



The University of South Carolina Office of Compliance Services Presents...

Booster Bulletin

Information for Boosters and Representatives of Athletics Interests

The May 2014 Booster Bulletin newsletter provided insight on the NCAA's definition of pre-existing relationships and the do's and don'ts that stem from such a relationship. For Summer 2014, the Office of Compliance Services would like to educate Gamecock boosters on the principle of institutional control.

9) **Always ask before you act!** The NCAA holds the University of South Carolina accountable for the actions of its fans and friends.

Institutions who demonstrate institutional control are better protected against the mistakes of their student-athletes, staff members, and representatives of athletics interests. For further information on this topic, keep reading.

Institutional Control

The principle of institutional control stems from the need for many individuals to be vigilant in order to protect the integrity of an institution's athletics department. As a large institution and a major player in the world of college athletics, the University of South Carolina has both many fans and many enemies. Therefore, it is important that you as representatives of athletics interests do as much as possible to protect USC, including notifying the appropriate individuals of any potential issues.

Violations do not result from a lack of institutional control if:

- Adequate compliance measures exist;
- They are appropriately conveyed to those who need to be aware of them;
- They are monitored to ensure that such measures are being followed; and
- On learning that a violation has occurred, the institution takes swift action.

Institutional control extends to boosters, meaning the institution is responsible for the actions and conduct of its boosters. For instance, the NCAA holds the University of South Carolina accountable when a USC fan or donor is tweeting congratulations to a prospective student-athlete. Therefore, the Office of Compliance Services asks that you review all of the educational material provided to you and ask any questions that you may have. **Remember, the worst questions are those that you never ask!**

ALWAYS ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!

Seasons in Review:

Notable Accomplishments by Gamecock Athletics Teams in 2013-2014

Baseball

Finished Regular Season Second in SEC East, Fourth in SEC Overall
29th Appearance in Division I Baseball Tournament field (14th consecutive)

Football

Third consecutive season that South Carolina has won 11 games
Finished Fourth in Final National Polls

Softball

Finished with 35-22 Record Overall
Participated in SEC Tournament and NCAA Regional—1st postseason appearance since 2007

Women's Golf

Finished 3rd in SEC Tournament
Finished 20th Overall at NCAA Division I Women's Golf Championship

Men's Golf

Finished 2nd in SEC Tournament
2nd Place Finish in NCAA Regional
9th Place Finish in the NCAA Tournament

Women's Soccer

Finished No. 15 in final NSCAA Ranking
D'Angelo awarded All-American Honors

Men's Soccer

Earned Top GPA in Division I team
Entered ConferenceUSA Tournament as No. 4 Seed

The Effects of a Lack of Institutional Control

If an institution is investigated for a potential wrongdoing, the NCAA may allege that the institution is lacking in institutional control. This is one of the more serious allegations with which an NCAA member institution can be charged.

Historically, "lack of institutional control" has played a major part in disrupting the fortunes of otherwise successful programs. Perhaps the most famous example involves Southern Methodist University, which was given the so-called "Death Penalty" in 1986 after numerous repeated recruiting violations and a student-athlete payment issue. (both of which were rooted in SMU's booster network) The historic program has taken over 20 years to recuperate, although it has not yet found its former glory.

Please do your part and notify Compliance Services of any potential issues. Doing so, you ensure that our student-athletes, the whole university, and our fan base can always say "It's Great to be a Gamecock!"



NCAA DEFINITION CENTER

Verbal Commitment (n.): a term used to describe a prospective student-athlete who has verbally committed to attend a certain institution and compete for their athletics program. A verbal commitment is NOT bound without penalty to attend a certain school, and as such may change his or her commitment at any time.

Signee (n.): a term used to describe a prospect who has signed a financial aid tender with an institution, the conference in which the institution competes, or who has signed a National Letter of Intent. Once signing becomes official, a signee may not be recruited by other institutions. There are often penalties for a signee who wishes to change his or her future institution.

Verbal Commitments are still considered PSAs, and as such may not be contacted by boosters

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Seasons in Review:

Notable Accomplishments by Gamecock Athletics Teams in 2013-2014

(continued from front)

Women's Equestrian

Coach Boo Major— NCEA and SEC Head Coach of the Year

2nd Consecutive SEC Championship

Women's Tennis

20th Consecutive NCAA Tournament Berth

Men's Tennis

#28 Ranked Program (16-14 Record) in Final ITA Team Rankings

Swimming & Diving

Finished 10th in Southeastern Conference

Cross Country

Finished 14th at the NCAA Southeastern Regionals

Indoor Track & Field

Women's team finished 19th in the NCAA Championships

Outdoor Track & Field

Earned 10 individual bids and 3 relay team spots in NCAA Championships

3 student-athletes earned 2nd Team All-SEC Honors

Volleyball

Thévenin named to the all SEC Team and earns 1000 career kills

Sand Volleyball

Competed in its inaugural season (Finished 5-12)

