The panel used the Division I membership-approved infractions penalty guidelines to prescribe the following measures:

- Public reprimand and censure for the university.
- A one-year show-cause period for the former cross country coach from March 24, 2017, through March 23, 2018. During that period, the former coach’s current school or any NCAA member employing her must provide monthly one-on-one rules education. Her current employer or any other NCAA member school that employs her during the period should continue to conduct compliance initiatives with her and she must attend one of the 2017 NCAA Regional Rules seminars.
- A vacation of records in which improperly certified student-athletes participated while ineligible. The university will identify the games impacted following the release of the public report.
- A $5,000 fine.

“Push yourself again and again. Don’t give an inch until the final buzzer sounds.”

-Larry Bird
Local Sports Clubs

In sports other than basketball, a coach may be involved in any capacity in the same sport for a local sports club or organization located in the institution's home community, provided all prospects participating in said activities are legal residents of the area (within a 50-mile radius of the institution).

In all sports, an institution's coach may be involved in any capacity in a sport other than the coach's sport for a local sports club or organization located in the institution's home community, provided all prospects participating in said activities are legal residents of the area (within a 50-mile radius of the institution).

In clubs or organizations involving multiple teams or multiple sports, the 50-mile radius is applicable only to the team with which the institution's coach is involved; however, it is not permissible for the coach to assign a prospect who lives outside the 50-mile area to another coach of the club.

A coach also may be involved in activities with individuals who are not of a prospective student-athlete age, regardless of where such individuals reside.

50-Mile Radius Exception

The 50-mile radius restriction shall not apply to a prospect who resides outside a 50-mile radius of the institution, provided the institution documents that the local sports club is the closest opportunity for the prospect to participate in the sport.

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2016-2017 NLI Signing Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport(s)</th>
<th>Initial Signing Date</th>
<th>Final Signing Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball (Early Period)</td>
<td>November 9, 2016</td>
<td>November 16, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball (Regular Period)</td>
<td>April 12, 2017</td>
<td>Division I: May 17, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football (Midyear JC Transfer)</td>
<td>December 14, 2016</td>
<td>January 15, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football (Regular Period)</td>
<td>February 1, 2017</td>
<td>April 1, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer and Men's Water Polo</td>
<td>February 1, 2017</td>
<td>August 1, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Sports (Early Period)</td>
<td>November 9, 2016</td>
<td>November 16, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Other Sports (Regular Period)</td>
<td>April 12, 2017</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compliance is the responsibility of EVERYONE. Please contact the Compliance Office with any questions. Or make an anonymous submission HERE!

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