



University of South Carolina Gamecock Compliance

SPORTS WAGERING/GAMBLING

This month's newsletter focuses on the NCAA rules regarding sports wagering. Sports Gambling and wagering in the United States is widespread. In 2009 alone, \$2.57 billion was legally wagered on Nevada's sports books. The National Gambling Impact Study Commission (NGISC) estimates \$380 billion changes hands annually from illegal sports gambling and wagering.

Becoming involved with gambling activities may lead to severe consequences, such as: debt, criminal charges, prison time or even worse.

The NCAA prohibits student-athletes, athletics department staff, university staff who have responsibilities within or over the athletics department and staff members at the conference offices from participating in sports wagering activities. Additionally, the NCAA national office has rules pertaining to its staff.

Individuals that are members of the groups listed above must remember that sports wagering is not allowed on:

- any institutional practice activity or
- any competition (intercollegiate, amateur or professional) in a sport in which the NCAA sponsors a championship, bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.

What activities constitute sports wagering?

Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member's or student-athlete's own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest.



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Examples of sports wagering include (but are not limited to):

- the use of a bookmaker or parlay card;
- internet sports wagering;
- auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and
- pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.

What exactly is a wager?

"...any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g. cash, shirt, dinner, etc.) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value."

What are the possible NCAA penalties for student-athletes that participate in sports wagering activities?

- A student-athlete who engages in activities de-signed to influence the outcome of an intercollegiate contest or in an effort to affect win-loss margins ("point shaving") or who participates in any sports wagering activity involving the student-athlete's institution shall permanently lose all remaining regular-season and postseason eligibility in all sports.
- A student-athlete who participates in any sports wagering activity through the Internet, a book-maker or a parlay card, etc. shall be ineligible for all regular-season and postseason competition for a minimum of a period of one year from the date of the institution's determination that a violation occurred and shall be charged with the loss of a minimum of one season of eligibility.

University of South Carolina's athletics programs value your continued support. If you have questions, please do not hesitate in contacting the Office of Compliance Services at 803.777.1519 or athlcompl@mailbox.sc.edu.



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