**Principles & Need to Know Information:**

**Amateurism**
A student-athlete shall not be eligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if, following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, the individual takes or has taken pay, or has accepted the promise of pay in any form, for participation in that sport, or if the individual has violated any of the amateurism bylaws.

**Awards, Benefits, and Expenses**
Receipt by a student-athlete of non-permissible awards, extra benefits, or excessive or improper expenses not authorized by NCAA legislation violates the Association's amateurism principle and renders the student-athlete ineligible for athletics participation in the sport for which the improper award, benefit or expense was received.

**Unethical Conduct**
A prospective or enrolled student-athlete who is found to have engaged in unethical conduct shall be ineligible for intercollegiate competition in all sports.

**Financial Aid**
A student-athlete who receives financial assistance other than that authorized by the Association shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics competition.

**Impermissible Actions Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment**
- Use of Athletics Skill for Pay
- Acceptance of a Promise of Pay
- Receipt of salary, gratuity, or compensation related to participation in athletics or athletics ability
- Receipt of any division or split of surplus funds
- Contract to play Professional Athletics
- Receipt of Funds from a Professional team
- Agreement with or Benefits from an Agent

*Violations* of NCAA rules often require the student-athletes and their families to repay the amount of money, (or equivalent if it was a service). If the amount of the benefit is in excess of $100.00 the student-athletes becomes ineligible for competition until the NCAA reinstates them. This process can take time, so student-athletes may be in jeopardy of missing competition.

**Involvement with Professional Teams**

**Tryout**
A student-athlete may try out with a professional athletics team in a sport or permit a professional athletics team to conduct medical examinations at any time outside the student-athlete’s playing and practice season. A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses related to the tryout from a professional sports organization, provided the tryout does not exceed 48 hours. The 48-hour tryout period begins at the time the individual arrives at the tryout location. At the completion of the 48-hour period, the individual must depart the location of the tryout immediately in order to receive
return transportation expenses. A tryout may extend beyond 48 hours if the individual self-finances additional expenses, including return transportation.

*NOTE* - During a tryout, an individual may not take part in any outside competition (games or scrimmages) as a representative of a professional team.

Practice Without Competition
Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate in practice sessions conducted by a professional team, provided such participation meets the requirements of NCAA legislation governing tryouts with professional athletics teams and the individual does not:

(a) Receive any compensation for participation in the practice sessions;
(b) Enter into any contract or agreement with a professional team or sports organization; or
(c) Take part in any outside competition (games or scrimmages) as a representative of a professional team.

Competition Against Professionals
An individual may participate singly or as a member of an amateur team against professional athletes or professional teams.

Competition With Professionals
Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics in a sport, if the individual competed on a professional athletics team in that sport. However, an individual may compete on a tennis, golf, two-person sand volleyball or two-person synchronized diving team(s) with persons who are competing for cash or a comparable prize, provided the individual does not receive payment of any kind for such participation.

*Professional Player as a Team Member*
Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate with a professional on a team, provided the professional is not being paid by a professional team or league to play as a member of that team (e.g., summer basketball leagues with teams composed of both professional and amateur athletes).

Olympic/National Teams:
It is permissible for a current student-athlete or prospective student-athlete to participate on Olympic or national teams that are competing for prize money or are being compensated by the governing body to participate in a specific event, provided the individual does not accept prize money or any other compensation outside of the actual and necessary expenses.

Competition with Prospective Student-Athletes
In out-of-season competition, it is permissible for current student-athletes to compete on teams or against teams that have prospective student-athletes.

Outside Competition & the Effects on Eligibility

Outside Competition in Sports other than Basketball
A student-athlete becomes ineligible for intercollegiate competition in his or her sport (other than basketball) if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate squad or team, he or she competes or has competed as a member of any outside team in any non-collegiate, amateur competition (e.g., tournament play, exhibition games or other activity) during the institution's intercollegiate season in the sport.
Outside Competition in Basketball
A student-athlete who participates in any organized basketball competition except while representing the institution in intercollegiate competition in accordance with the permissible playing season becomes ineligible for any further intercollegiate competition in basketball. In other words- it is not permissible for a basketball student-athlete to participate in any outside competition during the institutions’ declared playing season (September 7th or the institution’s fourth day of class (whichever is earlier) until one week prior to the beginning of the institutions’ final examination period).

Permissible Out of Season Outside Competition
All Sports:
- High School Alumni Game
- Olympic Games
- Official Pan American Games Tryouts and Competition
- U.S. National Teams
- Official World Championships, World University Games, World University Championships, World Youth Championships and World Cup Tryouts and Competition
- Multi-sport Events

Additional Permissible Competition for Basketball Only
- Summer Competition
- Puerto Rico Superior Basketball League (must be a Puerto Rican resident)
- United States vs. U.S. National Teams

Summer Out of Season Competition
There are no limits on the number of student-athletes who may practice or compete out of season on an amateur team for the following MSUB sports: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Track & Field, and Volleyball.

Camps and Clinics
There are no limits on the number of student-athletes who may be employed (e.g. as counselors) in camps or clinics. Currently enrolled student-athletes may not participate as campers in their institution’s camps or clinics.

*NOTE* --- A student-athlete who is employed in any sports camp or clinic must meet the following requirements:

a) The student-athlete must perform duties that are of a general supervisory nature in addition to any coaching or officiating assignments.

b) Compensation provided to the student-athlete shall be commensurate with the going rate for camp or clinic counselors of similar teaching ability and camp or clinic experience and may not be paid on the basis of the value that the student-athlete may have for the employer because of the athletics reputation or fame the student-athlete has achieved. It is not permissible to establish varying levels of compensation for a student-athlete employed in a sports camp or clinic based on the level of athletics skills of the student-athlete.

c) A student-athlete who only lectures or demonstrates at a camp/clinic may not receive compensation for his or her appearance at the camp/clinic.

Always Ask Before You Act!!
NCAA rules are in place to protect the integrity of college athletics, and while they may seem restrictive it is important to always seek the advice of the institution. For further information contact the compliance office at (406) 657-2282.