



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

April 2007

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball –

4/1 – 4/8/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**
4/9 – 4/12/07 **Dead Period**
4/13 – 8/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

Men's Basketball –

4/1 – 4/5/07 **Dead Period**
4/6 – 4/8/07 **Contact Period**
4/9 – 4/12/07 **Dead Period**
4/13 – 4/30/07 **Contact Period**

*One men's basketball event certified by the NCAA, held in conjunction with, and conducted in the host city of the NCAA DI Men's Basketball Championship is considered an **evaluation period!**

***April Events must be approved, sanctioned, sponsored, or conducted by the appropriate groups.**

Women's Basketball –

3/30 – 4/5/07 **Dead Period**
4/6 – 4/8/07 **Quiet Period**
4/9 – 4/12/07 **Dead Period**
4/13/07 **Evaluation Period**
4/14 – 4/15/07 – **Evaluation permitted at nonscholastic women's basketball events**
4/16 – 4/17/07 **Evaluation Period**
4/18 – 7/5/07 **Quiet Period**

*One men's basketball event certified by the NCAA, held in conjunction with, and conducted in the host city of the NCAA DI Women's Basketball Championship is considered an **evaluation period!**

Football –

2/9 – 4/14/07 **Quiet Period**
4/15 – 5/31/07 **Evaluation Period**

Exception *Four weeks (excluding Memorial Day and Sundays) selected at the discretion of the member institution and designed in writing in the compliance office. **All other days are considered a Quiet Period.**

W. Lacrosse –

4/1 – 4/8/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**
4/9 – 4/12/07 **Dead Period**
4/13 – 5/24/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

Volleyball –

4/1 – 4/8/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**
4/9 – 4/12/07 **Dead Period**
4/13 – 7/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

All Other Sports –

4/1 – 4/8/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**
4/9 – 4/12/07 **Dead Period**
4/13 – 7/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

NLI SUBMITTALS

The late signing period for basketball and all other sports is April 11. Please have all NLI's to Rebecca Hinkel by April 6 so all the necessary signatures can be obtained to send the NLI's in time.

TRAVEL ROSTERS PROCEDURE UPDATE

Coaches, from now on you need to submit your travel roster for all competitions to the compliance office at least two days prior to your departure. The travel roster will be checked to make sure that all student-athletes are eligible. It will be signed and given back to you. You should not leave for your competition until you receive the form back from the compliance office.



EXTRA BENEFITS

Here are a few reminders about extra benefits. An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a representative of the institution's athletics interests to provide a SA or the SA's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation.

- Occasional meals to a SA or entire team, in the locale of the institution, are permissible as long as the meals occur on an infrequent basis only. The SA may also receive home meals, from an institutional staff member, on infrequent occasions, provided that the meal occurs in the staff member's home, not at a restaurant. It is permissible to provide occasional transportation to a SA for an occasional meal only if it takes place in the home of a staff member. When an occasional meal is provided, a form must be completed and submitted to the compliance office prior to the meal.
- Any SA or SA's family member who receives a discount at a restaurant and the discount is not offered to the general public will be ineligible for competition until the value of the discount is repaid, they are withheld from a percentage of their games, and are reinstated by the NCAA. This also applies if a patron of the restaurant "picks up the tab" for a SA solely on the basis that the customer is a SA. Please remind your athletes of these rules.
- Athletic department staff members may not transport a SA to a job interview or to or from the SA's work place.
- It is not permissible to offer employment opportunities to PSA's or their relatives and friends. Be careful what you say to people associated with PSA's because it might be construed as an offer or inducement.

Under NCAA rules, if a SA receives an impermissible extra benefit valued over \$100, he or she becomes immediately ineligible for intercollegiate competition. The SA must then apply for reinstatement before he or she may compete again. If the value of the benefit is under \$100, the SA is ineligible until the value of the benefit is repaid.

CLEARINGHOUSE

Please encourage all NLI signees and known walk-ons to register for the NCAA Clearinghouse if they have not done so already. Your sport academic advisor is able to give you a list of who has registered. Remember, we will not allow student-athletes to report and/or receive athletic aid until we have received the official certified eligibility status from the NCAA Clearinghouse. Also, new this year on the clearinghouse is the **amateurism certification** process. Please make sure your signees have updated all of their information on the website.

OFFICIAL VISIT RULES

Coaches, be sure that you are sending a copy of the official visit rules to your PSA's before they come on their visit. There are copies by our mailboxes on the 8th floor or contact Deborah Rise to get an electronic copy.

OFFICIAL VISIT MEALS

Remember, on official visits you can only provide meals to the parents, legal guardians, spouse and children of the PSA. No other family members or friends are permitted to be provided meals, even if they are the only people accompanying the PSA on the visit.

OFFICIAL VISIT CANCELLATION

Coaches, if you have to cancel an official visit due to circumstances we can control (i.e., no scholarships left) you must email the PSA that was to come on the official visit. Do **NOT** call the PSA if you have already called them that week because it will count as an additional phone call for that week and will result in a violation of the one phone call per week rule. If you are canceling the visit due to circumstances outside our control (i.e., weather) then you are able to call the PSA to cancel but then you need to fill out a phone call exception form if you called more than once that week.

Also, **if an official visit is cancelled for any reason, please inform the compliance office as soon as possible.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY STATUS

Important information regarding prospective student-athletes' initial-eligibility status (amateurism and academic)

Issue: **Official Test Scores**

Background: Prospective student-athletes (PSAs) who first enter a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2007, must present an official test score to the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. The clearinghouse will NOT accept test scores from a PSA's high school transcript. All ACT and/or SAT scores must be sent directly to the clearinghouse from the testing agencies. This change is a result of NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2006-12.

Issue: Your PSAs may not be aware of this change and, therefore, their eligibility status may be impacted due to the lack of an official test score.

What You Can Do:

- Make sure your PSAs are on your Institutional Request List (IRL) with the clearinghouse. The clearinghouse prioritizes PSAs based on their IRL status. If your recruits are not on your IRL, they may not be processed.
- Remind your PSAs that they must have their ACT/SAT scores sent directly to the clearinghouse. They can do this when they register, by putting in code 9999 (the clearinghouse) as one of the recipients of their test scores. If they have not done so, they may request the scores be sent to the clearinghouse through the testing agencies. The following Web sites may be helpful for PSAs who would like information about this process:

For SAT:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/scores/sending.html>

For ACT:

<http://www.actstudent.org/scores/send/index.html>

Issue: **Amateurism Certification Background:**

All prospective student-athletes (PSAs), including junior-college transfers, entering an NCAA Division I institution for the first time on or after August 1, 2007, must register with the Initial-Eligibility Status NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse and have their academic and amateur status certified in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

Issue: To be certified, a PSA must fill out the amateurism questionnaire in its entirety. There are a number of PSAs who are beginning the process of

answering the amateurism questions but are not completing them. These PSAs are in danger of delaying their certification status by not completing the amateurism information.

What You Can Do:

- Make sure your PSAs are completing all parts of the clearinghouse registration, including the amateurism certification process.
- Remind your PSAs that this is a vital part of their overall certification, and to delay the process of completing the form is to delay their participation.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Please notify your student-athletes that registration for summer school begins April 9 and the application form must be submitted to the head coach by April 13.

Student-athletes may pick up an application in the Academic Services office from their academic advisor. Please recommend that student-athletes see their college advisor to get recommendations on what classes to take in the summer before seeing their athletic advisor. CAT students are required to see their advisor to have their block lifted. To be eligible for summer school, student-athletes must have earned at least 36 quarter hours (UC guidelines) that count toward satisfactory progress requirements during the academic year. Those earning 27 hours (minimum NCAA standard to attend summer school) but less than 36 hours will be required to meet with sport oversight/Senior Associate Athletic Director for approval.

Summer school aid cannot exceed the proportional amount of aid that the student-athlete received during the academic year.

MULTI-SPORT ATHLETES

Multi-sport student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities is limited to a maximum of four hours per day and a total of 20 hours per week total. As a coach of a multi-sport SA, make sure you are communicating with the individual's other coach to assure he/she does not exceed the time limitations.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

University of Southern Maine cited in infractions case- The NCAA Division III Committee on Infractions has cited the University of Southern Maine for lack of institutional control. It also made unethical conduct findings against two athletics staff members. The case involved 37 student athletes in 15 sports. The student athletes were paid for work they did not perform. The assistant coordinator of the work study program offered double time payments as an incentive to work athletic events. Another administrative assistant allowed a student athlete to obtain work study funding under another student's name. The university's penalties include: two years probation, restitution payments for all fraudulent work, reprimands of those athletic department staff members involved, and one week suspension for the two workers with unethical findings.

NCAA No Longer Accepts Academic Credentials

The NCAA has decided to no longer accept the core courses, grades and proof of graduation from four high schools. The schools in question are: Lutheran Christian Academy (Philadelphia, PA), Prince Avenue Preparatory Academy (Pickens, SC), American Academy High School (Miami, FL) and Florida Preparatory Academy (Port Charlotte, FL). The NCAA sees these as nontraditional high schools. In an effort to better ensure the integrity of all academic credentials, the NCAA will review all nontraditional schools. Any student currently enrolled in any of these schools must have their academic record reviewed.

Ball State's Men's Basketball Team Faces NCAA Sanctions

Ball State University has self reported its men's basketball program for rules violations committed last summer by Coach Ronny Thompson. During the summer members of the coaching staff would frequently visit the weight room and basketball court to watch workouts by players of the program. The players were asked to participate in involuntary countable athletic related activities during the summer. The school is proposing penalties of a letter of reprimand to each coach involved and a reduction in practice time for the past season. The Mid American Conference has already accepted these penalties. The NCAA is now investigating to see if any more violations occurred, and what the proper sanctions should be for these violations.

OCCASIONAL MEALS

Please remember that bylaw 16.11.1.5 only allows for an occasional meal within the locale of the institution. "Locale" means within 30 miles of the institution. Therefore, if you are providing an occasional meal to your athletes, make sure the restaurant is within 30 miles of campus.

BEARCAT SPIRIT

4/2-3	MGO	UC/UD Spring Invit. (Hueston Woods, Oxford)	All Day
4/2-3	WGO	UC/UD Spring Invit. (Hamilton, Ohio)	All Day
4/5-7	BASE	Notre Dame	6:30, 6:30, 1:00
4/7	TR	Oliver Nikoloff Invit.	All Day
4/11	BASE	Xavier	6:30pm
4/11	TN	Kentucky (Lexington, KY)	6pm
4/17	BASE	Ohio	6:30pm
4/20-21	TR	All-Ohio Championships	All Day
4/20-22	BASE	Connecticut	6:30, 3:00, 1:00
4/25	BASE	Butler	6:30pm
4/27-29	BASE	Villanova	6:30, 4:00, 1:00

Go BEARCATS!!

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