



# The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

July 2007

## RECRUITING DATES

### Baseball –

4/13 – 8/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

### Men's Basketball –

5/1 – 7/5/07 **Quiet Period**

**Except:** NBA Pre-draft Camp **Evaluation Period**

### Women's Basketball –

4/18 – 7/5/07 **Quiet Period**

### Football –

6/1 – 7/31/07 **Quiet Period**

### W. Lacrosse –

5/28 – 7/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

### Volleyball –

5/26 – 7/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

### All Other Sports –

5/1 – 7/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

## DRUG TESTING CONSENT FORM

Coaches, if you have any incoming athletes that will not be 18 by the time they arrive on campus, please send a list to Rebecca Hinkel ASAP so she can send the drug testing consent form to them ahead of time for their parents to sign.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Deborah Gray has been a great addition to our office and we are happy to announce that she has been hired to replace Kathy Kelley as Coordinator of Eligibility and Financial Aid!

## NLI SIGNING DATES

As you are planning for the upcoming school year, the signing dates for the 2008-09 national letter of intent signing period are as follows:

Sport	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Basketball (Early Period)	November 14, 2007	November 21, 2007
Basketball (Regular Period)	April 16, 2008	May 21, 2008
Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	December 19, 2007	January 15, 2008
Football (Regular Period)	February 6, 2008	April 1, 2008
Soccer	February 6, 2008	August 1, 2008
All Other Sports (Early Period)	November 14, 2007	November 21, 2007
All Other Sports (Regular Period)	April 9, 2008	August 1, 2008

## FINAL TRANSCRIPTS

Incoming freshmen need to send their final transcripts and test scores to the clearinghouse ASAP. The longer they wait to send them, the closer to the school year until they are evaluated. The clearinghouse processes certifications based on when they receive the information. **International students will not be issued an I-20 until they are a final qualifier.** The International Student Services Office will not issue it until the student is eligible to receive financial aid. In order to be eligible they need to be a final qualifier.

## PRECOLLEGE EXPENSES: DONATIONS TO GROUPS THAT INVOLVE OR BENEFIT PSA'S

Institutions should note that pursuant to NCAA Division I Bylaw 13.15.1, an institution or a representative of its athletics interests shall not offer, provide or arrange financial assistance, directly or indirectly, to pay (in whole or in part) the costs of a prospective student-athlete's educational or other expenses for any period prior to his or her enrollment or so the prospect can obtain a postgraduate education. This prohibition applies to all prospects, including those who have signed a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of admission or financial aid. An institution may not provide funding, directly or through paid advertisements, to benefit a high school athletics program.

It is not permissible for an institution's athletics department, in response to requests from high school (or preparatory school or two-year college) groups, to provide items (e.g., autographed balls, jerseys) to assist in raising money for its programs (athletics or other). If another department of the institution is asked to provide donations to benefit prospects, such activity is permissible only if the donations are not earmarked specifically for an athletics purpose or used only to provide benefits to prospects' athletics programs. An institution may not donate institutional memorabilia (e.g., jerseys, hats, T-shirts) to any organization for the purpose of being auctioned to raise funds to provide financial assistance to high school students to attend collegiate institutions. An institution (or an institution's coach or representative of its athletics interests) may contribute to a nonathletics organization that includes prospective student-athletes and nonprospects (e.g., YMCA, YWCA, Boys and Girls Clubs), provided the assistance is not earmarked for a particular prospective student-athlete and is offered in conjunction with the organization's regular fund-raising activities. An institution's athletics department staff member (e.g., coaching staff member) may not provide any financial contributions to a high school (or preparatory school or two-year college) athletics program through participation in a fund-raising event (e.g., paying greens fees to participate in a golf outing when any portion of the greens fees will go to benefit an athletics program). Bylaw 13.15.1 also prohibits an institution from sponsoring a table, providing memorabilia or otherwise providing

institutional support in conjunction with a banquet or other function that will directly or indirectly benefit prospective student-athletes (e.g., awards banquet conducted by a sports foundation, high school athletics banquet). Therefore, if a sports foundation provides benefits to prospects (e.g., scholarships, donations to high school athletics programs), it would not be permissible for an institution to provide memorabilia or sponsor a table at any of the foundation's functions. Any type of institutional support in conjunction with such functions would, at a minimum, indirectly benefit prospective student-athletes.

Subject to applicable recruiting calendar restrictions, athletics department staff members are not precluded from individually purchasing admission to attend events (e.g., athletics banquets or meetings, competitions) where funds from the admission fee ultimately will benefit prospects, provided the primary purpose of the event is not to raise funds for prospects. In addition, an institution's coach may participate in activities to raise funds to be donated to a foundation that will distribute the funds to high school (or preparatory school or two-year college) athletics programs, provided the request to participate in such activities is initiated by the foundation, the coach does not make actual financial contributions to the foundation, and the coach or coach's institution is not involved in selecting the educational institutions that are to receive the financial assistance.

## HOUSING

Remind your incoming freshmen and transfers that they **NEED** to complete their housing applications and pay their deposits **BEFORE** they come to campus. Housing will not let them move in this year if they have not completed their applications **AND** paid their deposit. Also, they need to complete the immunization form as part of the housing application. It asks if they have received the Meningococcal vaccine and Hepatitis B vaccine and if so, the dates they received them.

If you have any questions as to which of your students still need to complete their applications, send Rebecca Hinkel an email and she can check for you.

## CHECK-IN MEETINGS

Teams should schedule their check-in meetings for the upcoming academic year with Maggie. Please keep in mind that the check-in meeting will last approximately 1 ½ hours. All student-athletes must complete the SA statement and drug-testing consent form prior to participating in practice activities.

The NCAA membership services staff noted that in Division I fall sports other than football, it is permissible to designate a single date for issuing equipment and for taking squad pictures on the day prior to the beginning of preseason practice. The staff confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to begin providing preseason practice expenses to student-athletes on the evening prior to the designated equipment and squad picture day (i.e., lodging and an evening meal). The staff further confirmed that an institution may conduct other nonathletically related meetings (e.g., to sign compliance forms, to administer medical examinations) prior to the first permissible date of preseason practice.

## UNOFFICIAL VISITS

Just a reminder that **nothing** can be paid for during an unofficial visit, this includes mileage, validating parking, or anything else that would be a reimbursement or form of reimbursement by waiving the payment of an item.

## APR SQUAD-SIZE ADJUSTMENT ELIMINATED NEXT YEAR

Remember the squad-size adjustment for the APR will be eliminated beginning next year (i.e., with the collection of the fourth year of data), for any team with a four-year multiyear cohort of 30 or more student-athletes. As such, teams will then be subject to contemporaneous and historical penalties based on the actual NCAA Division I APR rather than their APR adjusted for squad size. All teams should have a goal of achieving an APR at or above 925 (after collection of the 2006-07 data) without relying on the squad-size adjustment to avoid contemporaneous and historical penalties.

## AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION

All PSA's who registered with the clearinghouse prior to April 7 must return to the clearinghouse Web site to finalize their answers to the amateurism questionnaire ASAP. PSA's simply need to log in with their personal identification number and check the box titled "Final Authorization" for amateurism certification. A link entitled "Prospective Student-Athletes: How to Request a Final Certification" containing helpful instructions regarding this process has been added to the Amateurism Certification Web page on [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org). From the "Academics and Athletes" tab, choose "Eligibility and Recruiting," and then select "Amateurism Certification Process." Scroll down near the bottom of the page to access the link.

## PSA'S MUST REGISTER WITH CLEARINGHOUSE BEFORE OFFICIAL VISIT/NLI IS PERMITTED

NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2006-46-A specifies that an institution may not provide an official visit or written offer of athletically related financial aid to a high school or preparatory school prospective student-athlete until he or she first registers with the clearinghouse and is placed on the institutional request list.

A prospective student-athlete will be considered to be registered with the clearinghouse if the individual has successfully submitted the clearinghouse Student Release Form electronically on the clearinghouse Web site.

Prospective student-athletes who qualify for a fee waiver may still be provided an official visit or written offer of athletically related financial aid, even if the high school official has not yet attested to the fee waiver. However, the prospect must still be registered with the clearinghouse. To qualify for a waiver of the clearinghouse fee, the prospect must already have received a fee waiver from ACT and/or SAT. If the prospective student-athlete has not been granted a fee waiver by ACT or SAT, the prospective student-athlete is not eligible for a waiver of the registration fee.

## AROUND THE COUNTRY

### **NCAA to Reconsider Text Messaging Ban-**

At the August 9 board of directors meeting the NCAA will reconsider three rules, including the one that bans coaches from text messaging recruits. The board could reaffirm the decision, reject the decision, or create new legislation. The new rule is scheduled to take effect Aug. 1. Many of the schools that appealed the original legislation said they favored some text messaging restrictions but not an outright ban. The board also will consider override requests on rules that limit roster size and financial aid available for college baseball teams and date changes for the men's and women's golf seasons.

### **South Carolina reports list of secondary NCAA violations**

The South Carolina athletic department reported eight secondary violations since January to the NCAA. The football coaches twice contacted athletes when they shouldn't have, once on a competition date for another sport and once outside of the permissible contact period. The other violations included the practice and participation of a baseball player and male track athlete when neither were enrolled full time. Two women's soccer players competed for an outside team before the end of the final exam period. The volleyball coaching staff conducted required athletically related activities the week before final exams. Also, a women's tennis player competed as part of a team in a league considered professional.

### **The University Of Cincinnati Compliance Staff**

**Maggie McKinley**

*Director of Compliance & Student Services*

**Rebecca Hinkel**

*Assistant Director of Compliance*

**Ann Orme**

*Compliance Administrative Secretary*

**Deborah Rise**

*Coordinator of Eligibility and Financial Aid*

*Maggie McKinley, Rebecca Hinkel, and Deborah Rise publish the Compliance Corner monthly. All comments, questions, or submissions should be directed to Maggie at 556-3559 or [mckinlmf@email.uc.edu](mailto:mckinlmf@email.uc.edu), Rebecca at 556-4835 or [Rebecca.hinkel@uc.edu](mailto:Rebecca.hinkel@uc.edu), or Deborah at 556-0557 or [risedb@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:risedb@ucmail.uc.edu)*

### **Cheyney University of Pennsylvania Reports Major Violations**

The violations include ineligible participation by football student-athletes, unethical conduct by the former head football coach, as well as a failure to monitor and lack of institutional control. Penalties for the violations include placing the university on three years of probation and a one-year show-cause penalty for the former football coach, among other sanctions. During the 2004 football season, six ineligible student-athletes, five of whom were partial qualifiers, received extra benefits in the form of travel expenses while traveling to away games. The committee also found the university failed to withhold two student-athletes from competition during the 2005 football season even though it had acknowledged they had previously competed in away games while ineligible. Among the numerous penalties is probation for the entire athletic department for three years, with the possibility of being extended.

### **University of Colorado, Boulder on probation for meals violations**

The NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions has penalized the University of Colorado, Boulder, for major violations in its athletics program. These violations involve 133 non-scholarship student-athletes in six sports being undercharged for training table meals. The impermissible benefits totaled \$61,700 over the course of six academic years and led to the committee finding that the institution failed to monitor its training table program. Penalties for the violations include placing the university on two years of probation; a fine of \$100,000 to be paid to a charitable cause involved in efforts to alleviate hunger and/or homelessness; and a reduction of one football scholarship for the next three seasons.



# July

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> MBB, WBB- Quiet Period Ends	<b>6</b> MBB, WBB- Evaluation Period Begins through 7/15	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> MBB, WBB- Evaluation Period Ends	<b>16</b> MBB, WBB-Dead Period Begins through 7/21	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> MBB, WBB-Dead Period Ends
<b>22</b> MBB, WBB- Evaluation Period Begins through 7/31	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> MBB, WBB- Evaluation Period Ends FB- Quiet Period Ends	FB – Quiet Period all month  BASE, VB, LAX, All other sports – Contact/Evaluation Period all month	Turn in phone logs.  Make sure check in meeting is scheduled with compliance.	<b>2007</b>	