



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

November 2008

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball – 9/12 – 11/9 **Contact/Evaluation Period**
11/10-11/13 **Dead Period**
11/14 – 2/28 **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** 11/10 - 11/13 and 12/24 - 12/26 **Dead Period**

Women's Basketball –

9/16 - 4/21 **Evaluation Period** (shall not exceed 100 recruiting-person days)

***EXCEPT** 11/10-11/13 and 12/24-12/26 **Dead Period**

Football – 8/1 – 11/29 **Quiet Period**

***EXCEPT** - 42 evaluation days during Sept., Oct., and Nov.

11/30 – 1/31 **Contact Period** (six in-person off-campus contacts per prospect)

W. Lacrosse – 9/1 – 11/25 **Contact Period**

***EXCEPT** 11/10-11/13 **Dead Period**

11/26 – 1/1 **Quiet Period**

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

Track and Field/Cross Country –

8/10 – 12/14/08 **Contact Period**

***EXCEPT** 11/24-11/25 **Dead Period**

Volleyball –

8/1 – 12/7/08 **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** – 11/10 – 11/13 **Dead Period**

All Other Sports -11/1-11/30 **Contact/Evaluation Period**
***EXCEPT** – 11/10 – 11/13 **Dead Period**

NLI SIGNING DATES

As you are planning for the upcoming school year, the signing dates for the 2009-10 National Letter of Intent signing period are as follows:

Sport	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Basketball (Early Period)	November 12, 2008	November 19, 2008
Basketball (Regular Period)	April 15, 2009	May 20, 2009
Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	December 17, 2008	January 15, 2009
Football (Regular Period)	February 4, 2009	April 1, 2009
Soccer, Track and Field/Cross Country	February 4, 2009	August 1, 2009
All Other Sports(Early Period)	November 12, 2008	November 19, 2008
All Other Sports(Regular Period)	April 8, 2009	August 1, 2009

For the early signing period, please have all NLI Submittal forms to Caitlin by November 5 to ensure delivery to the PSA by November 12. Remember all PSA's must be registered with the Eligibility Center and have an Eligibility Center ID before we can issue them a NLI.

NLI PROVISIONS

NLI Provision 8 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: 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: 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.

NLI REMINDERS

* 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.

*A mid-year high school graduate who signs an NLI and enrolls at UC mid year cannot receive athletics aid for the terms preceding the academic year for which the prospect signed the NLI. (See Educational column below)

*An Eligibility Center ID is **required** for signing a NLI.

NLI EDUCATIONAL COLUMNS

Prospect Not Eligible to Sign NLI

Legislation related to a PSA who is not eligible to sign a NLI does not apply to a PSA who was otherwise eligible to sign an NLI, but did not sign an NLI by the end of the applicable NLI signing period. Legislation related to a PSA who is not eligible to sign an NLI applies only to those individuals who are not eligible to sign an NLI during an applicable signing period, including transfers from four-year institutions, midyear transfers and prospects who have been released from an NLI for the current academic year. Therefore, a PSA who was otherwise eligible to sign an NLI, but did not sign an NLI during an applicable NLI signing period continues to be subject to the standard regulations governing telephone calls, permissible callers, contacts and electronically transmitted correspondence after accepting an institution's written offer of admission or signing an institutional financial aid agreement.

Financial Aid to Midyear Enrollee Awarding athletics aid to an individual for any term in the regular academic year preceding the academic year for which the prospect has been awarded athletically related financial aid would constitute an impermissible award of an athletics grant-in-aid for a period in excess of one academic year. For example, if an individual signs an NLI and/or institutional financial aid agreement in November 2008 for the following academic year (2009-10) and then graduates from high school at midyear and enrolls at the institution for the 2009 spring term, the institution may not award athletics aid to that prospective student-athlete for the 2009 spring term.

Scenario: A prospect signs the NLI and accompanying financial aid agreement during the early signing period, graduates from high school midyear and enrolls in the institution's spring term.

Q: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the spring term? A: No, this would constitute an impermissible award of an athletics grant-in-aid for a period in excess of one academic year.

Q: May the student-athlete receive nonathletics aid for the spring term? A: The student-athlete may receive permissible nonathletics aid in accordance with normal institutional financial aid policies and procedures and applicable NCAA legislation.

Q: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the summer term? A: No. A continuing student-athlete may only receive athletics aid in the summer term in proportion to the athletics aid received during the term(s) in which the student-athlete was enrolled on a full-time basis during the previous academic year. Athletics aid may not be awarded to this student-athlete in the spring term; therefore, athletics aid may not be awarded in the summer term.

Q: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the next academic year? A: Yes, in accordance with the agreement signed during the early signing period.

Q: What is the penalty or violation if the student-athlete receives athletics aid for the spring 2009 term and does not receive a complete release from the NLI? A: A violation of NCAA Bylaw 15.3.3.1 would occur and the student-athlete would be subject to the reinstatement process. The NLI would still be valid and the student-athlete would still be bound by its provisions.

PAPERWORK

Coaches, be sure you are turning in your weekly and monthly paperwork. This includes phone logs, participation rosters, travel rosters, recruiting visit itineraries, and countable athletically related activity logs (practice logs). We need your CARA logs every week 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 Caitlin. **Travel rosters** need to be turned into Deborah at least 24 hours before each contest (home AND away). 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. **Participation rosters** need to be

turned in to Caitlin within 48 hours after the competition. **This paperwork is necessary to be in compliance so please turn it in to us in a timely manner.**

SPORTS PSYCHOLOGISTS

It is allowable for an institution to employ a sports psychologist without including that person in the coaching limitations for a particular sport, as long as the psychologist does not engage in on or off-field coaching activities (e.g. use equipment, review film, set up alignments when meeting with the student-athletes, meetings involving coaching activities). The psychologist can engage in "mental imaging" with a student-athlete without being considered a countable coach, provided no coaching activities occur; however, if a student-athlete is required to meet with the sports psychologist, such a meeting is considered a countable athletically related activity. A sports psychologist can attend practices without counting toward the coaching limitation, provided he/she does not participate in any coaching activities. A psychologist can evaluate a student-athlete during a practice only for the purposes of assisting the student-athlete in off-court or off-field noncoaching activities (e.g. mental imagery) directly related to the sport.

AWARDS

Coaches, please submit your awards for approval before you order them or give them to your student-athletes. Indicate who will be receiving the award, what the award is for, what the award physically is, and the value of the award. Example: Jane Smith, MVP, trophy, \$50. John Smith, Senior award, framed jersey, \$75.

Remember that engraving/embroidery must be included in the value of the award. The allowable values can be found in Figs. 16-1, 16-2, and 16-3 in the NCAA Manual. Below are two common awards and their corresponding allowable values.

Annual participation: \$175 underclassmen; \$325 seniors

Special attainments: \$175 each (e.g. MVP, most improved, scholar-athlete, etc.)

If you have any questions, please contact us before you take any action.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Board of Directors Ends Early Midnight Madness

The NCAA's board of directors has ended the practice of early Midnight Madness because it thinks it gives schools a recruiting advantage. Emergency legislation was passed October 30 in order to close a loophole in a previous rule that allowed coaches to have two hours of individual instruction before the start of the season. Some coaches took advantage of this loophole and held Midnight Madness a week earlier than the season's official start date. The new guidelines take effect next season.



BEARCAT SPIRIT!

Nov. 2	VB	Georgetown	2:00
Nov. 8	Swim	West Virginia	12:00
Nov. 14	WBB	Detroit Mercy	7:00
Nov. 15	Swim	Pittsburgh	12:00
Nov. 16	MBB	South Dakota	12:00
Nov. 22	FB	Pittsburgh	TBA
Nov. 23	WBB	Toledo	2:00
Nov. 24	CC	NCAA Champs	All Day
Nov. 29	FB	Syracuse	12:00
Nov. 30	WBB	Eastern Illinois	2:30

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