



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

Booster Bulletin

Information for Boosters and Representatives of Athletics Interests

The May 2013 Booster Bulletin newsletter focused on providing entertainment to prospective student-athletes, their parents/family members, and their coaches. For June 2013, the Office of Compliance Services would like to educate you on pre-existing relationships with prospective student-athletes and current student-athletes and their families.

8. You may continue established relationships with friends and neighbors whose children are prospective or current student-athletes. You may not recruit the prospect to USC or exchange benefits unless the relationship meets the NCAA guidelines for a pre-existing relationship.

This newsletter is dedicated to providing insight into the NCAA's stance on pre-existing relationships, as well as examining the test by which all such relationships must be measured.

What Is a Pre-Existing Relationship?

The NCAA has a four-part test that Compliance utilizes to determine if a relationship is truly pre-existing. See below for the parts of the

- A. Was the athlete's athletic success the reason for the relationship beginning?
- B. Did the relationship begin prior to the athlete becoming a prospective student-athlete?
 - ⇒ Remember that a prospective student-athlete is defined by the NCAA as an individual who has started classes for the ninth grade.
- C. Did the relationship develop prior to the athlete attaining fame due to his or her athletics ability or accomplishments?
- D. Have the benefits offered to the athlete before and after the athlete's attainment of athletics fame been consistent?
 - ⇒ Must be consistent in both nature and value
 - ⇒ Ex: use of a beach house—likely impermissible if it wasn't available before the athlete gained fame for his or her athletics accomplishments

It is important that you do not assume that your relationship automatically meets these criteria. Providing benefits to a prospective student-athlete or student-athlete without meeting this test could render an athlete ineligible and result in punitive actions against you as a booster, possibly including disassociation from the University.

Please inform the Office of Compliance Services if you believe that you have a relationship that may meet the criteria above.

Seasons in Review:

Notable Accomplishments by Gamecock Athletics Teams in 2012-2013

Baseball

Finished Regular Season Second in SEC East, Fourth in SEC Overall
Record—39-18 overall, 17-14 in SEC
29th Appearance in Division I Baseball Tournament field (14th consecutive)

Softball

Finished with 34-25 Record Overall
Participated in SEC Tournament and NCAA Regional—1st postseason appearance since 2007

Women's Golf

Finished 3rd in SEC Tournament
Claimed 4th Place in NCAA Regional
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
Clinched berth in NCAA Division I Men's Golf Championship (17th Appearance, First since 2009)

Women's Equestrian

Five Student-athletes named All-American
Coach Boo Major—SEC Head Coach of the Year
Won the inaugural SEC Championship
Ranked as high as #1 nationally in the NCEA Coaches' Poll

Summer Employment of Student-Athletes and Prospects

NCAA rules permit boosters to employ current student-athletes during the summer, provided:

- A student-athlete may only be compensated for work actually performed, and;
- A student-athlete must receive compensation at "the going rate" in that locality for similar services.

The NCAA has imposed the following restrictions on employing student-athletes:

- You may not provide transportation for a student-athlete unless that transportation is provided for all other employees in the same position;
- An employer may not compensate a student-athlete more based on their publicity, reputation, fame or personal following that may bring positive business to your organization;
- An employer may not use a student-athlete's name, picture or appearance to promote or endorse the sale of a commercial product;

Boosters may not arrange for a prospect's employment until after the prospect has signed a National Letter of Intent with the Gamecocks or officially put down a deposit to come to the University of South Carolina.

*If the prospect is enrolled in a two-year college, boosters may not arrange for employment until the prospect has finished his/her requirements to graduate from the two-year school or has dropped out of the school.

Congrats, Gamecock Graduates!

At the end of the Spring 2013 semester, **67** University of South Carolina student-athletes completed their majors and earned their degrees! As boosters of Gamecock Athletics, your support has undoubtedly aided these student-athletes in the pursuit of their degrees.



As these individuals filter into the local working world, please remember that former student-athletes must be treated similarly to student-athletes. They may not receive any awards or benefits of value from a booster despite having exhausted their eligibility to compete at USC. However, boosters may employ former student-athletes in a legitimate business relationship.

University of South Carolina Office of Compliance Services

Rice Athletics Center

Phone: 803-777-1519

1304 Heyward Street

Fax: 803-777-9070

Columbia, SC 29208

ATHCOMPL@mailbox.sc.edu



Seasons in Review:

Notable Accomplishments by Gamecock Athletics Teams in 2012-2013

(continued from front)

Women's Tennis

19th Consecutive NCAA Tournament Berth

13-13 Overall Record—Ranked as high as
#27 in ITA Team Rankings

Men's Tennis

#18 Ranked Program (18-11 Record) in
Final ITA Team Rankings

T-3rd in SEC (Seven SEC Wins—Most in
USC History)

Head Coach Josh Goffi Named SEC Head
Coach of the Year and Wilson/ITA
Carolina Region Coach of the Year

Swimming & Diving

Finished 8th in Southeastern Conference

4 Student-Athletes Named CSCAA All-
Americans

Ranked as high as #12 in CollegeSwim-
ming.com/CSCAA Coaches Poll

Outdoor Track & Field

Earned 8 individual bids and 1 relay team
spot in NCAA Championships

4 student-athletes earn All-SEC Honors

