



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

Booster Bulletin

Information for Boosters and Representatives of Athletics Interests

Last month our newsletter focused on Social Media activities that boosters could and could not engage in under NCAA rules. For March 2013, 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.

Student-athletes have tremendous time commitments with practice, training, and competition. However, some still choose to work to make a few extra bucks, to earn class credits, or to fulfill long-term career objectives. As you will recall, individuals as well as entire companies and organizations can be boosters of USC Athletics.

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

EMPLOYING CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETES

It is permissible for boosters to employ current USC student-athletes at any time, provided a few requirements are met.

- 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, they should be paid the same rate. Additionally, student-athletes should only receive employment benefits that are 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.** This means that student-athletes may not be compensated more than the going rate simply because they may increase sales due to their status as a USC student-athlete.

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

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

Upcoming Gamecock Athletics Events

> Men's Basketball	
3/2 - @ Texas A&M	7:00 PM
3/6 - vs. Mississippi State	7:00 PM
3/9 - @ Vanderbilt	1:30 PM
3/13-17 - SEC Tournament (Nashville, TN)	TBA
> Women's Basketball	
3/3 - vs. Florida	1:00 PM
3/6-10 - SEC Tournament (Duluth, GA)	TBA
> Baseball	
3/1 - @ Clemson	3:00 PM
3/2 - vs. Clemson (Greenville, SC)	7:00 PM
3/3 - vs. Clemson	7:00 PM
3/5 - vs. Ball State (Game 1)	7:00 PM
3/6 - vs. Ball State	4:00 PM
3/8 - vs. Rider (Game 1)	7:00 PM
3/9 - vs. Rider (Game 2)	4:00 PM
3/10 - vs. Rider (Game 3)	1:30 PM
3/12 - vs. USC Upstate	7:00 PM
3/13 - vs. Davidson	7:00 PM
3/15 - @ Missouri (Game 1)	7:00 PM
3/16 - @ Missouri (Game 2)	3:00 PM
3/17 - @ Missouri (Game 3)	2:00 PM
3/19 - @ The Citadel	7:00 PM
3/22 - vs. Arkansas (Game 1)	7:30 PM
3/23 - vs. Arkansas (Game 2)	3:15 PM
3/24 - vs. Arkansas (Game 3)	1:30 PM
3/26 - @ College of Charleston	6:00 PM
3/28 - vs. Texas A&M (Game 1)	7:30 PM
3/29 - vs. Texas A&M (Game 2)	7:00 PM
3/30 - vs. Texas A&M (Game 3)	1:30 PM
> Women's Golf	
3/8-10 - Darius Rucker (Hilton Head, SC)	
3/29-31 - Bryan National Collegiate (Greensboro, NC)	
> Men's Golf	
3/3-5 - Lake Jovita Classic (Tampa, FL)	
3/11-12 - Palmetto Intercollegiate (Aiken, SC)	
3/24-26 - Hootie at Bulls Bay Intercollegiate (Awendaw, SC)	
> Track & Field	
3/8-9 - NCAA Indoor Championships (Fayetteville, AR)	
3/15-16 - Hurricane Invitational (Miami, FL)	
3/22-23 - Weems Baskin Invitational	
3/29-30 - North Florida Invitational (Jacksonville, FL)	

Employing 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 at a comparable rate.

Employing Former Student-Athletes

Former student-athletes are held to the same extra benefits legislation as current student-athletes. However, 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.

NCAA Reacts to "Johnny Football" Nickname Lawsuit

Recently, Texas A&M Football star Johnny Manziel took a stand against third-party sale of items featuring his well-known nickname, "Johnny Football." To maintain control over what is termed by the NCAA as his "likeness," Manziel applied for a trademark of "Johnny Football" and filed a copyright infringement lawsuit against the maker of "Keep Calm and Johnny Football" shirts for using his nickname without permission.

In response, the NCAA stated that Manziel would be allowed to collect damages if his private corporation's lawsuit were to be decided in Manziel's favor. However, the NCAA has informed Texas A&M it would consider such lawsuits found to be orchestrated between a student-athlete and a booster for the sake of compensating Manziel, both parties would also be subject to punishment from the NCAA's enforcement group.

The topic of a student-athlete's ability to profit from his or her name and image has risen to new heights. Former UCLA Basketball student-athlete Ed O'Bannon is the lead plaintiff a legal quarrel with the NCAA in which he alleges the NCAA should compensate former student-athletes for use of their name or image in future promotions.



To read the Sports Illustrated article in its entirety, click [here](#).

Sports Wagering and MARCH MADNESS

Each year, millions of fans across the country tune in during late March and early April as the NCAA Basketball Tournament takes place. "March Madness" is a popular venue for betting. While

boosters are not specifically prohibited from gambling on college athletics, please remember that student-athletes and athletics staff members are prohibited from gambling on intercollegiate athletics.



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> Softball

3/2-3 - Eagle Classic (Statesboro, GA)

3/8-10 - USF Under Armour Showcase
(Tampa and Clearwater, FL)

3/13 - @ Furman (Game 1) 2:00 PM
@ Furman (Game 2) 4:15 PM

3/15 - vs. Alabama (Game 1) 7:00 PM

3/16 - vs. Alabama (Game 2) 12:00 PM

3/17 - vs. Alabama (Game 3) 1:00 PM

3/19 - @ Campbell 6:00 AM

3/22 - @ LSU (Game 1) 7:00 PM

3/23 - @ LSU (Game 2) 4:00 PM

3/24 - @ LSU (Game 3) 2:00 PM

3/29 - @ Missouri (Game 1) 8:00 PM

3/30 - @ Missouri (Game 2) 5:00 PM

3/30 - @ Missouri (Game 3) 7:15 PM

> Equestrian

3/1 - vs. Delaware State 1:00 PM

3/8 - @ Kansas State 11:30 AM

3/9 - @ Oklahoma State 11:00 AM

3/29 - SEC Championship (Auburn, AL) TBA

> Swimming & Diving

3/11-13 - NCAA Zone B Diving Championship

3/21-23 - NCAA Women's Championships

3/28-30 - NCAA Men's Championships

> Men's Tennis

3/1 - vs. Texas A&M 5:00 PM

3/3 - vs. Clemson 1:00 PM

3/8 - vs. Florida 5:00 PM

3/15 - @ Tennessee 2:00 PM

3/17 - @ Georgia 1:00 PM

3/22 - @ Auburn 3:00 PM

3/24 - @ Alabama 1:00 PM

3/29 - vs. Arkansas 5:00 PM

3/31 - vs. LSU 1:00 PM

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