

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

Booster Bulletin

Information for Boosters and Representatives of Athletics Interests

Big 5 Pass Cost of Attendance as NCAA Autonomy Begins

In 2014, the [NCAA Division I Board of Directors](#) restructured how member institutions and conferences govern themselves. The new model gives student-athletes a voice at every level of decision-making and the "Big 5" conferences some regulatory autonomy.

In January 2015, representatives from the five conferences, including student-athletes, took part in the first [Autonomy Business Session](#). The most notable legislative changes are aimed at student-athlete welfare and include the proposals to permit institutions to increase a full grant-in-aid to the cost-of-attendance and to require institution's to have written concussion safety protocols. As outlined in the Gamecock Promise, USC is committed to student-athlete welfare and is working to integrate these legislative changes. Additional information regarding the recent NCAA Convention may be found by clicking [here](#).

> **Men's Basketball**

- 2/3—@Arkansas
- 2/7— @ Vanderbilt
- 2/10 — Missouri
- 2/14—@ Kentucky
- 2/17— @ Georgia
- 2/21— Texas A&M
- 2/24— @Alabama
- 2/28 — Miss St.

> **Women's Basketball**

- 2/1— @ Ole Miss
- 2/5—@ Georgia
- 2/9— @ UCONN
- 2/12— LSU
- 2/15— Vanderbilt
- 2/19— @ Arkansas
- 2/23— Tennessee
- 2/26 — Miss St.

> **Women's Equestrian**

- 2/7—@ Georgia, Delaware St.
- 2/21—@ Texas A&M
- 2/28 — Auburn

> **Swimming and Diving**

- 2/18-21 SEC Championship (@Auburn)

> **Men's Golf**

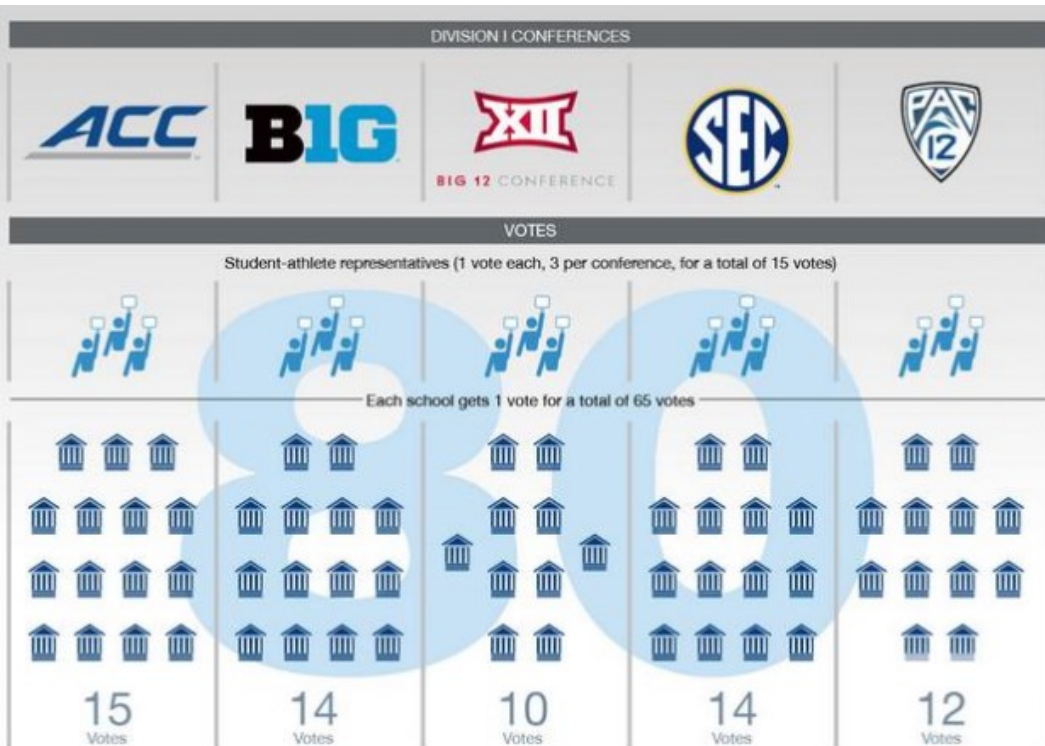
- 2/20-22—@ Bayou City Colligate Championships— Houston, TX

> **Women's Golf**

- 2/13-15—@ Florida State Match-Up

> **Women's Tennis**

- 2/1 — @ Clemson
- 2/14 — Charlotte, College of Charleston
- 2/21 — @Furman, North Florida (In Greenville)
- 2/27 — Auburn



University of South Carolina Office of Compliance Services

Rice Athletics Center
 1304 Heyward Street
 Columbia, SC 29208

Phone: 803-777-1519
 Fax: 803-777-9070
 ATHCOMPL@mailbox.sc.edu





Last month our newsletter focused on social media activities in which boosters could and could not engage under NCAA rules. For February 2015, our topic is the following.

5. You may employ student-athletes, provided they are compensated for work actually performed. It is not permissible to employ prospective student-athletes.

EMPLOYING CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETES

It is permissible for boosters to employ current USC student-athletes provided a few requirements are met. As you will recall, individuals, companies, and organizations can be considered boosters of USC Athletics.

Know that the same regulations apply to student-athletes asked to help with tasks such as babysitting, yard work, or moving furniture.

- A. **Student-athletes are required to register their employment with the Office of Compliance Services.** If you employ a student-athlete, please ensure that they have received approval to work from Compliance Services.
- B. **Student-athletes may only be paid for work they actually perform.** It is not permissible to allow a student-athlete to clock-in and clock-out without performing the required job duties.
- C. **Student-athletes must be compensated at the same rate as a worker with the same level experience who performs similar services.** For example, if a student-athlete's coworker performs the same duties while making \$10 hourly, both should be paid a similar rate. Additionally, student-athletes should only receive employment benefits available to the entire workforce.
- D. **The student-athlete may not be compensated based on the publicity, fame, or reputation that he or she has obtained due to his or her athletics ability.** Therefore, student-athletes may not be compensated more than the going rate simply because they may increase sales due to status as a USC student-athlete.

Violations of any of the above requirements could cause the student-athlete to become ineligible to represent the institution in competition.

What about employing prospects or former student-athletes?

PROSPECTS: It is permissible for boosters to employ prospects, regardless of their age, provided USC does not arrange the employment and the opportunity for employment is available on an equal basis for all applicants who qualify for the position. USC may not recommend a particular prospect for an available job at a booster's business, nor may the booster show the prospect any preferential treatment in the hiring process. In all situations, prospects may only be compensated for work they actually perform and must be paid a comparable rate.

FORMER STUDENT-ATHLETES: Former student-athletes are held to the same extra benefits legislation as current student-athletes and a booster may enter into a legitimate business agreement (e.g., employment) with a former student-athlete. Under these circumstances, a booster still may not provide a former student-athlete with cash or other gifts.

As always, if you have any questions about employing student-athletes, prospects, and/or former student-athletes, please contact the Office of Compliance Services at 803/777-1519.

> **Swimming and Diving**

2/1—@ Auburn
2/18-22—@ SEC Championships—
Athens, GA

> **Softball**

2/7—Iowa
2/8—Ohio
2/8—Presbyterian
2/9—UNC-Greensboro
2/12—@ Charlotte
2/14—LIU-Brooklyn @ Boca Raton, FL
2/14—Providence @ Boca Raton, FL
2/15—Maryland @ Boca Raton, FL
2/16—@ Florida Atlantic
2/21—Gardner-Webb
2/21—Boston
2/22—Michigan State
2/23—UNC Wilmington
2/25—Western Carolina (2)
2/27—@ Arizona State
2/28—Minnesota @ Tempe, AZ
2/28—Ball State @ Tempe, AZ

> **Women's Tennis**

2/1—VCU @ Charlottesville, VA
2/2—@ Virginia
2/5—Furman
2/9—Charleston Southern
2/9—Davidson
2/16—Clemson
2/21—South Carolina State
2/21—North Florida
2/23—William & Mary
2/28—Missouri

> **Track and Field**

2/1—@ Hilton Garden Invitational @
Winston -Salem, NC
2/7-8—@ Armory Collegiate Invita-
tional—New York, NY
2/14-15—@ Tyson Invitational—
Fayetteville, AR
2/22—Gamecock Invitational
2/27-3/1—@ SEC Championships @
College Station, TX



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