



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

BOOSTER BULLETIN

Information for Boosters and Representatives of Athletics Interests

MARCH MADNESS AND SPORTS WAGERING

Each year, millions of fans across the country tune in late March and early April during the NCAA Basketball Tournament. "March Madness" is a popular event 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 an sport in which the NCAA conducts a championship, including bowl games.

TRANSPORTATION FOR PROSPECTIVE AND CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETES



TRANSPORTATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES

For March 2016, our topic is #6 from September's edition of Top Tips for Fans & Friends of USC Athletics:

- ◇ Boosters may not provide transportation to a prospect, student-athlete, or his/her family and/or friends.

NCAA DEFINITION

Unofficial Visit (n): a visit to campus that made at the prospect's own expense.

Official Visit (n): a visit to campus paid for in whole or in part by the institution. Prospects may take up to five official visits, but only one official visit per institution.

Please remember that an institution must pay for all expenses incurred for the purposes of recruiting prospective student-athletes. Boosters are not allowed to arrange for the payment of transportation expenses for a prospect or his/her family and/or friends. Additional restrictions are as follows:

- ◇ Boosters may not arrange for special or reserved parking for a prospect's visit (e.g., hold a spot in a paid parking lot at Williams-Brice stadium).
- ◇ Neither a prospect nor his or her family/friends may have use of a booster's car while on-campus for an official or unofficial visit.
- ◇ A booster cannot pay for a prospect to attend an institutional orientation session or for a prospect to travel to campus for the purpose of enrolling at the institution.
- ◇ A booster may not reimburse a coach for transportation expenses incurred while transporting a prospect to USC's campus for a visit.



TRANSPORTATION FOR CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETES

Provision of transportation by a booster to student-athletes or their family/friends would be considered an extra benefit. Below are some specific examples of impermissible transportation involving student-athletes and their families/friends.

- ◆ A student-athlete who is serving as a student host for a prospect on his/her official visit may not have use of a booster's automobile.
- ◆ A booster may not be involved in obtaining a discounted rate on a car loan or car purchase.
- ◆ A booster may not pay for a student-athlete's gas.
- ◆ A booster may not pay for a parent's travel to a postseason event (e.g., bowl game).
- ◆ A booster may not provide discounted or free car customization (rims, tinted windows, stereo system upgrades, etc.).

A very limited NCAA exception allows boosters to provide transportation to current student-athletes if a booster is hosting an occasional meal for student-athletes in his or her home.

What is an occasional meal? An occasional meal is a meal provided by a booster to student-athletes either (1) at an on-campus location or (2) in the booster's home. If the booster is hosting the meal in his or her home, the booster is allowed to provide reasonable transportation to the student-athletes attending the meal.

It is not permissible for boosters to provide meals or transportation to student-athletes under circumstances other than described above. Please contact OCS to obtain approval to providing any meal or transportation to student-athletes.

If you have questions regarding transportation expenses for prospects or their family/friends, or current student-athletes or their family/friends, please contact the Office of Compliance Services.



University of South Carolina Office of Compliance Services

The University of South Carolina is committed to the principle of institutional control in the operation of its athletics department. The Office of Compliance Services (OCS) has the goal of creating a "compliance conscience" within the institution and throughout the community by developing a comprehensive compliance program that educates its constituents about the importance of following the letter and spirit of the rules and regulations set forth by the NCAA, Southeastern Conference (SEC) and South Carolina administration.



Questions or Concerns? Please contact us at:

Rice Athletics Center

Phone: 803-777-1519

1304 Heyward Street

Fax: 803-777-9070

Columbia, SC 29208

ATHCOMPL@mailbox.sc.edu

