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Football Compliance Monthly

CAA FOOTBALL

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.

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Quiet Period: September 1-30

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 student-athlete's educational institution on more than one calendar day during this period. All other dates shall be considered a Quiet Period.



Quiet 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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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 not 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: November 19, 1997

Institutional Noncoaching Staff Member Sitting on Institution's Bench

Institutional Noncoaching Staff Member Sitting on Institution's Bench. (I) 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)]

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

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.

Educational Column - August 17, 2012

Issues Related to Campus Recruiting Visits (I)

The following information is intended to assist member institutions with the application of legislation governing campus recruiting visits.

Hosting Duties.

Institutions should note that pursuant to NCAA Bylaws 13.6.7.5 and 13.7.2.1.8, a student host involved in an official or unofficial visit must be either a current student-athlete or a student designated in a manner consistent with the institution's policy for providing campus visits or tours 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 prospective student-athlete (e.g., entertaining, escorting). Individuals who are involved solely in administrative functions (e.g., stuffing envelopes, collecting unofficial visit money, handling complimentary admissions) are not considered student hosts.

Further, for purposes of this legislation, student managers and other student employees are considered to be students, as opposed to athletics department employees. Therefore, those individuals are restricted to engaging in general employment functions and are not permitted to host prospective student-athletes unless they meet the criteria noted in the aforementioned bylaws. Finally, inasmuch as student-hosting duties are considered incidental to athletics participation, and an individual must be either a student-athlete or a member of the official university host group, a student-athlete may not be paid to perform this function unless the university typically pays its official host groups for their services.

Athletics Department Involvement with Institutional Hosting Groups.

Pursuant to Bylaws 13.6.7.5 and 13.7.2.1.8, a student host involved in an official or unofficial visit must be either a current student-athlete or a student designated in a manner consistent with the institution's policy for providing campus visits or tours to prospective students in general. Consistent with this legislation, athletics departments are expected to remain completely uninvolved in the management and operation of these programs. Athletics departments may, however, contribute funds to the overall university host program, provided such funding does not result in the athletics departments assuming control or compromising university oversight of such programs. Further, if permitted by institutional policy, athletics departments may request specific hosts from the institution's pool of hosts only if such opportunities are available to other institutional departments and the athletics department does not compromise the university's control or oversight of the host program.

Transportation Costs/Meals and Lodging While in Transit for Parents or Legal Guardians -- Men's Basketball.

Pursuant to Bylaw 13.5.2.6.1, in men's basketball, an institution may pay the actual round-trip costs for a prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians (expenses for up to two people) to accompany the prospective student-athlete on his official visit. In addition, per Bylaw 13.6.7.1.1, in men's basketball, an institution may pay the actual costs for meals and lodging for a prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians (expenses for up to two people) that are incurred while traveling to and from campus to accompany the prospective student-athlete on his official visit.

Standard Lodging.

Pursuant to Bylaw 13.6.6, a prospective student-athlete on an official visit shall be provided lodging and take meals as regular students normally do. Local commercial facilities may be used but at a scale comparable to that of normal student life and only within a 30-mile radius of the institution's campus. Lodging may not include special accessories (e.g., jacuzzis, suites) that are not available generally to all guests residing at the establishment. Consistent with the overarching theme that prospective student-athletes should be housed in a similar manner as other prospective students generally, institutions should adhere to the following guidelines: hotels selected to house prospective student-athletes should be similar to hotels in which prospective students are housed, hotels in which visiting teams are housed or lodging used by the institution for away from home contests.

Educational Column - August 17, 2012

Issues Related to Campus Recruiting Visits (I) *Cont.*

Standard Meals.

Pursuant to Bylaw 13.6.6, a prospective student-athlete on an official visit shall be provided lodging and take meals as regular students normally do. Pursuant to Bylaw 13.6.7.7, meals must be comparable to those provided to student-athletes during the academic year. In this regard, meals provided during an official visit will be considered standard if they are similar in nature to campus meals, including training table meals. Additionally, institutions should note that the training table meal standard is considered the upper limit for all sports, regardless of whether training table is typically provided in a particular sport. Further, pursuant to Bylaw 13.6.7.1, a member institution may not arrange or permit excessive entertainment of a prospective student-athlete on campus or elsewhere. This restriction includes special arrangements for admittance to exclusive or elite restaurants where such opportunities are not generally available to the public.

Standard Transportation.

Pursuant to Bylaw 13.5.2.2.4, an institution transporting a prospective student-athlete (and those accompanying a prospective student-athlete) around campus during the official visit must use institutional vehicles normally used to transport prospective students while visiting the campus. In addition, coaching staff members or student hosts may use personal vehicles to transport a prospective student-athlete (and those accompanying the prospective student-athlete) around campus during an official visit. As a general principle, institutions should note that vehicles used for transportation around campus should be consistent with the type of vehicle an institution uses (or would use) for regular prospective students under similar circumstances, regardless of whether the institution actually provides such transportation. Also, a coaching staff member may use his or her personal vehicle for such purposes, provided the vehicle is used on a regular basis by the coach and has not been modified for the purpose of transporting prospective student-athletes. Further, coaches may rent vehicles for transportation purposes as needed, pursuant to institutional policy, provided those vehicles are considered basic transportation and not modified in any manner for this purpose. Finally, unmodified golf carts and similar vehicles are considered basic transportation; therefore, such vehicles may be used to transport prospective student-athletes around the campus.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 13.5.2.2.4 (on-campus transportation), 13.5.2.6.1 (exception -- transportation expenses for a prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians -- men's basketball), 13.6.6 (accommodations on official visit), 13.6.7.1 (general restrictions), 13.6.7.1.1 (meals and lodging while in transit), 13.6.7.5 (student host), 13.6.7.7 (meals on official visit), 13.7.2.1.8 (student host) and staff interpretations (7/26/12, Item Ref. a and b)]

Staff Interpretation: August 24, 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 the prospective student-athlete's parents 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 from their home to the institution and back to their home, provided the contact with the prospective student-athlete's parents occurs during a contact period (recruiting period in men's basketball) and is counted as one of the in-person off-campus contacts that may occur with the prospective student-athlete. Also, in men's basketball, an institution may reimburse the prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians (expenses for up to two people) for the actual round-trip costs to accompany the prospective student-athlete on his official visit.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 13.02.4 (contact), 13.02.5.3 (recruiting period -- men's basketball), 13.1.5 (contacts), 13.5.2.2.1 (prospective student-athlete's relatives or friends), 13.5.2.6 (transportation of prospective student-athlete's relatives, friends or legal guardians) and 13.5.2.6.1 (exception -- transportation expenses for a prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians -- men's basketball), and staff interpretation (01/28/87, Item Ref: 4-a-(3), which has been archived)]