



# The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

October 2005

## RECRUITING DATES

### Baseball –

9/9 – 11/6 Contact/Evaluation Period

### Men's Basketball –

9/9 – 10/5 Contact Period

10/6 – 3/29 Evaluation Period except

11/7 – 11/10 Dead Period

12/24 – 12/26 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

9/16 – 10/6 Contact Period

11/7 – 11/10 Dead Period

12/24 – 12/26 Dead Period

### Football –

8/1 – 11/26 Quiet Period

Except six days during the months of September, October and through November 26, 2005, selected at the discretion of the institution (an authorized

off-campus recruiter may visit a particular educational institution only once during this evaluation period) Evaluation Period

### Volleyball –

8/1 – 12/4 Contact & Evaluation Period

Except 11/7 – 11/10 Dead Period

### All Other Sports –

Contact & Evaluation Period

## MEETTHECOACH.COM

ILT reviewed the material regarding the web site, "Meet the Coach" and also went to the web site and listened to the content of the interview.

There have been requests for some coaches to provide a 10 minute talk for the service.

Conducting an interview with this group is not permissible. The staff agrees that this service would be considered a recruiting or scouting service as the promotional material clearly indicates such a purpose. In that regard, college coaches should not be involved in the activity.

Thus, coaches need to cease being part of this and ensure that if they have done an interview already it is removed from the site. Violations

## TRANSFER RELEASE WAIVER

A new policy is being instituted that when a current student-athlete requests a transfer release letter to be sent to another school, we will require them to sign a waiver. The waiver states that solely by requesting a transfer release, it does not automatically mean that the student-athlete is academically and/or athletically eligible to participate at another university. It also states the student-athlete is responsible for knowing the eligibility rules and information on the

Summary of NCAA Regulations they receive at the check-in meeting. Further, it is the student-athlete's responsibility to ask the advisor about his/her academic eligibility status.

### **GRADUATION DATES**

Coaches, please remember to double-check PSA's high school graduation dates before calling them to make sure they are in the permissible class to call.

### **NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE**

There has been an increase in the registration price for the NCAA clearinghouse. It is \$50 for domestic students and \$75 for international students. The fee is being raised due to increased inflationary and technology costs. New educational and promotional information will be distributed to registrants. Students can still request to have the fee waived if they qualify. An amateurism clearinghouse is also being created. When international students register, they will be asked certain questions to help determine their amateurism eligibility. Sample questions that may be asked are about: accepting payment for participating in an event or with a team, participating with a team where team members received more than actual and necessary expenses, arrangements with someone other than the student's parent to represent the student in negotiations to use his/her athletic ability, and family members or the student accepting any benefits from someone representing the student in negotiations. These questions are to help determine if there are any amateurism eligibility issues.

### **TRAVEL DAY/OFF DAY**

If you declare your travel day as your off-day, NO countable athletically related activities can occur on that day. Some countable athletically related activities include: athletic meetings with a coach initiated or required by a coach, visiting the competition site in the sports of golf and

cross country, discussion or review of game films, and setting up offensive and defensive alignment.

### **INTERP REQUESTS**

Please make all interpretation requests in writing, via email or hard copy, not by phone to Maggie McKinley.

### **EXPENSE REPORTS**

When turning in travel expense reports, please include ITEMIZED receipts. A credit card slip should not be the only receipt turned in.

### **ROSTER CHANGES**

As we all know, student-athletes come and go for various reasons. There are academic casualties, transfers, cuts, quits, and other reasons for students leaving the team.

It is absolutely essential that coaches notify the compliance office promptly whenever a student-athlete joins or leaves a team. It is important that we make the proper modifications to the squad and eligibility lists.

If a student-athlete is being removed from scholarship, you must complete the green GIA form and attach an explanation as to the reason the SA will no longer be receiving aid. No SA will be removed from aid unless this is done. Also, if any student-athlete wants to join your squad, they must be certified as eligible by the compliance office before they participate in any practice activity. YOU MUST LET US KNOW OF ROSTER ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.

### **INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Remember there have been changes in the initial-eligibility requirements. Students entering a Division I institution prior to 2008, are required to

take 14 core courses. For students entering in 2008 or after, the new requirements have increased the number of required core courses from 14 to 16. It is very important to note these changes, and make sure student-athletes who are planning to enroll in 2008 are aware of them. The breakdown for the 16 required core courses is as follows: 4 years of English; 3 years of Mathematics (Algebra I or higher); 2 years of Natural/Physical Science (one must be a lab science); 1 year of additional English, Math, or Science; 2 years of Social Studies; 4 years of additional core courses (from any listed above or from foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy). The NCAA's Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse Website has an individualized list of approved courses for each high school. This may be helpful to make sure the prospective student-athlete is on the right path. The clearinghouse website is [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net).

## NONQUALIFIER TRACKING FORMS

In order to avoid problems concerning NCAA violations, nonqualifiers who enroll at the University of Cincinnati must be tracked. By identifying these individuals, we can avoid violations and also provide services to individuals who have been identified as nonqualifiers. Head coaches can request forms from the compliance office to be used for the purpose of identifying and tracking nonqualifiers who they intend to include as part of our athletic programs. It is required that this form be submitted to the compliance office for each nonqualifier that the coaching staff is aware of. There are many services that nonqualifiers are able to receive during their first year in residence:

- Academic/tutoring services
- One complimentary admission for self; all regular-season home athletics contests
- Conditioning program (including workout apparel; supervised only by institution's strength coach or trainer)
- Intramurals

- Promotional materials, inclusion of photos in media guide, game programs, brochures, etc.
- Rehabilitation expenses (postsurgical) for injury unrelated to athletics participation (when rehab is necessary to prepare for practice and competition)
- Surgical expenses for injury during voluntary workout
- Training-room facilities (in conjunction with weight-training program)
- Weight training (supervised only by institution's strength coach or trainer)

However, these individuals will NOT be eligible for any of these services unless the nonqualifier tracking form is received in the compliance office.



## AROUND THE COUNTRY

### Texas Christian Track Coach Commits Violations

Texas Christian was placed on two years probation due to former head track committing violations including impermissible inducements, extra benefits, academic fraud and unethical conduct which led to failure by the institution to monitor its track and field program. The former coach's reason for giving the inducements was to gain an unfair competitive advantage by recruiting, retaining, and ensuring the eligibility of 22 athletes. Numerous times the head coach directed or condoned academic fraud by assistant coaches who helped the athletes with their school assignments, including taking a final exam and writing papers for the athletes. One assistant helped a student complete an online course needed to finish his associates degree and gain eligibility to compete at TCU. Assistants helped prospective student-athletes write entrance essays for admission to the university. Over a period of

four years, the coaches made \$100 monthly payments to enrolled international student athletes to help them pay federal taxes. They also provided money to help student athletes with off-campus housing costs, some were payments of as much as \$700. The former head coach also directed his assistant coaches to provide impermissible inducements to prospective student-athletes and their coaches during their recruiting. They were given thousands of dollars of cash, merchandise, entertainment, meals, and airline tickets. In addition, it was determined that the former head coach and a student-athlete acted unethically for failing to cooperate with the investigation. It was determined that TCU failed to monitor its track and field program. The school self-imposed penalties of a reduction of scholarships, reduction of official visits, reduction in the number of permissible off-campus recruiters in track, disassociation of two student-athletes from its athletics program and boosters club, and no post-season competition for three years. The NCAA imposed the following penalties: probation through September 2007, public reprimand and censure, forfeiture of results of the ten student-athletes who should have been declared ineligible, and show cause for the former head coach's employment at another NCAA institution for the next eight years.

## COUNTABLE ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES

When you are planning your workout schedule for upcoming weeks, please remember to include all countable athletically related activities on the practice log. Some practice logs we receive do not have any time indicated on them for weight lifting or time spent with the strength and conditioning coach. Meetings between coaching staff members and student-athletes to discuss athletic matters must also be included on the practice logs. The chart below is a **sampling** of countable and non-countable activities.

Please remember that during **out-of-season workouts**, you are **limited to 8 hours per week** and you must have **2 days off per week**. If

coaches initiate and/or provide a list of activities or a calendar for the student-athletes to do and the list does not include 2 days off, then a violation of NCAA rules has occurred. Also, if you have student-athletes or other staff members reporting back to coaching staff members about attendance at voluntary activities, then the activities no longer are voluntary and must be counted in the limits of practice. Further, observation by a coach or staff member of a voluntary workout is no longer voluntary and becomes a countable activity.

### Countable Athletically Related Activities

- Practices
- Competition (always counts as 3 hours)
- Field, floor or on-court activity
- Setting up offensive or defensive alignment
- On-court or on-field activities called by any member of the team and confined primarily to members of that team
- Required weight-training & conditioning
- Required participation in camps/clinics
- Discussion or review of game films

### Noncountable Athletically Related Activities

- Compliance Meetings
- Meetings with a coach initiated by the student-athlete (as long as no athletically related activities occur)

Voluntary weight training NOT conducted by a coach or staff member

- Traveling to/from the site of competition (as long as no countable activities occur)
- Training room activities, rehabilitation activities and medical examinations

If you have any questions on countable athletically related activities, please contact the compliance office.

## OFFICIAL VISITS

Coaches, remember after an official visit, you need to turn in an updated itinerary to Rebecca Hinkel. If there were no changes to the original

itinerary, just note that and turn in a copy of the original itinerary. If there are changes, just update the original itinerary and turn in.

## **NCAA COACHES RECRUITING GUIDES**

The 2005-06 NCAA Coaches Recruiting Guides represent an edited and abridged version of the NCAA recruiting rules set forth in the 2005-06 NCAA Manual. The purpose of the guides is to provide coaches a practical resource for use in the application of recruiting rules and to facilitate further understanding of NCAA Bylaw 13. These guides should not be viewed as a replacement for the Manual but rather as a supplement. The Guide can be found at:  
[http://www2.ncaa.org/media\\_and\\_events/ncaa\\_publications/membership/](http://www2.ncaa.org/media_and_events/ncaa_publications/membership/)

### **The University Of Cincinnati Compliance Staff**

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*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](mailto:mckinlmf@email.uc.edu) or Rebecca at 556-4835 or [Rebecca.hinkel@uc.edu](mailto:Rebecca.hinkel@uc.edu)*