



# COMPLIANCE CORNER



DECEMBER 2020

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## COMPLIANCE STAFF

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Trever Wright  
Associate AD/  
Compliance  
trever.wright@uc.edu  
  
Grace Kroner  
Director of Compliance  
grace.kroner@uc.edu  
  
Brennan Daunt  
Assistant Director of  
Compliance  
dauntbn@ucmail.uc.edu

Tyler Duff  
Assistant Director of  
Compliance  
dufftr@ucmail.uc.edu



## FOCUS OF THE MONTH

### WINTER BREAK REMINDERS

- Final Exam Schedule: Thursday 12/3/20 - Tuesday 12/8/20
- Sports that are OUT OF SEASON have to stop all required activities one week prior to the start of final exams (Thursday 11/26/20) through January 10, 2021.
- Daily and weekly CARA limitations during the vacation period do not apply to sports that are IN-SEASON, but student-athletes must still have a required day off.
- The following sports are IN-SEASON during the vacation period (12/9-1/10):
  - Football
  - Men and Women's Basketball
  - Swimming and Diving
  - Volleyball
  - Track and Field
- During the vacation period, student-athletes in individual sports may have voluntary workouts with coaches.
- It is not permissible to virtual 8 hours of CARA over break.

### ALABAMA INFRACTIONS CASE

- A former Alabama associate athletics director violated ethical conduct rules when he received money in exchange for facilitating a meeting between the father of a student-athlete, a financial advisor, and the financial advisor's representative.
- The advisor and his representative facilitated the payments to the former associate athletics director, including at least \$3,000 for setting up a dinner with the student-athlete's father.
- The violations were discovered as part of a broader scheme that involved money and influence in college basketball that resulted in the arrest and prosecution of multiple individuals on conspiracy and bribery charges.
- Penalties
  - Three years of probation
  - A \$5,000 fine plus 1% of the men's basketball budget
  - A 10-year show-cause order for the former associate athletics director. During that period, any NCAA member school employing him must restrict him from any athletically related duties unless it shows cause why the restrictions shouldn't apply.

# HARTFORD INFRINGEMENTS CASE

- The University of Hartford improperly certified student-athletes, failed to notify student-athletes that their financial aid was being reduced or cancelled, and had impermissible recruiting contacts by the men's lacrosse team.
- Hartford wrongly certified 27 student-athletes over 30 occurrences across 8 different sports, resulting in 10 student-athletes competing while ineligible.



- The university failed to give 68 student-athletes written notification that their financial aid was being reduced or cancelled.
- They also failed to notify the student-athletes about their opportunity to a hearing in regards to the reduced/cancelled financial aid.
- Hartford also failed to provide a signed scholarship renewal agreement to 62 student-athletes.
- The men's lacrosse head coach and assistant coach had impermissible contacts with a DIII student-athlete prior to receiving permission from the student-athlete's institution. These included texts, phone calls, and an unofficial visit that included a meeting, an athletics-specific tour of campus, and attendance at a lacrosse practice.

## PENALTIES

- Two years of probation.
- \$5,000 fine.
- A reduction of women's basketball scholarships by one for the 2020-21 and 2022-23 academic years.
- A reduction of men's lacrosse equivalency scholarship by .40 for the 2021-22 academic year.
- A two-week ban on unofficial visits and a 10% reduction of official visits for men's lacrosse based on previous four-year average for the 2020-21 academic year.
- The men's lacrosse head coach must be suspended for the first regular-season competition in the 2020-21 season.
- A one-year show-cause order for the head men's lacrosse coach. During that period, the head coach must be prohibited from participating in all recruiting communication, contacts and off-campus recruiting for four weeks. The head coach also must attend one NCAA Regional Rules Seminar at his own expense.
- A one-year show-cause order for the assistant men's lacrosse coach. During that period, he must be prohibited from participating in all recruiting communication contacts and off-campus recruiting for two weeks and must be suspended from the second regular-season competition during the 2020-21 season. The assistant coach also must attend one NCAA Regional Rules Seminar at his own expense.
- A vacation of records of contests in which student-athletes participated while ineligible.

## RECRUITING CALENDARS

Contact Period

Evaluation Period

Dead Period

Recruiting Shutdown

### All Sports

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |     |

The NCAA adopted Emergency Legislation to establish a temporary recruiting dead period for all NCAA Division I sports, effective immediately, and in effect until at least April 15, 2021.