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INSIDE THIS

Official (Paid) Visit	1
Unofficial (Nonpaid) Visit	1
Recruiting Calendar	1
Off-Campus Transportation During Unofficial Visit	2
Campus Visits	2-3
Countable Coaches and Headsets	3
Complimentary Admissions	3



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Reminders of Proper Conduct During Official/Unofficial Visits

Official (Paid) Visit

(13.6.4) Length of Official Visit

An official visit to an institution shall not exceed 48 hours.

(13.6.4.1) 48-hour Period Defined

The 48-hour period of the official visit begins at the time the prospective student-athlete arrives on campus.

13.6.2.3.2 Transfer Student

If a student-athlete attending a four-year institution desires to transfer and that institution provides the permission required (per Bylaw 13.1.1.3), it is permissible for a second institution to provide the student-athlete one official visit to that institution's campus.

Unofficial (unpaid) Visit

(13.7.3) Activities during Unofficial Visit

An institution may not arrange miscellaneous, personalized recruiting aids (e.g., personalized jerseys, personalized audio/visual scoreboard presentations) and may not permit a prospective student-athlete to

engage in any game-day simulations (e.g., running onto the field with the team during pregame introductions) during an unofficial visit.

13.7.2.1.2 Meals

A prospective studentathlete on an unofficial visit to an institution may pay the actual cost of meals (or the regular cost of training-table meals) and eat with other prospective student-athletes who are on their official visits or with enrolled studentathletes.

Football Championship Division

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	

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

Evaluation Period

*Evaluation period — Not exceeding a period of 42 evaluation days (54 for U.S. service academies) during the months of September, October and November selected at the discretion of the institution and designated in writing in the office of the director of athletics; authorized off-campus recruiters shall not visit a prospective student-athlete's educational institution on more than one calendar day during this period. All other dates shall be considered a quiet period.

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Staff Interpretation (August 29, 2011)
Transportation to Off-Campus Competition
Site on Unofficial Visit (I)
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The academic and membership affairs staff determined that an institution may provide a prospective student-athlete on an unofficial visit transportation to a home competition site used only once during the previous season (e.g., a facility regularly used by a professional team), provided the institution has used the facility more than once per season during previous seasons and has a reasonable belief that it will continue to use the facility more than once per season in future seasons.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaw 13.5.3 (transportation on unofficial visit); and a staff interpretation (6/9/89, Item No. i), which has been archived]

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Educational Column (September 14, 2010)
Campus Visits (I)
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In response to several high profile recruiting incidents that occurred during the 2003-04 academic year, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors created a Task Force on Recruiting to address the application of recruiting standards. The task force was charged with conducting a thorough review of recruiting legislation and practices.

The findings of the Task Force on Recruiting noted that visits to campus are designed to provide a prospective student-athlete the opportunity to evaluate the campus environment in order to assess academic and athletics compatibility. The evaluation allows a prospective student-athlete to make an informed decision about attendance at the institution and participation in the athletics program. Specifically, the task force noted that official and unofficial visits should be used to promote the academic and athletics mission of the institution and ensure integrity in the recruiting process while placing accountability on the institution. The intent of the legislation regarding campus visits is to provide an experience for prospective student-athletes during the recruiting process that is similar to what they can expect if they enrolled as a student-athlete. An institution is expected to provide a reasonable and acceptable environment for campus visits, as opposed to creating an experience that is designed to bring attention to individual prospective student-athletes.

As a result, current legislation adopted in 2004 by the Division I membership in response to the task force findings is intended to prohibit the excesses, entitlement and celebrity associated with campus visits.

Division I institutions should note that the following provisions continue to apply to all campus visits:

- 1. NCAA Bylaws 13.6.6 and 13.6.7.7 require that lodging and meals provided to a prospective student-athlete during an official visit are comparable to those received by enrolled student-athletes during the regular academic year. Lodging must be standard and may not include any upgrades or special amenities not generally available to guests (e.g., Jacuzzis, suites);
- 2. Bylaws 13.6.7.9 and 13.7.3 state that during official or unofficial visits, a prospective student-athlete is not permitted to engage in any game-day simulations. Further, an institution may not arrange miscellaneous, personalized recruiting aides including, but not limited to, personalized jerseys and personalized audio/video scoreboard presentations. This provision also prohibits the use of decorative items and special additions to any location the prospective student-athlete will visit (e.g., locker room, hotel room, coach's office, arena) regardless of whether or not the items include the prospective student-athlete's name or picture. The areas a prospective student-athlete may visit should be maintained as they would normally appear;
- 3. Bylaw 13.10.5 states that a prospective student-athlete may not participate in team activities that would make the public or media aware of the prospective student-athlete's visit to the institution, including but not limited to, wearing game jerseys while observing practice or competition activities, running out of the tunnel with the team,

(Ed. Column continued from page 2)

celebratorywalks to/around the stadium/arena, and on-field pregame celebrations. A prospective student-athlete may, however, be present in the locker room prior to or subsequent to competition and may stand on the side-lines during pregame activities prior to being seated in regular seating areas during competition;

- 4. Bylaw 13.6.1 states that an institution is required to have written policies regarding official visits that apply to student-athletes, student hosts, coaches and other athletics administrators that are approved by the institution's chancellor/president and kept on file at the institution and conference office. Further, the institution is required to have its written policies evaluated by an outside entity once every four years; and
- 5. Bylaw 13.6.7.5 states that a student host must be either a current student-athlete or a student designated to provide campus tours or visits to prospective students in general. In this regard, individuals are considered hosts if they are involved in traditional hosting duties such as tasks that require specific interaction with the prospect (e.g., entertaining, escorting, etc.). Individuals who are involved solely in administrative functions (e.g., stuffing envelopes, collecting unofficial visit money, handling complimentary admissions etc.) would not be considered student hosts.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 13.6.1 (institutional policies), 13.6.7.5 (student hosts), 13.6.6 (accommodations on visit), 13.6.7.7 (meals on official visit), 13.6.7.9 (activities during official visit), 13.7.3 (activities during unofficial visit and 13.10.5 (prospective student-athlete's visit)]]

Prospects on Sideline During Pregame

Prospects that attend a home football game during an Official or Unofficial Visit are permitted to be on the sidelines only during Pregame Activities. Please note that once the game begins all prospects must be off the sidelines and seated in the general seating area and remain in the seating area throughout the remainder of the game, including halftime.

Bylaw:13.6.7.2 - Complimentary Admissions. [and Reference Bylaw 13.7.2.1 for Unofficial Visits]

During the official visit, a maximum of three complimentary admissions to a home athletics event at any facility within a 30-mile radius of the institution's main campus in which the institution's intercollegiate team practices or competes may be provided to a prospective student-athlete. Such complimentary admissions are for the exclusive use of the prospective student-athlete and those persons accompanying the prospective student-athlete on the visit and must be issued only through a pass list on an individual-game basis. Such admissions may provide seating only in the general seating area of the facility used for conducting the event.

Providing seating during the conduct of the event (including intermission) for the prospective student-athlete or those persons accompanying the prospective student-athlete in the facility's press box, special seating box(es) or bench area is specifically prohibited.

Countable Coaches and Headsets

Just a reminder that countable football coaches are the only staff members that are permitted to wear headsets during practices and games. Strength and conditioning coaches, athletic trainers, managers, and other individuals are <u>not</u> permitted to wear a headset. It is permissible for student-athletes to wear headsets to communicate with countable coaches as needed while participating in the practice or competition.

Staff Interpretation: Institutional Noncoaching Staff Member Sitting on Institution's Bench (I) (November 19, 1997) The membership services staff confirmed that an institution, at its discretion, may permit a noncoaching staff member to sit on the bench during an institution's contest. However, the institution is responsible for ensuring that the individual does not engage in coaching activities as set forth in NCAA Bylaw 11.7.1.1.1.1. [Reference: 11.7.1.1.1.1 (noncoaching activities)]