



# The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



**The Official Newsletter of the UC Compliance Office  
For coaches and athletic staff**

**August 2003**

## RECRUITING DATES

### **Men's Basketball-**

**8/1 – 9/8 Quiet Period**

### **Women's Basketball-**

**8/1 – 9/8 Quiet Period**

### **Football-**

**8/1 – 11/30 Quiet Period**

(except for 6 days during the months of September, October, and November selected at the discretion of the institution)

### **Baseball-**

**8/1 – 8/31 Contact/Evaluation Period**

### **All Other Sports-**

**Contact/Evaluation Period**

## ROSTERS & SQUAD LISTS

Rosters for all fall sports are due to the compliance office ASAP. We must be notified in writing of any new additions or deletions during the preseason as soon as they happen. All new walk-ons must be certified by compliance, academic services, and sports medicine before they receive equipment or practice. Coaches are reminded that if you have transfers that intend to enroll for the 2003-2004 academic year, you must provide the compliance office with an official transcript from every collegiate institution that the student has attended. Transfer students will not be eligible for financial aid, practice or competition until these transcripts are provided and reviewed.

## CHECK-IN MEETINGS

The following check-in meetings have been scheduled for the upcoming academic year:

**August 6** – Football 7:00 PM

**August 7** – Volleyball 1:15 PM

**August 12** – Women's Soccer 1:00 PM

**August 13** – Men's Soccer 4:00 PM

**August 24** – Cross Country 1:00 PM

**September 8** – Golf 10:00 AM

Tennis 11:30 AM

A reminder that classes begin on September 24 and check-in meetings will be scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please keep in mind that the check-in meeting will last approximately one hour so plan accordingly. All student-athletes must complete the student-athlete statement and drug-testing consent form prior to participating in practice activities.

All Student-athletes should be prepared to furnish their local address and telephone number, permanent address and telephone number, automobile information, including that of any automobiles that they have frequent use of, but may not own, (i.e. license #, color, make and model of the car) and any employment held over the summer or will hold during the school year. Please make your student-athletes aware of these things before the check-in meeting.



## AROUND THE COUNTRY

### **Washington Placed on Probation**

The NCAA placed Washington on probation for two years, including the loss of one scholarship and recruiting restrictions for the men's basketball team. An education and compliance program on NCAA legislations must also be created. The school had self-imposed corrective actions and penalties that the NCAA Committee on Infractions accepted. However, since there were 13 major violations and two secondary violations, the NCAA and Pac-10 Conference imposed some of their own penalties. They constituted major violations because they were not inadvertent or isolated.

The violations took place between May and August 2002 and involved impermissible phone calls, recruiting contacts and evaluations, and attending a noncertified summer basketball event. Two of the prospects were contacted prior to their junior year in high school. The assistant coach that was primarily involved was suspended without pay for one month and had a reduction in pay. After the violations were discovered, Washington stopped recruiting the player that was mainly involved.

### **Academic Integrity in Question at Ohio St.**

Due to the recent questioning of academic integrity at Ohio State with the Maurice Clarett incident, it is important to be aware of and understand what is and is not appropriate and acceptable for coaches and student athletes in regard to academics.

Athletes are not permitted to receive any extra or special benefits in the classroom that are not available to the whole class. Anything stated on the syllabus is considered for the entirety of the class, anything not could come into question. This includes such things as alternate exams and extra credit opportunities. Tutors are not permitted to write papers for student athletes, or give answers to homework. If a coach has a question regarding the academic status of an athlete, an academic advisor in the Athletic Department should be contacted and not the professor directly. Any student who has or is suspected of a learning disability should be evaluated by the disability services office so that appropriate measures can be taken to accommodate these students in the classroom.

## EXTRA BENEFIT ISSUES

A handful of schools across the country have recently had to withhold student-athletes from contests for extra benefit violations involving athletic apparel. Student-athletes at a variety of schools were punished for going to local sporting goods stores and exchanging shoes issued by the institution for other apparel and store credit. Student-athletes are NOT permitted to exchange apparel issued by the institution at any store for any item or credit. This is considered an extra benefit and will cause a student-athlete to become immediately ineligible.

In order for a student-athlete to regain his/her eligibility, he/she must repay the value of the benefit and be withheld from a certain number of games based upon the value of the extra benefit received. If the value of the benefit is under \$100, the student-athlete does not need to be withheld from any games as long as the value of the benefit is repaid before he/she participates in any contests. If the value is \$100-\$299, the student-athlete must repay the benefit and be withheld from 10% of the season before being reinstated. If the value is \$300-\$500, the student-athlete must repay the benefit and be withheld from 20% of the season. If the value of the benefit is more than \$500, then the student-athlete must repay the benefit and be withheld from 30% of the season before being reinstated.

It is very important to inform your student-athletes that they may not exchange shoes or other apparel issued to them by our institution for other apparel or store credit at any stores. It also especially important for those sports that issue their own apparel and equipment to monitor this closely. You must keep a detailed inventory of every piece of apparel and equipment issued to each student-athlete. Many of the schools that have reported this secondary violation have gone to a system of only issuing one pair of shoes to student-athletes at a time. They have begun to require student-athletes to turn-in their old pair of shoes in order to receive a new pair.

Please make your student-athletes and whomever distributes apparel for your sport aware of this potential extra benefit violation.

## PRESEASON PRACTICE

The preseason is almost upon us for fall sports, and as coaches begin their preparation for the upcoming season, there are a number of distinctions with regard to preseason activities of which you should keep in mind.

A new rule that begins this preseason allows an institution to provide an additional meal to student-athletes during the preseason practice period prior to the start of the academic year. This means that instead of 3 meals per day, an institution can provide four meals per day if it so desired during the preseason period.

NCAA Bylaw 17.1.6.3 states that daily and weekly hour limitations do not apply to countable athletically related activities that occur during preseason practice prior to the first day of classes or the first scheduled contest, whichever occurs first.

A second distinction specific to the preseason is that institutions are also not required to provide student-athletes with one day off per week during preseason practices that occur before the first day of classes or the first scheduled contest, according to Bylaw 17.1.6.4.3. Even though hourly and weekly limitations do not apply, you still must submit practice logs to the compliance office each week.

**Remember, once you declare your practice week (i.e., Monday – Sunday), you are not permitted to change it until the next segment (Championship/Non-Championship).**

Scrimmages and exhibition games are also undoubtedly a part of preseason preparation, however, according to Bylaw 17.1.5.5.2, off-campus intrasquad games and publicized practices that are conducted at a site not normally used by the institution are prohibited for all sports. Also, all exhibition games, regardless of location, must be certified by the institution, so before scheduling any exhibitions, be sure to inform the compliance office of these contests.

If there are any questions concerning preseason activities, please contact the Compliance Office.



## AMATEURISM

Prospective student-athletes enrolling for the 2003-04 academic year are facing different eligibility standards. If the student-athlete has engaged in activities that professionalize them, they will be permanently ineligible to participate in Division I athletics. This is especially important for international student athletes who participate on other teams over seas. The following are reasons that a student-athlete would permanently lose eligibility:

- **Having signed a professional contract**
- **Having received compensation exceeding expenses**
- **Having competed with professionals after their first opportunity to enroll in college**

In addition, the NCAA has provided a list of questions for coaches to ask international student-athletes, these are:

- **Did the individual receive compensation for his or her participation with a club team?**
- **Did the individual sign a contract with the team?**
- **Did the individual receive a salary?**
- **Did the individual receive educational expenses?**
- **Did the individual receive other benefits bases on his or her athletics ability?**
- **Did the individual agree to be represented by an agent?**
- **Was the club or league in which the individual participated considered a professional athletics team or organization by applying NCAA Legislation?**
- **Did the individual receive compensation beyond actual and necessary expenses from an amateur sport organization?**
- **Did the individual compete on an organized team that meets the definition of a professional team, even if the individual did not receive pay or remuneration for expenses?**

Affirmative answers to any of these questions regarding student-athlete circumstances could result in a NCAA violation and render a prospect or student-athlete ineligible.

Remember, the NCAA definition of a professional team is a team that provides ANY of its players more than actual and necessary expenses for participation on the team or declares itself professional. See Bylaw 12.02.4 for a detailed list.

## OUTSIDE INCOME

NCAA Bylaw 11.2.2 requires approval from the President of our University for any outside income. Athletic staff members are required to provide a written detailed account annually to the president for all athletically related income and benefits from sources outside the institution. This outside athletically related income includes, but is not limited to:

- Income from Annuities
- Sports Camps
- Housing Benefits
- Country Club Memberships
- Complimentary Ticket Sales
- Television and Radio Programs
- Endorsement or Consultation Contracts with Athletic Shoe, Apparel or Equipment Manufacturers

A memo to each staff member was sent out on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and included the annual Outside-Income Agreement form. If you have not returned the completed form, it is past due. Please keep in mind that as the year progresses, you must complete another Outside-Income form each time you anticipate receiving additional income not listed on the original form you submitted. Not receiving prior written approval puts you in violation of NCAA bylaws. This includes camps held at our university and at other institutions. If you feel that you may have inadvertently left any outside income off of the form, please complete an additional form ASAP.

## INITIAL ELIGIBILITY

Many of the incoming student-athletes have received a final certification from the NCAA initial eligibility clearinghouse. If you still have a student listed with a preliminary status and the code H01, this means that their final transcript has not been received by the clearinghouse. Some students may still have missing documents and this will also be indicated on the weekly reports that each sport receives on Mondays. If you have an incoming student-athlete listed as not registered, this must be done ASAP in order for the student to have a chance at being certified in time for the season.

## CAMP BROCHURES

Getting a head start on camp brochures for this year? Then please note that with the adoption of NCAA Proposal No. 2001-76 (as amended by 2001-76-1), effective August 1, 2003, pursuant to NCAA Bylaw 13.4.1-(c), camp brochures are no longer restricted in content or design, but are restricted to a single, two-sided sheet not to exceed 17" x 22" when opened in full. However, Proposal No. 2001-76 (as amended by 2001-76-1) did not affect the application of Bylaw 12.5.1.7 (summer camps). Pursuant to Bylaw 12.5.1.7, a currently enrolled student-athlete's name, picture and institutional affiliation may appear in institutional or privately owned summer camp brochures **only** in the camp counselor section to identify the student-athlete as a staff member. A student-athlete's name or picture may not be used in any other way to promote the camp. Therefore, while camp brochures will no longer be restricted by general content or design, the use of a student-athlete's name and picture is still restricted to the camp counselor section of an institution's brochure in order to identify the student-athlete as a staff member. You must also keep in mind that the wording must not indicate that the camp is not open to everyone (i.e. "Elite Quarterback Camp" may give the impression that the camp is only open to elite level quarterbacks).

### The University Of Cincinnati Compliance Staff

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