



CAA Compliance Monthly

Student-Athletes Respond to Proposed Legislation

In early November, our 12-member institutions Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representatives met and discussed proposed legislation that could potentially affect student-athletes well-being. A few proposals elicited lengthy discussion.

Proposal 2006-40 & 41, Recruiting—Recruiting Materials—Electronic Transmissions, intent is to specify that electronically transmitted correspondence that may be sent to a prospective student-athlete is limited to electronic mail and facsimiles. This would amend Bylaws 13.02.14 and 13.4.1.2. The unlimited use of certain forms of electronic communication, such as text and instant messaging, to contact prospects has become a problem. Prospective student-athletes are being contacted all times of day and night, and parents are bearing the significant costs of prospective students receiving text messages. This form of communication also excludes parents and high school coaches from the recruiting process.

Current student-athletes responded to this proposal with mixed emotion. Some agreed to support while others opposed the proposal. Having already been through the recruiting process, they expressed receiving text messages and instant messages was intrusive. It may in some cases take away from a prospective student's senior year activities and would

just be worrisome. Others expressed that text and instant messaging is the way people, including prospective student-athletes, communicate today. The students did agree that if this proposal passed there should be defined limits. Prospective students should be allowed to go through the recruiting process without it interfering with other aspects of their lives; and coaches should be allowed to use available forms of communication but not to the extent of causing a financial burden.

Proposal 2006-68, Eligibility—Four-year College Transfer—One-Time Transfer Exception—Transfers from Division III Only, intent is to limit the one-time transfer exception to a student-athlete who transfers from a Division III institution to a Division I institution. This would amend Bylaw 14.5.5.2.10. The one-time transfer exception allows a dissatisfied student-athlete to transfer to any other four-year institution and immediately be eligible for competition. This proposal focuses on the well-being of the student-athletes at the institution the student-athlete is leaving. The transfer of one athlete has a negative impact on the team he/she left behind. In addition, the one-time transfer exception has created a "quick fix" mentality for athletic program woes and increased the recruiting of enrolled student-athletes.

SEE *RESPOND*, PAGE 2



Recruiting Calendar

Men's Basketball

Dec. 1-March 28, 2007 ~ Evaluation Period
*Exception: Dec. 24-26 ~ Dead Period

Women's Basketball

Dec. 1-April 17, 2007 ~ Evaluation Period
*Exception: Days not designated ~ Quiet
*Exception: Dec. 24-26 ~ Dead Period

Baseball

Dec. 1-Feb. 28, 2007 ~ Quiet Period
*Exception: Jan. 4-8, 2007 ~ Dead Period

Softball

Dec. 1-Jan. 1, 2007 ~ Quiet Period
*Exception: Dec. 6-10 ~ Dead Period

Women's Volleyball

Aug. 1-Dec. 3 ~ Contact/Evaluation Period
Dec. 4-12 ~ Quiet Period
Dec. 13-31 ~ Dead Period

Men's Lacrosse

Dec. 1-23 ~ Quiet Period
Dec. 24-Jan. 3, 2007 ~ Dead Period

Women's Lacrosse

Dec. 1-Jan. 1, 2007 ~ Quiet Period

Football I-AA

Dec. 1-Feb. 3, 2007 ~ Contact Period
*Exception: Dec. 17 ~ Quiet Period;
Dec. 18-Jan. 4, 2007 ~ Dead Period;
Jan. 5-7, 2007 ~ Quiet Period;
Jan. 8-11, 2007 ~ Dead Period;
Jan. 12-13, 2007 ~ Quiet Period

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Override Voting to Take Place at NCAA Convention

The NCAA Convention is scheduled for January 5-8, 2007 in Orlando, Florida at the Gaylord Palms Hotel. To register online go to www.ncaa.org/convention/index.html.

Once you have registered you will need to have your President/Chancellor complete the online Appointment of Delegate form. This Appointment Form is required in order for a designee from your institution to vote for or against the override of Proposal

No.2005-54, Eligibility-Graduate Student or Postbaccalaureate Participation - Transfer Student and Proposal 2005-128, Playing and Practice Season-Number of Contest-Division I-AA football. This Override Vote will occur during the Division I Business Session to be held directly after the Division I Legislative Forum, which is scheduled from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 6, 2007.



Respond (FROM PAGE 1)

Current student-athletes also responded to this proposal with mixed emotion. A few agreed to support the proposal while others opposed. Supporters of the proposal agreed that the one-time transfer rule should not be a "quick fix" for athletic programs and allow institutions the benefit of recruiting enrolled student-athletes. They expressed concern for the team that loses a member, especially if that member had a strong emotional tie or was a part of the team's success. Those that opposed the legislation stated that to allow only Division III students the one-time transfer is not fair to the well-being of all student-athletes. Only a select few would benefit from the proposed legislation and it penalizes Division I and Division II student-athletes. They argued that the one-time transfer can only be used one time and thus prevents student-athletes from transferring a second time and being immediately eligible.



Proposal 2006-80. Playing and Practice Seasons—Out-of-Season Activities—Skill Instruction—Number of Participants, caused the most controversy. Its intent is in sports other than football, to eliminate the September 15 through April 15 time period for skill-related instruction and to permit more than four student-athletes from the same team to be involved in skill-related instruction with their coaches during the entire academic year. This would amend Bylaws 17.1.5.2 and 17.1.5.2.2. Quarter institutions benefit from the current legislation where as semester institutions do not. Current legislation permits an unlimited number of student-athletes to participate in skill instruction session with their coaches from Sept.15-April 15. At all other times during the academic year skill instruction is limited to no more than four student-athletes.

Supporters saw this proposal as a good idea and allows for additional practice time. However, other views were presented. Some students did not see it as beneficial. If coaches were allowed to conduct skill instruction with the entire team, a student-athlete would lose their individual instruction. Coaches would no longer have to focus on one individual's development. Their attention would be on the team as a whole versus improvement of individuals contributing to the team. Others expressed that this would just create an extension of the season for sports such as basketball. The current basketball season runs through both academic semesters with practice of the entire team beginning in October. The fear is that skill-instruction would eventually turn into practice. Thus, practicing the entire year and would result in burn out.

Schedule of Events

- > 12/8 — Overrides & Comments/Votes on Adopted & Proposed Legislation due to the CAA
- > 12/25-26 — Christmas, CAA Office Closed
- > 12/25- Jan 1, 2007 — NCAA Office Closed
- > Jan 1, 2007 — New Year's Day, CAA Office Closed
- > Jan 5-8, 2007 — NCAA Convention; Orlando, Florida

Upcoming NLI Signing Dates

- > 12/20/06-01/15/07 — Football (Midyear JC Transfer)
- > 02/07-08/01/07 — Field Hockey and Soccer

Question of the Month

Can a student-athlete participate in a research study and receive payment?

Answer: It is permissible for a student-athlete to participate in a research study. However, it is not permissible for a student-athlete to receive payment if the research study is not open to all students on campus and the student-athletes are the only individuals participating in the research study, compensation would then be considered an

extra benefit per Bylaw 16.02.3. Student-athletes would be receiving a benefit as a result of their athletics abilities that is not available to the general student body.

CAA

Wishing you all a happy and safe Holiday Season!



2006 Conference SAAC Meeting

Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) representatives from all twelve CAA institutions gathered in Towson, Maryland, in November for the 7th annual conference SAAC meeting. This year's theme was "Creating a Legacy" and one goal of the meeting was for students to create a conference SAAC Mission Statement. Students had the opportunity to present and discuss "hot topics." The following nine topics were selected by the students: hazing, performance enhancement, athletics vs. academics, Title IX, funding, social networking, fan support, linking the academic side to the athletic side, and recognizing student athletes as part of the institution. In addition, students reviewed proposed legislation that addressed student-athletes, and were introduced to Tyler Kupper, a golf student-athlete from Delaware, who is the CAA representative to the NCAA Division I SAAC. The students drafted a mission statement. It will be released soon.

"Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." — *Unknown*

CAA

Outside the Playing Season Rule Change

Effective August 1st of this year, the rules governing "Outside the Playing Season" changed. These changes included Bylaws 17.1.5.2(a) and 17.1.5.2.2

Athletic Related Activities **Outside the Playing Season** for sports other than Football.

Time Limits - All required weight-training, conditioning and individual skill instruction limited to a maximum of eight hours per week with not more than two hours per week spent on individual skill workouts.

Exam Period - All of these athletically related activities are prohibited one week prior to the beginning of the final examination period through the conclusion of each student-athlete's final exams.

Skill Instruction - More than four student-athletes from the team may be involved in skill-related instruction with their coaches during the period September 15 through April 15.



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CAA Blood Challenge Results

Look for CAA Blood Challenge Results on the CAA web in early December!

Featured Student-Athlete Spotlight

The current *Featured Student Spotlight* is the **DELAWARE/TOWSON INAUGURAL PIGSKIN PASS CHARITY FUND-RAISER**. Visit the student-athlete spotlight page at www.caasports.com for the complete story.

Participation is easy! Submit stories and pictures to sdickerson@caasports.com and copy ndesantis@caasports.com, include Student-Athlete Spotlight in the subject.

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