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Compliance Monthly

The CAA Compliance staff is dedicated to providing its member institutions with comprehensive Rules Compliance Services and Support. We hope that you find the CAA monthly newsletters to be useful and we welcome your feedback and ideas for new content.



Official Interpretation - October 19, 2012 Coaches' Involvement in Local Sports Clubs - No Requirement to Count Evaluations (I)

The Legislative Council determined that a coaching staff member is not required to count evaluations for any observations of prospective student-athletes that occur while he or she is participating in permissible activities and acting on behalf of a local sports club (e.g., coaching or instructional activities, scouting future opponents).

Official Interpretation - October 19, 2012 Noncoaching Non-Sport Specific Staff Members Speaking at Events Including Prospects

The Legislative Council determined that a noncoaching athletics department staff member who does not have sport-specific responsibilities (e.g., athletics director, compliance administrator, athletics academic counselor) may have direct contact with prospective student-athletes (or individuals yet to become prospective student-athletes) in conjunction with a speaking engagement related to NCAA rules, provided the event does not include a recruiting presentation and no recruiting conversations occur. Further, an institution may initiate such a speaking engagement, provided it does not occur during a dead period for any sport.

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Educational Column - October 10, 2012

Photographs as Attachments to General Correspondence and Electronic Transmissions (I)

NCAA Division I institutions should note an institution may send a photograph to a prospective student-athlete as an attachment to general correspondence (printed on plain white paper with black ink) or electronic transmissions, provided the information in the photograph was not altered or staged for a recruiting purpose.

The following questions and answers are designed to assist the Division I membership with the application of legislation related to photographs as attachments.

Question: May a coaching staff member send a photograph via text message without the photo being considered an attachment?

Answer: No.

Question: May a coaching staff member send a photograph via email without the photo being considered an attachment?

Answer: No.

Question: Are photographs used as institutional letterhead subject to the same restrictions as other photographs used as attachments?

Answer: No. However, if the photos are used in any other manner, those other uses remain subject to the restrictions on photographs as attachments. For example, a photo of an institution's competition facility used in institutional letterhead is not subject to the restrictions on photographs as attachments. However, if a coach at the institution wants to send the photo used in the institutional letterhead to a prospective student-athlete as an attachment to either general correspondence or an electronic transmission, then the photo being sent to the prospective student-athlete cannot be altered or staged for a recruiting purpose.

Question: May a men's basketball coaching staff member send a photo of a team practice to a men's basketball student-athlete as an attachment to a text message?

Answer: Yes, provided the content was not altered or staged for a recruiting purpose.

Question: May a football coach send a photo of the institution's pep rally to a prospective student-athlete as an attachment to a direct message on twitter?

Answer: Yes, provided the content was not altered or staged for a recruiting purpose.

Question: May a basketball coach take a photo of a room not available to the general public (e.g., institution's trophy room, team meeting room, locker room, etc.) and send it to a prospective student-athlete as an attachment to a text message.

Answer: Yes, provided the content was not altered or staged for a recruiting purpose.

Question: May a coach take a photo, use software to add content to the photograph and send it to a prospective student-athlete as an attachment it to an email or direct social media message?

Answer: No, a photograph that has been altered or staged for a recruiting purpose cannot be sent to a prospective student-athlete. However, standard photo editing (e.g., cropping, red-eye reduction, filters, color correction, etc.) is permissible.

Question: May a soccer coach arrange for a photo of the university's president, famous alumni and mascot to be taken and sent to a prospective student-athlete as an attachment to an email?

Answer: No, the content of the photograph may not be staged for the purpose of being sent to a prospective student-athlete.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 13.4.1.1 (printed recruiting materials), 13.4.1.2 (electronic transmissions), 13.4.1.2.1 (exception -- men's basketball), 13.4.1.3 (other recruiting materials); an official interpretation (3/14/2007); and a staff interpretation (8/30/12, Item No. f)]

NLI Early Signing Period

Applies to All Sports Except Football, Field Hockey, Soccer and Cross Country/Track & Field

Initial Date for NLI Early Signing Period: November 14, 2012

Last Day of Signing Period: November 21, 2012 (NOTE: This is the day before Thanksgiving)

Dead Period: Begins 12:01 am Monday, November 12, and continues until 11:59 pm Thursday, November 15, 2012.

DEAD PERIOD REMINDERS

Contacts, Evaluations & Recruiting Trips. No in-person, on- or off-campus contact with a prospective student-athlete may be made during the Dead Period, including evaluating a prospect or visiting a high school, prep school, or junior college, even if no contact is made with prospects. [Bylaw 13.02.5.5]

Speaking Engagements. Coaches may not serve as speakers at or attend a meeting or banquet at which prospects are in attendance during a Dead Period. [Bylaw 13.1.8, 13.02.5.5]

Telephone Calls. Institutional coaching staff members may make unlimited telephone calls to prospects on the initial NLI signing date in the prospect's sport and the two days following the initial NLI signing date (i.e., November 14, 15 & 16, 2012). [Bylaw 13.1.3.3.2]

Official/Unofficial Visits/Complimentary Admissions. A prospect may not visit your campus on an official (paid) or unofficial (self-paid) visit. Complimentary admissions may not be provided to prospects during a Dead Period. [Note: See Item 9-A below for Unofficial Visit exception applicable the day after prospect signs a valid NLI or written offer of admission.] [Bylaw 13.02.5.5]

Delivery of NLI. The NLI cannot be hand-delivered or picked up during the Dead Period or at any other time. It may be delivered and returned by express mail, courier service, regular mail, electronic mail or fax during the NLI signing period. [Bylaw 13.1.5.7.1]

Written Correspondence. Coaches may write prospects during the Dead Period. [Bylaw 13.02.5.5]

Prior to Signing Athletics Grant-In-Aid (GIA). The following requirements must be met before an institution may provide a written offer of athletically related financial aid to a prospective student-athlete: [Bylaw 13.9.1]

- A. Prospect must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center; and
- B. Prospect's name must be placed on the institution's Institutional Request List (IRL) with the NCAA Eligibility Center; and
- C. Prospect must complete the Amateurism Certification Questionnaire administered by the NCAA Eligibility Center.

Written Offer of Aid Before Signing Date. [Bylaw 13.9.2.2]

Prior to August 1 of a prospect's senior year in high school, an institution shall not, directly or indirectly, provide a written offer of athletically related financial aid or indicate in writing to the prospect that an athletically related GIA will be offered.

After August 1 of a prospect's senior year in high school an institution may indicate in writing to a prospect that an athletically related GIA will be offered by the institution; however, the institution may not permit the prospect to sign a form indicating his/her acceptance of such an award before the initial signing date in that sport in the NLI Program.

Communication. The restrictions on the forms and frequency of communication between institutional administrators or coaching staff members and a prospective student-athlete (or prospect's relatives or legal guardians) no longer apply **beginning the calendar day after the prospect signs a valid NLI or written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the prospect submits a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission.** Permissible activities for prospects that meet the criteria include:

- A. Prospect is permitted to make an Unofficial Visit during a Dead Period. [Bylaws 13.7.1.1, 13.7.1.2]
- B. There are no limits on the number of Telephone Calls by the institution to a prospect. [Bylaw 13.1.3.3.3]
- C. A non-coaching institutional staff member or a coach who does not count toward the numerical limitations on head and assistant coaches in Bylaw 11.7.4 may make Telephone Calls to or receive Telephone Calls from the prospect (or the prospect's relatives or legal guardians). [Bylaws 13.1.3.2.2 and 13.1.3.4.1.2]
- D. There is no limit on the number of Contacts by the institution with a prospect (or prospect's relatives or legal guardians). [Bylaw 13.1.5.8]
- E. There is no limit on the number of Evaluations by the institution with a prospect. [Bylaw 13.1.5.4.2.1, 13.1.7.18]
- F. There is no limit on the forms of Electronically Transmitted Correspondence sent to a prospect (or prospect's relatives or legal guardians). [Bylaw 13.4.1.2.2]

November Recruiting Calendars



Cross Country / Track & Field						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Men's Basketball						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Women's Basketball						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

All live evaluations during the academic year shall be limited to regularly scheduled high school, prep school and two-year college contests/tournaments, practices and regular scholastic activities involving student-athletes enrolled only at that institution.

Women's Basketball staff members shall not exceed 100 recruiting person days. A recruiting person day is defined as a coach engaged in an off-campus activity of a women's basketball prospect on one day; two coaches engaged in recruiting activities on the same day shall use two recruiting days.

Baseball						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Softball						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Women's Volleyball						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Men's Lacrosse						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Women's Lacrosse						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Evaluations of prospective student-athletes in lacrosse activities are limited to the three weekends (Saturday & Sunday) prior to Thanksgiving: Nov. 3-4; 10-11; 17-18

Note: This is a color coded visual of the recruiting calendars, please consider this when printing.



Quiet Period



Contact Period/Recruiting Period (MBB)



Evaluation Period



Dead Period