



# Football Compliance Monthly



University at Albany   University of Delaware   James Madison University   University of Maine  
 University of New Hampshire   University of Rhode Island   University of Richmond  
 Stony Brook University   Towson University   Villanova University   College of William and Mary

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Thomas E. Yeager  
Commissioner

Kathleen Batterson  
Senior Associate  
Commissioner  
kbatterson@cassports.com

Donna Jones  
Assistant Director of  
Compliance &  
Student-Athlete Services

8625 Patterson Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23229

## NCAA Staff Interpretation

### "Friend" or "Follow" Requests on a Social Networking Site

Date Published: December 5, 2013

Item Ref: a

#### Interpretation:

The academic and membership affairs staff determined that an institutional staff member is permitted to initiate or accept a "friend" or "follow" request to a prospective student-athlete (or his or her parents or legal guardians) through a social networking site at any time, including prior to the first permissible date to send electronic correspondence, even if the social networking website sends an automatically-generated electronic notification (e.g., email, text message, push notification), provided the staff member does not modify the automatically-generated electronic notification and no additional communication is included.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 13.4.1 (recruiting materials), 13.4.1.2 (electronic transmissions), 13.4.1.2.1 (exception -- basketball), 13.4.1.2.2 (exception -- electronic transmissions after commitment), 13.10.2.1 (comments before commitment), and an official interpretation (3/14/07, Item No. 2)]

**Congratulations to the Towson Tigers who compete against North Dakota State on January 4, 2014 in Frisco, Texas for the 2014 NCAA Division I National Championship Game.**



Watch on ESPN 2 at 2:00 PM

JMU's Senior Linebacker Stephon Roberson and Towson's Junior Running Back Terrance West were two of eleven student-athletes selected as All-Americans by the Division I Football Championship Sub-division Athletic Directors Association (FCS ADA). Additionally, Robertson, West, and Towson's Eric Pike (Senior Offensive Lineman at Towson) received All-American honors from the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA).

Congratulations to Stephon, Eric, and Terrance!



### NCAA Staff Interpretation

#### In-Person Contact with Football Prospective Student-Athlete Participating in All-Star Contest After Commitment

Date Published: December 12, 2013

Item Ref: b

The academic and membership affairs staff determined, in football, it is not permissible for an institution to make an in-person, on- or off-campus contact with a prospective student-athlete participating in an all-star contest from the time the prospective student-athlete arrives in the locale of the contest until he returns to his home or to his educational institution, even after the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 13.02.4 (contact), 13.02.12 (prospective student-athlete), 13.02.12.1 (exception -- after commitment), 13.1.5.2 (football), 13.1.6.3 (all-star contests), 13.1.7.9.4 (scholastic and nonscholastic activities -- bowl subdivision football), 13.1.7.9.5 (scholastic and nonscholastic activities -- championship subdivision football) 13.1.7.9.6 (all-star contests), 13.17.4.1 (bowl subdivision football) and 13.17.4.2 (championship subdivision football)]

### NCAA Staff Interpretation

#### Prospective Student-Athlete's Prospect-Aged Sibling Receiving a Meal While Accompanying the Prospective Student-Athlete on an Official Visit

Date Published: December 5, 2013

Item Ref: b

Interpretation:

The academic and membership affairs staff determined that, in football, it is permissible for an institution to provide meals during an official visit to the sibling of a prospective student-athlete, who is also prospect-aged or is being recruited by the institution, without constituting an official visit for the prospective student-athlete's sibling provided no recruitment of the sibling occurs during the visit.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 13.6.7.7 (meals on official visit) and 13.6.7.7.2 (exception meals)]

**NCAA Official Interpretation-Subscription to Recruiting or Scouting Services that Provide Information Beyond Standardized Information Provided to All Subscribers**

Date Published: December 5, 2013

Item Ref: 2

Interpretation:

The committee confirmed that an institution is not permitted to subscribe to a recruiting or scouting service that provides information in any form (e.g., oral reports, electronic messages, etc.) about prospective student-athletes beyond the standardized, consistent information that is provided to all subscribers of the service.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 13.14.3 (recruiting or scouting services), 14.13.1 (basketball and football), 13.14.3.1.1 (video-only services), 13.14.3.2 (sports other than basketball and football) and 13.14.3.3 (subscription limited to approved services – basketball and football); and official interpretation (9/20/13, Item No. 1), which has been archived]

**NCAA Official Interpretation-Contact Restrictions Prior to Camps or Clinics**

Date Published: December 5, 2013

Item Ref: 1

Interpretation:

The committee confirmed that for purposes of contact restrictions on the day or days of a prospective student-athlete's competition, a noninstitutional, private camp or clinic is considered an athletics competition or athletics event and an institutional camp or clinic is not considered an athletics competition or event. Therefore, in sports other than basketball, a coaching staff member may make recruiting contacts during a permissible contact period with a prospective student-athlete participating in a noninstitutional, private camp or clinic only after the completion of activities on the final day of the camp or clinic. Conversely, official or unofficial visits may occur on an institution's campus on the day of an institutional camp or clinic before the camp or clinic begins.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 13.1.6.2 (practice or competition site) and 13.1.6.2.1 (additional restrictions- basketball); official interpretation (4/19/13, Item No. 1); and staff interpretation (03/25/13, Item No. a), which have been archived]

**Staff Interpretation-Student-Athletes Selling Items Received for Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics**

Date Published: December 5, 2013

The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that a student-athlete may not sell, or exchange for another item of value, any item received for athletics participation.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 12.5.2.1 (advertisements and promotions after becoming a student-athlete); 12.1.2 (amateur status); 16.1.4 (types of awards, awarding agencies, maximum value and numbers of awards); and 16.11.2.1 (general rule)]

### CAA Football Standouts Earn AP, Walter Camp All-American Honors

CAA Football was once again well represented on the latest FCS All-American lists, as seven league student-athletes were chosen as All-Americans by the Associated Press on Wednesday. All four AP First-Team honorees have also garnered Walter Camp All-America accolades.

James Madison senior linebacker Stephon Robertson and Towson junior running back Terrance West – CAA Football's Players of the Year – joined Tiger senior offensive lineman Eric Pike and William & Mary senior safety Jerome Couplin on the AP First Team. Maine senior cornerback Kendall James received second-team recognition, while Black Bears senior tight end Justin Perillo and Tribe junior defensive lineman Mike Reilly were selected to the third team.

Couplin Pike, Robertson and West were selected as Walter Camp All-Americans on Wednesday as well. Towson was just one of four schools nationally to have multiple honorees on the list.

Robertson and West have both been designated to four major All-America teams in 2013, a list that consists of the Associated Press, FCS Athletic Directors Association (ADA), The Sports Network and the Walter Camp Foundation. The full list of Walter Camp All-America honorees available on [WalterCamp.org](http://WalterCamp.org).

For continued coverage of the conference, please visit [CAAFootball.com](http://CAAFootball.com). The league is on Twitter @CAAFootball and uses the official hashtag #CAAFB. We can also be found on Facebook, Instagram and blogging on our official "Every Day Is Saturday" blog at [caafootball.wordpress.com](http://caafootball.wordpress.com). All CAA Football video productions can be found on our YouTube Channel.

### NCAA Staff Interpretation

#### Institution Providing Expenses for a High School to Send Transcripts to the NCAA Eligibility Center

Date Published: December 20, 2013

Type: Staff Interpretation

The academic and membership affairs staff determined that it is permissible for an institution to provide expenses (e.g., Federal Express charges) for a high school to send a prospective student-athlete's academic transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center, provided the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received his or her financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaw 13.15.2.1 (ACT and SAT scores) and a staff interpretation (08/24/94, Item No. a), which has been archived]



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**