



# University of South Carolina Gamecock Compliance

## Recruiting and Social Networking

With the thriving popularity of social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, it is important to understand what is and is not permissible in terms of contact with prospective student-athletes. Please keep in mind that representatives of athletics interest are **NOT** permitted to contact prospective student-athletes using social networking sites.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- **Posting on a recruit's wall**
- **Commenting on a recruit's picture, or any picture that they are tagged in**
- **Using the email/messaging features offered**
- **Instant Messaging**
- **'Retweeting' or 'mentioning' a recruit in a tweet**
- **Or direct messaging.**

Social networking websites have emerged as a preferred channel of communication among high school and college students in the last five years. Gamecock representatives of athletics interest are asked to maintain a sense of propriety when using the social networks. Recently, an institution reported an NCAA violation after several boosters contacted potential recruits on their Myspace pages and inappropriately encouraged them to attend their institution. This type of communication is likely well intended and motivated by pride in our institution; however, it is prohibited and is ultimately harmful to the University of South Carolina's best interests.

While representatives of athletics interest may not recruit, they may:

- **Let USC Coaches know about potential recruits (ex. sending newspaper clippings)**
- **Attend PSA's sporting events**
- **Talk with a PSA if the PSA initiates the call, however you may not talk about USC Athletics, nor attempt to persuade the PSA to attend our institution.**

University of South Carolina's athletics programs value your continued support. If you have questions, please do not hesitate in contacting the Office of Compliance Services at 803.777.1519 or [athlcompl@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:athlcompl@mailbox.sc.edu).

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