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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.

November						
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Quiet Period: \*\*November 1-24

\*\*Evaluation Period: Not exceeding a period of 42 evaluation days 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 studentathlete's educational institution on more than one calendar day during this period. All other dates shall be considered a Quiet Period.

Contact Period: November 25-30

Six in-person off-campus contacts per prospective student-athlete shall be permitted during this time period with not more than one permitted in any one calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) or partial calendar week.

**Ouiet Period** Contact Period **Evaluation Period**  Dead Period

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

University of Delaware James Madison University University of Maine University of New Hampshire Georgia State University Old Dominion University University of Rhode Island University of Richmond Towson University Villanova University College of William and Mary

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## **Educational Column - October 10, 2012**

## Photographs as Attachments to General Correspondence and Electronic Transmissions

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)]

## Official Interpretation - October 19, 2012 Coach Speaking at a Banquet for Prospective Student-Athletes in which Fundraising Activities Occur in Sports Other Than Men's Basketball (I)

The committee confirmed that in sports other than men's basketball, a coach may speak at a banquet for prospective student-athletes in which fundraising activities also occur only if fundraising activities are not the primary purpose for conducting the banquet or meeting. Further, the staff confirmed that, in sports other than men's basketball, if the fundraising activities are the primary purpose of the banquet or meeting, institutional staff members may attend the fundraiser subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The staff members could play no active role in fundraising activities;
- 2. The attendance of the staff members at the event could not be publicized in advance;
- 3. No contact with prospective student-athletes or parents of prospective student-athletes would be permitted outside the permissible contact period, and
- 4. Conversations between staff members and the high school's coaching staff members, parents, prospective student-athletes and other individuals could not include recruiting information or contain a recruiting presentation.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 13.1.8 (banquets, meetings and NCAA promotional activities); 13.15 (precollege expenses); 13.15.1 (prohibited expenses); 13.15.1.10 (donation to nonprofit - men's basketball); 8/24/12 staff interpretation, Item No. e; and official interpretation (01/25/1991) which have been archived]

## Official Interpretation - October 15, 2012 Coach Traveling with Prospective Student-Athlete's Parents to Campus on an Official Visit (I)

The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that if a prospective student-athlete flies to an institution for an official visit and his or her parents or legal guardians drive to the institution's campus to accompany the prospective student-athlete on the official visit, it is permissible for a member institution's coach to ride with the prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians from their home to the institution and back to their home. In such circumstances, the 48-hour period for the official visit is initiated when the prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians begin transporting the coach to campus. Any dialogue in excess of an exchange of a greeting with the prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians prior to the trip to campus is a countable contact. Therefore, such contact may only occur during a permissible contact period (recruiting period in men's basketball). At the conclusion of the 48-hour period, the coach shall immediately terminate contact with the prospective student-athlete and his or her parents or legal guardians.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 13.02.4 (contact), 13.02.5.3 (recruiting period -- men's basketball), 13.1.5 (contacts), 13.5.2.2.3 (coach accompanying prospective student-athlete and parents and legal guardians) and staff interpretations (01/28/87, Item Ref: 4-a-(3) and 08/24/12, Item Ref: b, which have been archived)]