



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

June 2007

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball –

3/1 – 7/31/08 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

Men's Basketball –

5/1 – 7/5/08 **Quiet Period**

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

Women's Basketball –

4/23 – 7/5/08 **Quiet Period**

Cross Country/Track and Field

1/3 – 7/31/08 **Contact Period**

6/11 – 6/15/08 **Dead Period**

Football –

6/1 – 7/31/08 **Quiet Period**

W. Lacrosse –

5/26 – 7/31/08 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

Volleyball –

6/1 – 7/31/08 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

All Other Sports –

5/1 – 7/31/07 **Contact/Evaluation Period**

SUMMER REMINDERS

*The last meal in the dining hall will be lunch on Friday, June 13.

*The dorms close at noon on Saturday, June 14.

*Coaches and staff members are NOT allowed to provide storage for SA's belongings over the summer.

COACHES PRACTICE TEST

The 2008-2009 Division I practice exam may be accessed at the following link:

<http://web1.ncaa.org/coachesTest/exec/practiceexam?division=1>

Test Dates

June 2nd – 9am

June 12th – 2pm

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PRECOLLEGE EXPENSES

Pursuant to NCAA Bylaws, an institution or a representative of its athletics interests shall not offer, provide or arrange financial assistance, directly or indirectly, to pay (in whole or in part) the costs of a PSA's educational or other expenses for any period prior to his or her enrollment or so the prospect can obtain a postgraduate education. This prohibition applies to all prospects, including those who have signed a NLI or an institutional offer of financial aid. An institution may not provide funding, directly or through paid advertisements, to benefit a high school athletics program.

It is not permissible for an institution's athletics department, in response to requests from high school (or preparatory school or two-year college) groups, to provide items (e.g., autographed balls, jerseys) to assist in raising money for its programs (athletics or other). If another department of the institution is asked to provide donations to benefit PSA's, such activity is permissible only if the donations are not earmarked specifically for an athletics purpose or used only to provide benefits to PSA's athletics programs. An institution may not donate institutional memorabilia (e.g., jerseys, hats, T-shirts) to any organization for the purpose of being auctioned to raise funds to provide financial assistance to high school students to attend collegiate institutions. An institution (or an institution's coach or representative of its athletics interests) may contribute to a nonathletics organization that includes PSAs and nonprospects (e.g., YMCA, YWCA, Boys and Girls Clubs), provided the assistance is not earmarked for a particular PSA and is offered in conjunction with the organization's regular fund-raising activities.

BEST WISHES TO REBECCA!

Best Wishes to Rebecca Hinkel as she begins her new career as a stay-at-home Mom with Caleb. Her last day is Monday, June 2nd. We will sure miss her in the department!

Until the position is filled, please direct any of your questions to Maggie.

CONTACT WITH PSA DURING TOURNAMENT OR ROAD TRIP

The membership services staff confirmed that it is permissible for an institution's coach to contact a PSA who is competing in a tournament that is not conducted on consecutive days, and who subsequently will return to compete in the remainder of the tournament, provided the PSA has been released by the appropriate institutional authority and the contact occurs on a day in which there is no further competition. Further, in the case of an extended road trip, a member institution's coach is permitted to contact a PSA at the conclusion of a competition and prior to the commencement of travel to the team's next competition provided the PSA has been released by the appropriate institutional authority and departs the dressing and meeting facility.

REMINDER: INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY

All PSAs currently registered with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse must return to the clearinghouse site to finalize their answers to the amateurism questionnaire. PSAs simply 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 their amateurism questionnaire. Further, a final certification for amateurism status cannot be rendered without a request for final certification from the prospective student-athlete. All PSAs also must make sure they have selected their sport.

TELEPHONE CALLS

The phone call week for everyone is Sunday through Saturday, no matter what you've declared your practice week. In sports other than football and basketball, telephone calls to a prospective student-athlete [or the prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardian(s)] may not be made before July 1st following the completion of the prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school (subject to the exceptions below); thereafter, staff members shall not make such telephone calls more than once per week (Sunday through Saturday).



PROFESSIONAL TEAM TRYOUTS AFTER ENROLLMENT

Pursuant to Bylaw 12.2.1.2 (tryout after enrollment), it is not permissible for an enrolled student-athlete with remaining eligibility to participate in a professional tryout during the academic year, regardless of the location of the tryout. As set forth in Bylaw 12.2.1.4 (professional team representative at college practice), a professional representative can evaluate an enrolled student-athlete participating in an institution's regular practice session, a physical education class, or out-of-season conditioning or skill instruction workouts during the academic year, provided the activities observed are a normal part of, and take place during, a regular practice session, class or conditioning session.

It is permissible for a professional team to conduct a tryout with an enrolled student-athlete on the institution's campus during the summer vacation period, provided the student-athlete does not receive any expenses (e.g., travel, room or board) in conjunction with the tryout. In addition, it would be permissible for the institution to reserve a facility for the student-athlete to participate in the summer tryout; however, NCAA Bylaw 17 restrictions would prohibit coaching staff members from being present at such tryout sessions. It would be permissible for a student-athlete's family members to be present during the tryout as well as other individuals associated with the student-athlete, as long as those individuals are not agents or acting on behalf of agents.

SUMMER FINANCIAL AID TO PSA'S

A common violation processed by the student-athlete reinstatement committee is the provision of athletically related financial aid during the summer prior to initial full-time enrollment while the PSA is enrolled in less than six credit hours. In addition to other regulations, when awarding this summer aid, please remember the PSA shall be admitted to UC in accordance with regular, published entrance requirements, the PSA must be enrolled in at least six credit hours of academic course work, other than physical education activity courses, that is acceptable degree credit toward any of UC's degree programs. Remedial, tutorial, and noncredit courses may be used to satisfy the six-hour requirement, provided the courses are prerequisites for specific courses offered for any degree program and are given the same academic weight as other courses at UC. Refer to Bylaw 15.2.8.1.4 for more information.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

FIU hit with 4 years probation for variety of infractions

MIAMI -- Florida International was placed on four years probation by the NCAA on Wednesday and will lose scholarships for a variety of infractions.

More than 40 athletes who competed for the school from the 2002-03 through the 2006-07 academic years violated rules, said Josephine Potuto, chairwoman of the NCAA committee on infractions.

The school, which jumped from NCAA Division I-AA to Division I-A, misapplied enrollment and financial aid rules, transfer requirements and eligibility rules, the NCAA found.

The men's basketball program lost one scholarship and its baseball program lost 1.5. The football program was stripped of three scholarships. In all, 11 sports lost scholarships.

The school said the violations were not intentional.

"Upon discovering these violations, we put in place new compliance procedures that are much more suited to the university FIU has become in the last 10 years," university president Modesto Maidique said. "We now have the level of staffing and the redundancies that will prevent these types of infractions from occurring again in the future."

NCAA accuses Alabama St. of 24 rules violations

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- The NCAA has accused Alabama State University of 24 rules violations, alleging widespread use of ineligible players, grade changes and recruiting misdeeds and charging the school with lack of institutional control.

The alleged violations occurred from 1999-2003 and most involved the football program, including the participation of 25 players who were ineligible because they hadn't completed the required percentage of coursework toward their degrees.

The NCAA charged Alabama State with lack of institutional control, particularly within the football program, and said coaches, athletes, faculty and administrators were not properly educated on NCAA rules.

Head football coach L.C. Cole, who is charged in five of the allegations, was fired and the university self-reported a number of violations in August 2003.

The NCAA said Cole "failed to maintain an atmosphere of compliance in the program" and named him in five violations, including improper contact with two recruits at a restaurant and with the mother of another player who was at the University of Tennessee.

"I don't have any comment about it," said Cole, now coaching in the Canadian Football League. "I've moved on and whatever comes out of it comes out of it."

The names of student-athletes and prospects were redacted before the NCAA documents were released.

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Among the allegations:

- The grades of eight football players were changed without the approval of faculty members and administrators.
- "Numerous" athletes were allowed to play, practice and receive financial aid while ineligible in football and men's and women's basketball. Fourteen ineligible football players were allowed to participate in a total of 495 spring workouts or practices.
- Alabama State coaches improperly provided meals, lodging and transportation to prospects and players. Prospects also attended a party at a student-athlete's apartment that included strippers, and were given money for tips.

Infractions committee penalizes Middle Tennessee State

The NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions has penalized Middle Tennessee State for major violations in its women's volleyball program. The case involved ineligible participation by a volleyball student-athlete and a failure to monitor by the institution and the former head coach.

Penalties for the violations include two years of probation, a vacation of wins, a reduction in scholarships and a two-year show-cause order for the former head coach.

The case centered on an international volleyball student-athlete who graduated from high school in 1997. She turned 21 years old in 1998 and was invited to try out for a European volleyball team in 1999. She signed a contract to compete with the team and played in eight contests from August through October 1999. By the terms of her contract, she was to be paid more than \$1,000 per month by the team, which marketed and identified itself as a professional volleyball club.

Her participation with the professional team rendered her ineligible for NCAA competition when she enrolled at the institution in 2003, but she was allowed to compete as a member of the institution's team for three academic years.

The student-athlete stated during the investigation that she – acting on instructions from a graduate assistant coach who recruited her and instructions from the former head coach – did not mention on her NCAA General Amateurism and Eligibility Form her contract with the European team, the games she played in Europe or that she was paid to participate. Both the former head coach and the institution failed to monitor the volleyball program, according to the facts of the case. When initially provided information regarding the student-athlete's possible participation with a professional team, the former head coach did not investigate the information or pass it on to the institution's compliance

personnel. Instead, she decided on her own that the student-athlete was eligible and allowed her to compete. Even though the former head coach kept information regarding the student-athlete's past participation from the institution's compliance office, the committee found that other clues should have led the institution to investigate the student-athlete's eligibility status.

The penalties in the case are as follows:

- Public reprimand and censure.
- Two years of probation effective May 22, 2008, through May 21, 2010.
- Two-year show-cause penalty effective May 22, 2008, through May 21, 2010.
- Vacation of all wins in which ineligible student-athlete competed during the 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 academic years. All individual records of the student-athlete shall be vacated, as well. The institution shall reconfigure the records for volleyball, as well as the record of the former head coach, to reflect the vacated records. The vacated results shall be included in all publications and public reference in which athletics performances are referenced, including but not limited to media guides, recruiting materials, Web sites, institutional and NCAA archives. Finally, any public reference to tournament performances won during this time shall be removed including, but not limited to, athletics department stationary and banners displayed in public areas such as the arena in which the women's volleyball team competes.
- Reduction of volleyball scholarships by four over the next four academic years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12). The reduction can be taken at the institution's discretion over the four-year period. These grant reductions are independent of and supplemental to any action that may be or has been taken by the Committee on Academic Performance through its assessment of contemporaneous, historical or other penalties.
- Institution is prohibited from signing any international volleyball student-athletes during the 2008-09 academic year.

Go BEARCATS!!

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