



Football Compliance Monthly

UAlbany • Delaware • Elon • James Madison • Maine • New Hampshire • Rhode Island
Richmond • Stony Brook • Towson • Villanova • William and Mary



Volume 9, Issue 7
February 2015

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Football NLI Signing Period

Initial Date for Football Regular Signing Period: Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Last Day of Signing Period: Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Dead Period: Monday, February 2 through Thursday, February 5, 2015

Quiet Period: Sunday, February 1, and Quiet Period resumes on Friday, February 6 through Tuesday, April 14, 2015

FOOTBALL DEAD PERIOD RESTRICTIONS

- 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 13.1.8.1, 13.02.5.5]
- Telephone Calls.** Institutional coaching staff members may make unlimited telephone calls to prospects during the period starting at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, February 2 until 7:00 a.m. on Friday, February 6, 2015 (i.e., 48 hours before and 48 hours after 7:00 a.m. on the initial signing date for the NLI). [Bylaw 13.1.3.3.2.1]
- 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. [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 13.1.5.8.1]
- 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]
 - Prospect must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center; and
 - Prospect's name must be placed on the institution's Institutional Request List (IRL) with the NCAA Eligibility Center; and
 - 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.

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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.

9. **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 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 Official or Unofficial Visit during a Dead Period. [Bylaws 13.02.5.5.2]
- B. There are no limits on the number of Telephone Calls by the institution to a prospect. [Bylaw 13.1.3.4.1]
- C. A noncoaching institutional staff member or a coach who does not count toward the numerical limitations on head and assistant coaches in Bylaw 11.7.6 may make Telephone Calls to or receive Telephone Calls from the prospect (or the prospect's relatives or legal guardians). [Bylaws 11.7.2.2-(a)-(b) and 13.1.3.2.2]
- D. There is no limit on the number of Contacts by the institution with a prospect (or prospect's relatives or legal guardians). [Bylaw 13.02.12.1]
- E. There is no limit on the number of Evaluations by the institution with a prospect. [Bylaw 13.02.12.1]
- F. There is no limit on the forms of Electronically Transmitted Correspondence sent to a prospect (or prospect's relatives or legal guardians). [Bylaws 13.4.1.4]

NCAA Bylaw 13.10.2.1 Comments Before Commitment

Before the signing of a prospective student-athlete to a National Letter of Intent or an institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or before the institution receives his or her financial deposit in response to its offer of admission, a member institution may comment publicly only to the extent of confirming its recruitment of the prospective student-athlete. The institution may not comment generally about the prospective student-athlete's ability or the contribution that the prospective student-athlete might make to the institution's team; further, the institution is precluded from commenting in any manner as to the likelihood of the prospective student-athlete committing to or signing with that institution. **[D]** *(Adopted: 1/19/13 effective 8/1/13)*

Official Interpretation

Student-athletes making comments regarding prospect's ability

Date Published: August 6, 1991

Item Ref: 2

Interpretation:

2. Student-athletes making comments regarding prospect's ability. Reviewed the provisions of Bylaw 13.11.1 (comments prior to signing) and determined that prior to the signing of a prospect to a National Letter of Intent or institutional tender of financial aid, a student-athlete may not provide comments to the media regarding a prospect other than confirming the institution's recruitment of the prospect.

1/19/2015

CAA Football Places Seven on "Fab Fifty"

Eric Wieberg

CHICAGO – Seven CAA Football players were among the top performers in FCS football in 2014, according to the College Sporting News Fabulous Fifty All-America Team, which was announced on Monday.

Leading CAA Football's representation on team was Villanova quarterback John Robertson, who was selected as the Adrian "AP" Peterson FCS Offensive Player of the Year. Joining Robertson on the Fab Fifty offense were New Hampshire tight end Harold Spears and UNH receiver R.J. Harris.

Four more league players were named to the Fab Fifty defense. Earning recognition on the team were Towson defensive lineman Ryan Delaire, William & Mary linebacker Luke Rhodes, Villanova linebacker Don Cherry and Towson cornerback Tye Smith.

Overall, CAA Football's seven members on the team were third most among FCS conferences.

College Sporting News 2014 Fabulous Fifty All-America Team

Adrian Peterson "AP" FCS Offensive Player of the Year

John Robertson, Villanova QB

Fab Fifty Offense

TE – Harold Spears, New Hampshire

WR – R.J. Harris, New Hampshire

Fab Fifty Defense

DE – Ryan Delaire, Towson

LB – Luke Rhodes, William & Mary

LB – Don Cherry, Villanova

CB – Tye Smith, Towson



Use of Agents

Student-Athletes will lose their eligibility IF:

1. They agree orally or in writing to be represented by an agent or any individual acting on behalf of the agent [e.g., runner].
2. They accept any benefits from an agent, a prospective agent or any individual acting on behalf of the agent [e.g., runner].
3. If they participate in a tryout with a professional team that lasts longer than 48 hours, which they have not personally financed.
4. If they tryout with a professional team during the academic year and miss class.
5. If they enter the draft AND do not take the appropriate steps to withdraw and declare their intention to resume intercollegiate participation

NCAA Bylaw 12.3.1.1

NCAA Bylaw 12.3.1.2 Benefits from Prospective Agents

An individual shall be ineligible per Bylaw [12.3.1](#) if he or she (or his or her relatives or friends) accepts transportation or other benefits from:
(Revised: 1/14/97)

(a) Any person who represents any individual in the marketing of his or her athletics ability. The receipt of such expenses constitutes compensation based on athletics skill and is an extra benefit not available to the student body in general; or

(b) An agent, even if the agent has indicated that he or she has no interest in representing the student-athlete in the marketing of his or her athletics ability or reputation and does not represent individuals in the student-athlete's sport.

Student-Athlete Reinstatement/Secondary Case

Secondary Case Number: 45187 **SA Reinstatement Case Number:** 36808 **Secondary Decision Date:** October 22, 2010 **SA Reinstatement Decision Date:** October 1, 2010 **Division:** I **Involved Sports:** Football

Facts: Subsequent to initial collegiate enrollment, two second-year men's football student-athletes (SA Nos. 1 and 2) received a benefit from their former teammate's agent in the form of a one-night stay at a hotel (\$58 each) in their former teammate's hotel room. Specifically, during March 2010, SA Nos. 1 and 2 visited former teammate who was in the process of training for the National Football League (NFL) draft. SA Nos. 1 and 2 spent one week with former teammate and while visiting, they permissibly stayed at the home of his parents. While training, former teammate stayed part time at his parent's home and, in addition, stayed part time in a hotel room in the vicinity of the training facility. Violation occurred when SA Nos. 1 and 2 stayed in former teammate's hotel room on the couch after an evening of celebrating. SA Nos. 1 and 2 stated they were not in a condition to drive home to former teammate's parent's home and for safety concerns, they decided to "crash" on the couch in the hotel room. Former teammate's hotel room was paid for by his agent; however, SA Nos. 1 and 2 indicated they believed former teammate was paying for his own hotel room. Former teammate confirmed that he did not indicate to SA Nos. 1 and 2 that his room was being paid for by an agent. Former teammate's agent was unaware that SA Nos. 1 and 2 were staying in the hotel room. Phone records for SA Nos. 1 and 2 indicated that no telephone or text message contact has ever occurred with former teammate's agent or any other agent or runner. Violation was discovered during the course of an investigation by the NCAA enforcement staff.

Institution Action: Institution's compliance staff will re-educate football SAs regarding direct and indirect agent contact. Institution required SA Nos. 1 and 2 to make payment in the amount of \$58 each to the charity of their choice.

Enforcement Action: Secondary violation; no further action.

Eligibility Action: STAFF: Eligibility reinstated based on institution's action requiring SA Nos. 1 and 2 to repay the impermissible amount received (\$58) to a charity their choice.

Rationale: STAFF: Based on the totality of the circumstances and case precedent, staff provided relief from withholding. While receipt of benefits from an agent in a significant violation and typically warrants a minimum 10 percent withholding condition, based on the NCAA Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement's guidelines, staff did not believe that SA Nos. 1 and 2 had any culpability in the violation and, therefore, did not impose a withholding condition. Specifically, staff considered in part that SA Nos. 1 and 2 had no knowledge that the agent was paying for former teammate's room, a fact confirmed by all parties involved. Further, staff noted that it was reasonable for SA Nos. 1 and 2 to assume that former teammate's was paying for his own room and that they could stay with him as they permissibly did at his parent's home due to their longstanding relationship. Therefore, based on information submitted, staff determined withholding was not appropriate in this case.

 Quiet Period  Dead Period

February FCS Recruiting Calendar**February 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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

Quiet Periods: February 1 and February 6-28

Dead Period: February 2-5

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