



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

March 2006

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball –

3/1 – 7/31 **Contact/Evaluation Period except:**
4/10 – 4/13 **Dead Period**

Men's Basketball –

10/6 – 3/29 **Evaluation Period**
3/30 – 4/4 (noon) **Dead Period**

Women's Basketball –

9/16 – 4/18/06 **Evaluation Period except:**
Women's basketball staff members shall not exceed
85 recruiting-person days. Days not designated
for Evaluation Period: **Quiet Period**
3/1 – 3/30 **Contact Period**
3/31 – 4/13 **Dead Period** (with exceptions)

Football –

2/3 – 4/14 **Quiet Period**

Volleyball –

1/1 – 7/31 **Contact & Evaluation Period except:**
4/10 – 4/13 **Dead Period**

All Other Sports –

Contact & Evaluation Period

INTERPRETATION

Employment of Prospects who are Children of Staff Members: An institution's athletics department may employ a PSA who is the child of an institutional staff member prior to the completion of the PSA's senior year, regardless

of whether the PSA is an athletics award winner or is being recruited. Any compensation received by the prospect must be for work actually performed and commensurate with the going rate for such services in that locale.

EMPLOYMENT

If you have assisted in arranging employment for any student-athlete, including current non-qualifiers, you must report that arrangement to the compliance department in writing immediately. We must send the employers paperwork so that we can properly monitor the employment. If you know of a staff member that has arranged employment for a student-athlete, please report that to our office also.

This is very important in compliance with NCAA regulations concerning student-athlete employment and extra benefits legislation.

"SENIOR DAY" AWARDS

Coaches, remember that any gifts (pictures, flowers, etc.) that you give to your seniors on "Senior Day" celebrations must be included in the permitted annual awards amount of \$325 for seniors.

ORAL SCOUTING REPORTS

Pursuant Bylaw 13.14.3.1, an institution may subscribe to a regularly published scouting service involving prospects, provided the service is made available to all institutions desiring to subscribe and at the same fee rate for all

subscribers. Institutions should note that during its December 16, 1987, teleconference, the former Interpretations Committee confirmed that it is not permissible for member institutions to subscribe to a scouting service that provides oral reports (e.g., in-person communications, via telephone) because the material that is to be provided to each member institution is not standardized in a manner that ensures consistent distribution of information regarding each

TRYOUT EXCEPTIONS – OPEN EVENTS

Bylaw 13.11.3.1 specifies that an institution, on its campus or elsewhere, shall not conduct (or have conducted on its behalf) any physical activity (e.g., practice sessions or test/tryout) at which one or more prospects reveal, demonstrate or display his or her athletics ability, unless the activity meets a specified exception.

There are several exceptions to the tryout prohibition, one of which applies to "open" events conducted on an institution's campus. In order to meet the "open" event exception, Bylaw 13.11.3.2 specifies that an event must not be classified by age group, or level of educational institution represented (e.g., high school or eighth grade). In addition, standards for selecting participants may only be limited by number, geographical area or on the basis of some objective standard of performance.

For example, an event would be classified as "open" if it were open to the first 100 persons to register who had previously run the 100-meter dash within 12 seconds or less. In this example, the participants are only limited by number and the objective standard of achieving a qualifying time of "12 seconds or less."

Conversely, an event would not be considered "open" if it were only open to high school seniors who had previously run the 100-meter dash within 11 seconds because it has an impermissible classification based on level of education, even though there is a permissible objective standard involved. Furthermore, it is

not permissible for participants to be selected based on a subjective or arbitrary standard. During its April 14, 2004, teleconference, the former NCAA Division I Academics/Eligibility/ Compliance Cabinet Subcommittee on Legislative Review/Interpretations confirmed that the standard of selecting participants on the basis of an objective standard of performance is applicable to all participants (i.e., PSA's and non-PSA's alike). Thus, if non-PSA's are selected for an event based on a subjective standard (e.g., wildcard), it is not permissible for such an event to be held on an institution's campus pursuant to the "open" event exception to the tryout rule, even if the prospective student-athletes involved in the event are selected on the basis of an objective standard.

POST NLI REMINDERS

Here is a review of the permissible activities that a signed prospect may or may not participate in while on campus during the summer prior to initial fulltime enrollment.

Signed prospects who are enrolled or receiving athletics aid during the summer prior to their freshman year may receive, have access to, or be allowed to purchase the following benefits:

- Use of weight room/voluntary conditioning activities
- Use of training room
- Medical expenses
- Use of academic services
- Issue apparel
- Assistance in employment
- Housing
- Dining
- Playbook/Game film
- Strength and Conditioning information

PSA's who have signed a NLI but are not enrolled or receiving aid during the summer may have limited access depending on their sport.

Therefore, verify with the compliance office the status of each prospect prior to paying any expenses for that prospect.

PER DIEM AND MEALS

Remember, if you give your team per diem, you are not permitted to also buy them food for that same meal. Also, if you give per diem, every SA must receive an equal amount of per diem.

OFFICIAL VISIT PROCESS

All official visit requests for Olympic Sports must go through Ann Orme before approval by anyone else. Upon receipt, she will log the visit and direct it to the appropriate academic advisor for evaluation. The advisor, compliance, and the sport oversight will approve it. This is very important because a travel authorization **MUST** be generated for insurance purposes prior to the

OCCASIONAL LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Occasional local transportation does not permit a coach or other staff member to provide transportation to on-campus practice sites for student-athletes traveling to and from their on- or off-campus residences, except in unusual situations involving danger, inclement weather, or other similar extenuating circumstances. Therefore, on your way to work, you are not able to pick up a SA at his/her apartment for practice. There are rare circumstances after practice that may warrant you giving the SA a ride home, such as a tornado warning, thunderstorm, etc. If you do provide a SA a ride home, you need to inform the compliance office afterward so we can document it. It is permissible to provide occasional transportation to a SA for an occasional meal at a staff member's home and for community service activities. If you have any questions about when you can provide local transportation, please ask the compliance office.

STAFF MEMBER INTERVIEWS

Bearcat Compliance Corner Vol.7 No.8

It is permissible for an athletics staff member to provide an interview for a noninstitutional publication or other media outlet that is owned by an entity that also involves a recruiting service or publication, provided the division of the entity associated with the administration of the recruiting service or publication is not involved in any way with the noninstitutional publication or other media outlet. For example, Web sites with material related to a recruiting service or publication must be separate from Web sites related to the media outlet and the sale and/or subscriptions to the noninstitutional publication must be separate from the recruiting service or publication (e.g., subscription to the noninstitutional publication cannot also give access to the recruiting service or publication).



ALUMNI PRACTICING

If you have alumni that occasionally practice with your team, you must add their names on to your practice roster and indicate what day(s) they were at practice. Since alumni can only practice occasionally (an average of not more than two times per month, with some exceptions) we need to keep track of how often they are actually attending practice activities. Including them on the practice logs will help us to monitor this. Please indicate next to their names that they are alumni. Let us know if you have any questions.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

St. John's imposes self-penalties for extra benefits
St. John's imposed a postseason ban for 2004-05 and the loss of a scholarship last year and this year. It was found that a former member of the basketball staff provided \$300 a month to a former player. It only involved one player and

most likely was done with a “humanitarian” intent, but the payments are still prohibited. The NCAA infractions committee is reviewing the case.

FAMU on 4 years probation

Florida A&M reported more than 200 violations in 15 sports due to the academic certification of athletes who should not have been certified.

The violations included student-athletes competing without meeting the progress-toward-degree requirements, without completing the required NCAA paperwork, not completing enough hours in the school year, not choosing a major by the third year, and not having the minimum GPA requirement.

Originally, the school self-imposed sanctions of a post-season ban in basketball and a reduction of 28 football scholarships. The school also made changes to its compliance and educational programs, after acknowledging the compliance department was understaffed and inadequately funded which led to a lack of institutional control. The school repaid \$175,000 in revenue sharing, vacated contests and conference championships in which the ineligible students participated, was placed on four years probation, has a reduction in grants-in-aid in all 15 sports, and football practice time was reduced by 20 hours for the year. However, they are permitted

CAMP BROCHURES

Camp Brochures Camp brochures – Camp brochures may be provided to a prospect prior to September 1 at the beginning of the prospect’s junior year in high school. (Bylaw 13.4.1 (c))

1. They are not restricted by content or design.
2. They are restricted in size. They may only be a single two-sided sheet, not to exceed 17”x 22” when opened in full.
3. The use of a current student-athlete’s name, picture and institutional affiliation is restricted to the camp counselor section of an institution’s brochure in order to identify the student-athlete as a staff member. A current student-athlete’s name or picture may not be used in any other

way to advertise or promote the camp. (Bylaw 12.5.1.7)

Camp brochure containing pictures of student-athletes: A student-athlete with eligibility remaining who is employed in an institutional or privately owned camp may be identified by name and/or picture in the camp brochure only in a designated camp counselor section.

Inclusion of quotations in camp brochures: In Division I, an institution’s camp brochure may include quotations from former campers, parents of former campers, and prospective student-athletes’ coaches related to the camp.

Summer camp brochure containing coupons:

It has been determined that a prospective student-athlete may utilize a coupon within a summer camp brochure that allows the bearer to receive reduced-cost apparel items at a local sporting goods store; provided that no special arrangement is made by the institution to give extra coupons to a particular prospect.

NON-RENEWALS

Coaches who are considering non-renewing a student-athlete should have documentation regarding the reasons for the non-renewal. The coach should have met with the SA throughout the year and provided them with a written copy of the reasons the SA is in jeopardy of losing the scholarship. The student should sign the letter (sport oversight, compliance, or athletics advisor should attend the meeting). The sport oversight should receive a copy of the letter. It should not be a surprise to the SA when receiving the non-renewal letter. The department has lost appeals

NEW LEGISLATION

Recruiting – other than basketball and football – Effective Immediately

In-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall not be made with a PSA or PSA’s relatives before July 1 following their junior year. This eliminates the one phone call in March and the contact in April.

Transfer Eligibility – Effective August 1, 2007

A transfer from a four-year school must be academically eligible for competition for the next regular academic term at the previous school in order to be eligible to receive athletic aid during the first year at the new school. Currently, they are just not able for competition. This new rule will ensure that student-athletes who know they are transferring do not purposely mess up the last quarter.

48 HOURS BEFORE COMPETITION

The 48-hour period travel time prior to an athletics event begins with the initiation of team/individual transportation when departing from campus. If your team is flying, the 48 hours does not start at the time of the departure of the flight; it starts at the time your team leaves campus. Please keep this in mind when making flight arrangements.

The University Of Cincinnati Compliance Staff

Maggie McKinley

Associate Director of Compliance & Student Services

Kathy Kelley

Coordinator for Continuing Eligibility and Scholarships

Rebecca Hinkel

Compliance Specialist

Ann Orme

Compliance Administrative Secretary

Maggie McKinley and Rebecca Hinkel publish the Compliance Corner monthly. All comments, questions, or submissions should be directed to Maggie at 556-3559 or mckinlmf@email.uc.edu or Rebecca at 556-4835 or Rebecca.hinkel@uc.edu