



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

November 2007

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball – 9/15 – 11/11 Contact/Evaluation Period

***EXCEPT 11/12-11/15 Dead Period**

11/16 – 2/29 **Quiet Period**

Men's Basketball –

10/6 – 3/31 **Evaluation Period** (Limited to regularly scheduled high school, prep school & two-year college contests & practices involving SA's enrolled only at that institution)

***EXCEPT 11/12-11/15 and 12/24-12/26 Dead Period**

Women's Basketball – 9/16 - 4/22 Evaluation Period

(shall not exceed 100 recruiting-person days, rest is **Quiet Period**)

***EXCEPT 11/12-11/15 and 12/24-12/26 Dead Period**

Football – 8/1 – 11/24/07 Quiet Period

***EXCEPT -** In bowl subdivision football, six days during the months of September, October and through the last Saturday in November selected at the discretion of the institution (an authorized off-campus recruiter may visit a particular educational institution only once during this evaluation period).

11/25 – 2/2 **Contact Period** (with exceptions in Dec.)

W. Lacrosse – 9/1 – 11/20 Contact Period

***EXCEPT 11/12-11/15 Dead Period**

11/21 – 1/1 **Quiet Period**

Track and Field/Cross Country –

8/12 – 12/9/07 **Contact Period**

Volleyball –

8/1 – 12/2/07 **Contact Period**

*Each institution is limited to 80 evaluation days (August 1 through July 31, which does not include employment of coaches in instructional camps/clinics but do include involvement outside the contact/evaluation period with a local sports club.

***EXCEPT – 11/12 – 11/15 Dead Period**

Soccer – 11/1-11/30 Contact/Evaluation Period

All Other Sports -11/1 – 11/30 Contact/Evaluation Period

***EXCEPT – 11/12 – 11/15 Dead Period**

OCCASIONAL MEALS

Any time an occasional meal is provided to your team, be sure to turn in the occasional meal form **PRIOR** to the meal. This needs to be done to make sure that the person providing the meal and the location is permissible. Occasional meals may only average once per month.

16.11.1.5 Occasional Meals -- A student-athlete or the entire team in a sport may receive an occasional meal in the locale of the institution on infrequent and special occasions from an institutional staff member. An institutional staff member may provide reasonable local transportation to SA's to attend such meals. A SA may receive an occasional family home meal from a representative of athletics interests on infrequent and special occasions under the following conditions: (a) The meal must be provided in an individual's home (as opposed to a restaurant) and may be catered; and (b) A representative of the institution's athletics interest may provide reasonable local transportation to SA's to attend the meal function only if the meal function is at the home of that representative.

DORMS OVER BREAK

Coaches, if your students are required to stay here over winter break for competition, please submit a list to Rebecca Hinkel by **November 30** of anyone that is in the dorm and the dates they will need access. She needs to give this to housing so their cards will still work to enter the dorm.

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, Track and Field/Cross Country	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

For the early signing period, please have all NLI Submittal forms to Rebecca by November 5 to ensure delivery to PSA by November 14. Remember all PSA's must be registered with the Eligibility Center before we can issue them a NLI.

MISSED MEALS

Due to the extensive hours of the dining hall and Stadium View Café, there is no longer such a thing as a "missed meal." Students are able to use their meal plan at Stadium View Café.

Center Court

Monday - Friday

Breakfast 7am-11am

Lunch 11am - 4:30pm

Dinner 4:30pm-8pm

Fri Dinner 4:30pm-7pm

Saturday - Sunday

Brunch 10:30am-1:30pm

Dinner 4:30pm-7pm

Stadium View Café

Mon – Thurs 8:00pm – Midnight

Fri- Sun 7:00pm – Midnight

NLI REMINDERS

NLI Provision 13 explains the 14-day signing window for the NLI, but the early signing period is only seven days long. All NLIs must be signed [by prospect AND parent/legal guardian] within those seven days to be valid. **If the NLI is not signed within that week, it is not possible to re-issue the NLI.** Similarly, **Provision 14 explains the 21-day filing deadline.** If the document is not filed with the conference office within 21 days of signing, the early signing period has ended, and therefore it is not possible to issue a second National Letter of Intent.

NLI Provision 2: Financial Aid Requirement

This NLI must be accompanied by one full academic year's worth of athletic financial aid (three quarters). Furthermore, the financial aid agreement offered at the time of signing must be valid in order for the National Letter of Intent to be valid. It is not appropriate for institutions to issue National Letters of Intent to prospects who will not receive an offer of athletics aid, even when a ceremonial signing is the motive. Institutions which engage in this practice will be considered in violation of the expectations of the NLI program and may be subject to sanctions from the NLI Steering Committee.

NLI Provision 8: Only One Valid NLI Permitted

Prospect may only sign one valid NLI in a given academic year. This is true even if an NLI becomes null and void based on any section of Provision 7.

NLI Provision 14: Institutional Filing Deadline

This NLI must be filed with the Big East by UC within 21 days after the date of final signature or it will be invalid. The NLI program does permit conference administrators to accept faxed or e-mailed documents to meet this deadline. In accordance with the NLI Administrative Guidelines and Interpretations, it is the responsibility of UC to notify a prospect when his/her National Letter of Intent is not valid. This notification, which must be copied to the conference office and in writing, should be made not more than 5 business days from when the decision is made regarding the status of the NLI.

Faxing NLIs to the conference office should only occur in an emergency situation in conjunction with the 21-day filing deadline.

*NLIs may NOT be hand delivered to a PSA off-campus

*Institutions may not announce a prospect's signing until they have received a valid copy of the NLI **AND** financial aid agreement. Be sure the PSA is returning the NLI **AND** financial aid agreement, as it is NOT valid until we have both of these back.

PARKING VALIDATION

Coaches, any parking validations that you need done for official visits, need to come to Rebecca Hinkel. Do not go to Beth Hussey or any other office. This policy was put in place last year after there was a violation due to a parking validation for an unofficial visit. The compliance office can make sure the visit is approved and not have a violation.

PAPERWORK

Coaches, be sure you are turning in your weekly and monthly paperwork. This includes phone logs, participation rosters, travel rosters, and countable athletically related activity logs. We need your CARA logs throughout the entire school year. If you do not have any activities, please mark "None" at the top of the sheet for that week and turn it in to Mya. **Travel rosters** need to be turned into Deborah before each contest. She will approve them to make sure everyone is eligible to participate and then give you a copy back. This copy should be back to you before you leave. **All of this paperwork is necessary to be in compliance and we need to receive it in a timely manner.**

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Indiana basketball coach punished for improper calls

Head Coach Kelvin Sampson will not receive his \$500,000 raise and his team will lose one scholarship next season for his violations of NCAA imposed phone call sanctions that were imposed in May 2006. The May 2006 sanctions stemmed from Sampson making 577 impermissible calls from 2000 to 2004 while at Oklahoma; the NCAA banned Sampson from off-campus recruiting, including a ban on three-way calls. An internal investigation at Indiana found that Sampson had participated in 10 three-way calls during the year he had been sanctioned by the NCAA. Assistant coach Rob Senderoff was responsible for patching through and making the majority of the impermissible calls. He will not receive a salary bonus or raise and cannot recruit off-campus or make recruiting calls through next July, but his job does not seem to be in jeopardy-he is still coaching at practices and performing administrative duties. Sampson has said that he made mistakes at Oklahoma, and that he never purposefully tried to circumvent the rules

imposed by the NCAA. Athletic Director Rick Greenspan has turned over the investigation to the NCAA infractions committee, who will review it to determine if further action is needed.

Texas A&M's secret newsletter violates NCAA and Big 12 Rules

An internal investigation at Texas A&M led to the discovery of a 'secret newsletter' sent out by the football coach, Dennis Franchione, that gave VIPs insider information about the program for a \$1,200 subscription. Former athletic department assistant Mike McKenzie wrote the newsletters, which described team injuries and other tidbits of A&M football knowledge. Subscribers were required to sign confidentiality agreements, and many headlines of the newsletter are accompanied with warnings that the information contained is privileged. Specifically, some newsletter entries discussed prospective student athletes, which convinced athletic director Bill Byrne that the entries violated NCAA rules prohibiting public comments about recruits. Byrne also found a possible Big 12 code of good sportsmanship violation, stemming from the newsletter's criticism of certain officials; the code prohibits criticism of football referees. Additionally, Franchione is required by the NCAA to report outside income, which he failed to do. Franchione says that the income from the newsletter was used to fund his personal website, which received \$80,000 in income from June 2005 to July 2007. Franchione has discontinued the newsletters and has been asked by the athletic department to also take down his website. Additionally, the athletic department's actions include a letter of admonishment to Franchione, directing Franchione and any company under his control to no longer employ anyone who could be construed as representing Texas A&M, and reducing the number of off-campus contacts allowed by one for each impermissible reference to the prospective student-athlete.

Millersville University cancels lacrosse season

Millersville University in Millersville, Pennsylvania has canceled the fall schedule of its women's lacrosse team and suspended three students for two weeks following a hazing probe. The entire team must perform community service. They will be allowed to play in the spring. The investigation began after photos were posted on the Internet in August of lacrosse players drinking.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Ball State punished for 2005 Textbook Scandal

The NCAA placed the Ball State athletic department on two years probation for multiple teams' rules violations. The football program lost three scholarships and the men's tennis team lost \$400 of a scholarship for their roles in a textbook scandal in which student-athletes used scholarship money to buy textbooks not needed for their classes. The books were returned or paid for once the university found out about the violations. Student athletes from half of the athletic teams were involved, but only the football and men's tennis student athletes violated scholarship limitations. The NCAA also sanctioned the softball team, decreasing their practice time by 2 hours per week for exceeding practice hours and not counting events as mandatory athletic-related activities from 1999 to 2006. Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Tom Collins says that he is not surprised by the sanctions on the teams, and wants to move forward with more diligence and oversight. He also said that the NCAA will require the department to meet specific goals including filing a report on the book distribution program. Along with the recent NCAA decision, the university is investigating possible violations involving the men's basketball team. That investigation is ongoing and has not been officially handed over to the NCAA. The NCAA also found that from 1999 through 2006 the softball program failed to count athletes' work at camps, clinics and program fundraising events as athletically related activities. The program therefore exceeded daily and weekly practice hour limitations, failed to give athletes a required day off each week from athletically related activities, and conducted individual skill instruction sessions in violation of NCAA rules.

Twenty-three Florida State athletes accused of cheating on internet exams-

Two athletic department academic assistance employees have resigned and 23 Florida State University athletes were implicated in cheating on tests given over the Internet. The athletes represent nine sports and 17 of the students are or have been on scholarship. The school said inquiries are continuing, although an internal investigation failed to find conclusive evidence of a more widespread

pattern of cheating. The students could face punishment from the university and NCAA including loss of eligibility. The school started the investigation after receiving information that an athletics department learning specialist had directed one athlete to take an online quiz for another and then provided the answers. The investigation then found the learning specialist also typed papers for five students who apparently didn't qualify for that service and a tutor provided answers or other unethical assistance to 23 students for online tests. The NCAA is still awaiting more details before deciding a sanction.



BEARCAT SPIRIT!

Nov. 3	VB	Pittsburgh	2:00
Nov. 4	VB	West Virginia	2:00
Nov. 9	MBB	Belmont	8:00
Nov. 10	FB	U.Conn	3:30
Nov. 10	Swim	Washington	10:00
Nov. 13	WBB	Michigan	7:00
Nov. 16	MBB	Coastal Carolina	7:00
Nov. 17	FB	West Virginia	
Nov. 19	WBB	Duquesne	7:00

The University Of Cincinnati Compliance Staff

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The Compliance Staff publishes the Compliance Corner monthly. All comments or questions should be directed to Maggie at 556-3559 or mckinlmf@email.uc.edu or Rebecca at 556-4835

Walking a wall in compliance

By Eric Toliver

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Associate Director of Athletics for
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I think back to my first month on the job in 1998 and receiving a NCAA "letter of inquiry," and not really knowing what it meant. One year later, I was sitting before the Committee on Infractions, thinking to myself, "If every coach in America could go through this, they'd never break a rule again...this job would be cake."

Today, halfway through my 16th year at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas — and 10th year in compliance — I have been fortunate enough to not sit in front of the COI since then. I ask myself if that inauguration by fire several years ago made compliance life easier for "the compliance guy" here at UNLV. I wondered how my counterparts fared on their campuses; after calling my colleagues around the country, I was reassured that I am not alone.

Many compliance staffs can be seen by coaches and support staff as the greatest and worst — all within a 24-hour day. We are, as one coach put it, "a necessary evil."

Having been called many things by coaches, parents and prospects, it is the compliance staffs that pore through thousands of recruiting calls, correspondence and travel documents. It is we compliance staffs who require staff and students to attend numerous programming and rules-education sessions. We inundate them with

hundreds of e-mails throughout the year titled "reminders," "tips of the week" and "updates." We say, "Let me look into that for you," and eventually say "no" and "sorry, you can't do that." We say: "Please put it in writing." "Use the correct form, please." "Please follow procedures." We use words and phrases like "prior and subsequent to," "pursuant to" and "in accordance with."

We're never known for the 99 correct interpretations, but for the one time a "gray area" was misdiagnosed.

Yes, it is the life we compliance folks have chosen — and truth be told, it's a very rewarding life.

There are many 16-hour days and seven-day weeks, but when it is all said and done, not one compliance staff in America will say its work is boring, dull or mundane.

From my perspective, compliance jobs compare to no other position in athletics. Call me a nerd, but we get to learn hundreds of new rules every year, while we try to forget the deleted ones. We get to detect, facilitate, regulate, investigate and implement. We speak with attorneys, professional sport organizations, and law enforcement and state officials. We get to look at contracts and do background checks on agents and runners. We know how to inspect vehicle purchases and apartment and home leases. Sometimes we even get to look at surveillance tape, or try and decode and trace anonymous telephones calls or letters.

We can observe any team practice or contest whenever we want. We can turn a room that is bustling with noise and conversation into instant silence by merely walking through the door. We

get to know every student-athlete, every coach and every support staff — and can ask just about anything job-related and expect to get the truth. The university president knows our names, as do the boosters, local media and news writers. We can even make decisions and issue directives that ultimately can put our institution on the map. We are sometimes the most popular and most needed staff on campus.

But many times, we are not known for the hundreds of accurate interpretations we issue. We are not known for processing 75-page self-reports or writing 50-page waivers to get the next “greatest-athlete” eligible. We are never credited for wins, but sometimes for losses — for that one athlete who didn’t get reinstated or that one who didn’t get through the Clearinghouse. Somehow — and mistakenly — it becomes the compliance office’s fault.

And yes, we can implement and facilitate hundreds of programming and rules-education sessions, but we all know that education does not always lead to behavior modification. We can even be on the senior administrative staff, making weekly rounds to give coaches and staff face time. We can serve as a sport administrator and even as the SWA; or we can make presentations to booster groups, local club teams, parents and recruits — and yet still be considered “on the outside.”

Sure, you will have those few and great coaches or staff members who will appreciate the compliance staff’s efforts and challenges. They may even take you to lunch once in a while, but many of us still must expect some isolation and misdirected malice that will come from coaches or staff who neither realize nor

comprehend that we are there for them and their programs — that we work for them and with them. Ultimately, we are all in this thing together. It is the way it has always been.

I read a quote the other day from Colin Powell, who said, “Procrastinating on the difficult choices by trying not to get anyone mad and by treating everyone equally ‘nicely’ regardless of their contributions simply ensures that the only people you’ll wind up angering are the most creative and productive people in the organization.”

And I thought to myself how that quote hit it on the head for us compliance folks around the country.

And then I watched that movie called “A Few Good Men,” and there was the frightening antagonist barking, “Deep down in places you don’t talk about at parties, you want me on that wall, you need me on that wall.... I have neither the time nor the inclination to explain myself to a man who rises and sleeps under the blanket of the very freedom that I provide, and then questions the manner in which I provide it. I would rather you just said thank you and went on your way.”

I wondered if he had ever been a compliance guy.

Then, I thought back to my first year as the compliance guy and I concluded: The experience has well been worth it.

So, for all you compliance guys and gals: Keep up the good fight. Your value and worth to your institution may go unseen and unappreciated — but you are making a difference. They need you on that wall, even if some never say it. It is the way it has always been.

November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Coaches, turn in participation rosters after each meet and practice logs each week!	Coaches, turn in travel rosters PRIOR to your trip.			1 BASE, LAX, WTR, MTR, VB – Contact Period MBB, WBB- Evaluation Period All Others- C/E Period	2 FB- Quiet Period through Nov. 24, except six selected Evaluation Days	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 MBB, WBB, BASE, VB, LAX, All Others- Dead Period begins MSO, WSO- C/E Period	13	14	15 MBB, WBB, BASE, VB, LAX, All Other- Dead Period ends	16 MBB, WBB- Evaluation Period begins BASE- Quiet Period begins VB. LAX- Contact Period begins All Others- C/E Period	17
18	19 MTR, WTR- Dead Period begins at 12:01 am	20 MTR, WTR- Contact Period begins at 12:01 am LAX- Contact Period ends	21 LAX- Quiet Period begins	22 Happy Thanksgiving!	23	24
25 FB- Contact Period	26	27	28	29	30	<div>2007</div>