



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

May 2009

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball –

5/1 – 5/31 **Contact Period**

Men's Basketball –

5/1 – 5/20 **Quiet Period**

5/21 – 5/31 **Dead Period**

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

Women's Basketball –

5/1 – 5/31 **Quiet Period**

Except: 5/1-5/31 **Hawaii Evaluation Period**

Football –

4/15 – 5/31 **Evaluation Period**

*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.**

Lacrosse –

5/1 – 5/21 **Contact Period**

5/22 – 5/24 **Dead Period**

Except: Evaluation may occur at one event conducted during the weekend of the NCAA DI Women's Lacrosse Championship, provided the event is conducted within a 100-mile radius of the site of the championship. The evaluation must be on a day in which no championship competition is conducted.

5/25 – 5/31 **Contact Period**

Volleyball –

5/1 – 5/22 **Quiet Period**

5/23 – 5/31 **Contact Period**

All Other Sports –

5/1 – 5/31 **Contact Period**

REMINDER: INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY

All PSAs currently registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center must return to the website to finalize their answers to the amateurism questionnaire (also called 10.1 statement). PSAs need to log in with their personal identification number and check the box titled "Final Authorization" for amateurism certification.

Note: Once a PSA requests final certification, he or she can no longer make changes or additions to his/her amateurism questionnaire. Further, a final certification for amateurism status cannot be rendered without a request for final certification from the PSA.

CHECK-OUT MEETINGS

Coaches, it is time to schedule your check out meetings. Contact Maggie to set up your meeting for sometime in May. Please keep in mind that it will last approximately 45 minutes. All returning student-athletes must attend.

Below is a list of those meetings that have been confirmed – if your sport is not on the list, contact Maggie immediately. Unless otherwise indicated, the meetings will take place in the Academic center.

WSO: April 27th 3:45 p.m.

TEN: April 29th 2:00 p.m.

VB: April 30th 3:00 p.m.

LAX: May 6th 2:30 p.m.

Track: May 7th 3:30 (Armory)

WGO: May 29th 3:30 p.m.

PRECOLLEGE EXPENSES

An institution's athletics department staff member (e.g., coach) 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 PSAs (e.g., awards banquet conducted by a sports foundation or high school). Therefore, if a sports foundation provides benefits to PSAs (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 because at a minimum, it would indirectly benefit PSAs. 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 PSAs, provided the primary purpose of the event is not to raise funds for PSAs. 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 program, provided the request to participate in the activity is initiated by the foundation, the coach does not make actual financial contributions to the foundation, and the coach or the institution is not involved in selecting the educational institutions that are to receive the financial assistance.

DORM REMINDERS

Please remind your student-athletes that they all must go through a proper check-out and return their keys in order not to be assessed fees. We cannot get these fees waived, so the student-athlete will be responsible for any charges. If they have questions, tell them to contact their RA first; if questions remain, have them contact Caitlin.

Here are the dates the dorms and cafeterias are closed and reopened throughout the summer:

Dorms Close: Sat., June 13 at Noon (ALL students must check out)

Dorms Open for summer: Sat. June 21

Dorms Close: Tues. August 29

Dorms Open for fall quarter: Fri. September 18

Cafeteria Closes: Fri. June 12 at lunch

Cafeteria Opens: Mon. June 22 at breakfast

Cafeteria Closes: Fri. August 28 at lunch

Cafeteria Opens: Mon. September 21 at breakfast

PSAs with Learning Disabilities

Proposal 2008-34 was adopted at the end of April and is effective August 1, 2010, for students initially enrolling full time in a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2010. This could have a significant impact on your 2010 recruits and 2009 recruits who are delaying their enrollment until 2010. Students with documented learning disabilities will no longer be permitted to use an unlimited number of courses after their 8th semester of high school. These students will now be required to graduate within the 8 semesters from the start of high school ("on time") and if they accomplish this, they will be permitted to use up to 3 additional units towards their core course total of 16 to meet initial eligibility requirements. If a student fails to graduate with their class in the allotted 8 semesters from the time they initially enroll in 9th grade, they will not be permitted to use any courses completed after the conclusion of the 8 semesters. For example a PSA with a documented learning disability is currently in their 8th semester of high school. They are not projected to be a qualifier for the fall of 2009 so they intended to attend prep school in 2009-2010 to take additional core courses to raise their GPA. They will graduate from HS in June of 2009 with their graduating class. In this scenario, the PSA may use up to 3 core units earned after HS graduation for initial eligibility purposes. If the PSA did not graduate with his/her class in June 2009, then the PSA would not be permitted to use any core courses after that 8th semester of high school. If a PSA does not have at least 13 core courses completed by the end of their 8th semester, they will not be able to take enough core courses after HS graduation to become a qualifier. If you are currently recruiting a PSA with a documented learning disability that is scheduled to enroll for 2010 or after, please contact our office immediately so we can evaluate their initial eligibility status and options.

FINANCIAL AID: NEW AWARD, INCREASE AND CANCELLATIONS

In the midst of Spring Quarter, there is a flurry of coaches requesting changes to the financial aid awards of their student-athletes. There are many reasons for the change in aid amounts, but it is important to remember that NCAA rules restrict the ways we can change a student-athlete's award. The period of the award runs from the first day of fall quarter to the last day of spring quarter. As discussed below, there are different guidelines for changing a student-athlete's aid during the period of the award than there are once the period of the award has expired.

Coaches **cannot** increase, decrease or cancel student-athlete's financial aid based on athletic ability during the period of the award. Consistent with principles of institutional control, all financial aid is administered by the UC Office of Financial Aid. A coach may only recommend that a student's aid be adjusted. This is done by submitting the Grant-In-Aid submittal form. The guidelines for awarding aid, increasing aid, and canceling aid are discussed separately below.

Renewals/Nonrenewals/Reductions At End Of Period

At the end of the academic year or period of award, coaches may recommend that a SA's aid be renewed, reduced or not renewed at all. In such cases, NCAA rules mandate that the student be notified before July 1 prior to the next academic year. If the aid is not renewed or is reduced, the student-athlete is entitled to an appeal. Therefore a coach must always give a reason and appropriate documentation for reducing or canceling aid.

Canceling/Reducing Aid During Award Period

NCAA Bylaw 15.3.4.1 allows an institution to reduce or cancel a SA's aid during the period of the award under limited circumstances. Under this bylaw, a SA's aid may be reduced only if:

- The SA renders himself or herself ineligible for intercollegiate competition; or
- Engages in serious misconduct warranting substantial disciplinary penalty; or
- The SA fraudulently misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent, or financial aid agreement; or
- Voluntarily withdraws from the sport at any time for personal reasons.

NCAA Bylaw 15.3.4.3 provides that an institution may NOT cancel athletics aid during the period of award based on any athletics reason including injury or poor - performance in practice or competition. Any recommendation by a coach to reduce or cancel aid is subject to review by an Associate Athletic Director.

Increasing Aid During The Period Of Award

Under bylaw 15.3.4.2, it is permissible to increase a SA's athletic aid during the period of award only if the coach can demonstrate that the increase in aid is completely unrelated to athletics. In most cases, this will require documentation (i.e., a letter written at the time of the original award promising the student an increase in his or her aid based on academic performance). In some instances, such as family financial hardship, prior documentation is not necessary. In cases like this there must be some evidence to prove the financial hardship, such as a written statement from the student-athlete's parent or guardian. If the athletics aid increase is a one-time award that will not be renewed at the same level for the following academic year, it is important to remember that a student has a right to appeal any reduction of his or her aid. For this reason, it is important that the SA sign a written statement that they understand the aid may not be renewed at the same level the following year. Aid can be increased up to the 1st day of class or 1st practice, whichever is earlier by completing a GIA submittal form.

DONATIONS FROM PROS

An institution cannot receive funds from a professional sports organization. This includes not only money, but any donation of equipment, sports apparel, or other memorabilia that could be used to generate funds for the institution or cover the cost of items that normally would be purchased by the institution. The only permissible way for a professional sports organization to donate to an institution is if the money is placed in the institution's general fund or general scholarship fund and not used for athletics.

DID YOU KNOW?

In sports other than football, individual skill-related instruction permitted outside the declared playing and practice season may include observation or review of film/videotape, provided the film/videotape is used as part of the actual instruction process. [Bylaws 17.02.1.1(e) and 17.1.5.2.1]



AROUND THE COUNTRY

Toledo RB admits point-shaving role

Adam Cuomo, a former running back at the University of Toledo, has admitted to playing a key role in a point-shaving scheme involving the men's basketball and football teams. The federal investigation into the scheme is focused on Gazi [Gary] Manni, for whom Cuomo recruited Toledo players to participate in the point-shaving scheme. Cuomo provided 'Gary' with information about upcoming Toledo games and helped place bets on the games. The scheme began in the fall of 2003 when Cuomo began introducing Toledo players to gamblers and giving them information to use in placing bets on the football and basketball games. The scheme lasted until the winter of 2006, but none of the current student-athletes is thought to be part of the illegal activity. A former Toledo basketball player, Sammy Villegas, was charged last summer with fixing games during the 2004-05 and 2005-06 seasons; former Toledo running back Harvey McDougale was charged on a similar gambling offense. Authorities have not ruled out the possibility that additional former athletes could be charged.

Northeastern MBB penalized for infractions

Northeastern University has been placed on two years of probation and has had scholarships and recruiting privileges reduced because of major violations in its basketball program. From the summer of 2003 through December 2004, a booster helped the men's basketball staff recruit an international student-athlete and provided impermissible inducements to the SA when recruiting him. In addition to exchanging phone calls and emails with the PSA, the booster purchased a plane ticket for the SA so he could travel to Boston to enroll at the university. The booster also gave the SA transportation from the airport to a hotel room registered in the booster's name. These impermissible benefits and recruiting activity by a booster led to the penalties of probation, reduction in scholarships, reduction in allowed official visits, and a failure to monitor for the former head coach and the university.

BEARCAT SPIRIT

5/1-3	TRK	Big East Championship (Villanova, PA)	All Day
5/5	BASE	Ohio	6:30pm
5/6	BASE	Butler	4:00pm
5/14-16	BASE	Seton Hall	
5/19-24	BASE	Big East Championship (Clearwater, FL)	All Day
5/29-30	TRK	NCAA Regionals (Louisville, KY)	All Day

Go BEARCATS!!

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 Caitlin at 556-4835 or Caitlin.Stoffer@uc.edu