



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

# BOOSTER BULLETIN

Information for Boosters and Representatives of Athletics Interests

In the previous issue, you may recall that we explored the definition of a booster and set forth nine Top Tips for Fans & Friends of South Carolina Athletics. These items examined activities in which boosters can and cannot participate. In this month's issue the Office of Compliance Services will be breaking down the first list item.

*1) You may not be involved in recruiting prospective student-athletes on behalf of South Carolina. You may contact the South Carolina coaching staff via telephone or email to inform them about talented prospects in your area.*

NCAA bylaw 13.1.2.1 states that "All in-person, on- and off-campus recruiting contacts with a prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardians, as well as correspondence and telephone calls, by representatives of an institution's athletics interests is prohibited except as otherwise permitted." We will be examining this rule and the exceptions to it in this month's Booster Bulletin.

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### Q: Can I speak on the phone with a recruit?

A: Only if you are contacted first by the recruit and the conversation is not related to recruiting. If the conversation turns to the prospect's interest in athletics, you as a booster must refer the prospect to the Athletics Department and end the call. Boosters are not allowed to make outgoing phone calls to prospects or their families and friends.

### Q: Can I attend a prospect's game and speak with them about USC?

A: You can attend a game on your own initiative, but it would not be permissible to make contact with the prospect or prospect's family members. Further, you are not allowed to arrange such a meeting by contacting the coach, high school principal, or counselor.

### Q: Can I pick up film or transcripts on this prospect for the purposes of evaluating him/her?

A: No. Only coaching staff members are allowed to perform academic or athletic evaluations on prospects, as they have been certified by the NCAA. You may alert coaches about a local prospect with the understanding that coaches may choose to not contact the prospect.

### Q: Can I contact recruits or their families and friends on social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, chat rooms, message boards)?

A: No, as this would be considered recruiting contact with the prospect; recruiting activities should be left to coaches. We will examine this prohibition in depth in a subsequent newsletter.



## Upcoming Gamecock Athletics Events

### > Football

10/5 - vs. Kentucky  
10/12 - @ Arkansas  
10/19 - @ Tennessee  
10/26 - @ Missouri

### > Women's Cross Country

10/2 - Gamecock Invitational #2  
10/11 - Royal Cross Country 5K @ Charlotte, NC  
10/19 - Pre-National Invitational @ Terra Haute, IN

### > Men's Golf

9/29-10/1 = Badger Invite @ Madison, WI

### > Women's Golf

10/11-13 - Tar Heel Invitational @ Chapel Hill, NC  
10/25-27 - The Landfall @ Wilmington, NC

### > Men's Soccer

10/1 - vs. Presbyterian  
10/6 - vs. Tulsa  
10/13 - @ Kentucky  
10/16 - vs. Florida Atlantic  
10/19 - @ Marshall  
10/26 - vs. New Mexico  
10/30 - @ Florida International

### > Women's Soccer

10/4 - @ Florida  
10/6 - @ Tennessee  
10/11 - vs. Alabama  
10/18 - @ Missouri  
10/20 - @ Ole Miss  
10/25 - vs. Vanderbilt  
10/27 - @ Mississippi State  
10/31 - vs. Kentucky

### > Women's Equestrian

10/4 - @ Delaware State  
10/5 - vs. SMU @ Dover, DE  
10/11 - vs. Georgia  
10/25 - @ Texas A&M

### > Women's Tennis

9/29-10/6 - Rivera/ITA All American @ Pacific Palisades, CA  
10/4-6 - Duckworth Classic @ Clemson, SC  
10/17-21 - USTA/ITA Carolina Regional @ Chapel Hill, NC



# Current Events Related to Possible NCAA Violations

Recently there were two major news stories published related to possible NCAA Violations.

## Oklahoma State University:

Sports Illustrated recently completed a five part series related to a 10-month investigation that included independent interviews with 64 Oklahoma State football players from 1999 to 2011, as well as current and former football staffers. This series reveals the measures that a program will take to become elite -- and the collateral damage that follows including possible NCAA violations, academic fraud, and drug abuse at Oklahoma State University. While the institution has hired an independent investigator to look into the allegations, there have not been any violations reported at this time.

[The Money](#) / [The Academics](#) / [The Drugs](#) / [The Sex](#) / [The Fallout](#)

## Multiple Southeastern Conference Institutions:

Yahoo Sports has reported and provided supporting documentation to indicate five Southeastern Conference football stars violated NCAA rules by receiving extra benefits prior to completing their collegiate careers. The benefits, which may have come from multiple individuals, were allegedly provided to student-athletes at the University of Alabama, Mississippi State University, and the University of Tennessee. While the institutions may currently be investigating allegations, there have not been any violations reported at this time.

[Yahoo Sports Report](#) / [Documentation](#)

## Information Regarding NCAA Infractions Case

In February 2012, officials from the University of South Carolina appeared before the NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions to address allegations of NCAA violations in the football and track and field programs. The alleged violations were the result of impermissible activities committed by boosters of the athletics program. As a result, the institution imposed penalties on both programs and placed itself on probation for a period of three years. To view the report issued by the Committee on Infractions in April 2012, please visit [www.sc.edu/ncaaresponse](http://www.sc.edu/ncaaresponse).

While on probation, the institution and its athletics program are under a heightened level of scrutiny, especially in the areas related to this case. It is important that boosters be cognizant of NCAA regulations regarding their activities and that they consult with the Office of Compliance Services before taking any action regarding student-athletes or prospective student-athletes.



## > Men's Tennis

10/1-6 - ITA All American @ Tulsa, OK

10/17-20 - ITA Carolina Regional @ Chapel Hill, NC

## > Swimming and Diving

10/12 - @ College of Charleston

10/18 - @ Tennessee

10/26 @ East Carolina

## > Women's Volleyball

10/4 - vs. Arkansas

10/6 - vs. Texas A&M

10/11 - vs. Georgia

10/13 - vs. Kentucky

10/18 - @ Mississippi State

10/20 - @ Ole Miss

10/25 - vs. Tennessee

10/27 - vs. Auburn

10/30 - vs. Coastal Carolina



## DID YOU KNOW?

NCAA Bylaw 12.5.2.2 prohibits the use of a student-athlete's name, image or likeness without consent of the student-athlete or the institution. Upon discovering of a breach of this legislation, the institution has the authority to take any steps necessary to request that use be ended in order to protect the student-athlete's eligibility. Typically this is issued in the form of a "cease and desist" letter.

Prominent examples of this are:

- T-Shirts
- Wristbands
- Posters

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NCAA Information for Alumni

