



November 2016

-The Official Newsletter of the UC Compliance Office-

IN THIS ISSUE

November Recruiting Calendars

Quick Hits: Academic Fraud and Impermissible Contacts

Signing Day 101

November Crossword Puzzle

Frequently Asked Questions –Dead Periods

Recruiting E alendars



MFB						
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Women's Lacrosse:
11/4: Evaluation Period
beings at 5:00PM
11/11: Evaluation period
begins at 5:00PM
11/18: Evaluation Period
beings at 5:00PM

ALL OTHER SPORTS						
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Quick Hits: Academic Fraud, Impermissible Contact, and Unethical Conduct

The University of Mississippi women's basketball and track & field teams have been under investigation by the NCAA for some time now. Earlier this month the NCAA announced it's decision in the case.

The women's basketball program violation's dealt mainly with academic fraud. An assistant coach and Director of Basketball Operations had numerous recruiting and compliance duties, and in those duties committed numerous violations. In their duties both employees committed academic fraud by completing and submitting online coursework for two prospective student-athletes. The two former employees then compounded their mistakes by attempting to cover up their actions leading to more violations. Finally, the former head coach violated NCAA rules by failing to monitor his staff when he knew these two prospective student athlete's were in need of academic help.

The track and field program was also involved in this investigation as their violations included impermissible tryouts, inducements, transportation and recruiting. Two assistant track coaches impermissibly contacted student-athletes at their respective schools. They also contacted a coach for 20 women's track and cross country prospects to attend official team practices during paid visits and observed the prospects as they ran with the women's cross country student-athletes during weekend practices. Like the women's basketball violation one of the coaches then attempted to cover-up their actions during the NCAA investigation leading to more violations.

The penalties for these actions included recruiting days being reduced, scholarship reductions, self-imposed post season bans, and a three year probation. Under this three year probation the institution is under heightened scrutiny from the NCAA and must develop and complete an educational program in line with their violations. They must submit reports annually on how they are achieving this goal. Finally all of the staff members involved received show-cause orders of varying length depending on their involvement.

NCAA Bylaw 10.1 governs Unethical Conduct by institutional staff members, and states that actions such as refusing to furnish or furnishing false information for an investigation and failing to provide accurate or complete information to the Eligibility Center can result in the charge of Unethical Conduct.

The NCAA has published educational columns and interpretations over the years to define academic fraud, which is essentially a member of the institution's staff knowingly helping either a current student athlete or a prospective student athlete complete their required course work. This could be a tutor or a coach but the common theme is that the athlete received impermissible help on their course work. In the case above we see that the coaches completed and submitted all of the required work these online courses.

Signing Day 101

Below are the NLI Signing Day dates for student-athletes enrolling in the 2017-2018 school year. Until they sign a National Letter of Intent (NLI), they are considered a prospective student-athlete (PSA). All

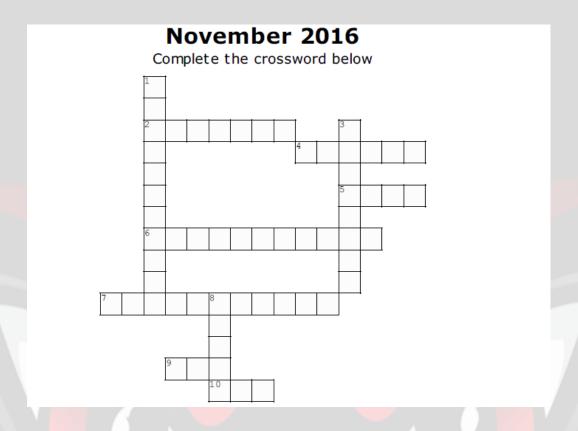
Sport	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Basketball (Early Period)	November 9, 2016	November 16, 2016
Basketball (Regular Period)	April 12, 2017	May 17, 2017
Football (Midyear Junior College Transfer)	December 14, 2016	January 15, 2017
Football (Regular Period)	February 1, 2017	April 1, 2017
Soccer	February 1, 2017	August 1, 2017
All Other Sports (Early Period)	November 9, 2016	November 16, 2016
All Other Sports (Regular Period)	April 12, 2017	August 1, 2017

Once the PSA signs their NLI and becomes an official member of the UC family, they are permitted to participate in activities without violating any NCAA Bylaws or affecting their eligibility. These activities are listed below:

- ◆ Take unofficial (unpaid) visits to UC anytime until they enroll Summer or Fall 2017.
- Work at a UC camp or clinic, if their coaches choose to hire them.
- Request/receive workout plans, dietary plans (check with trainers to ensure you are not taking any banned substances), playbooks.
- Once they graduate high school they may participate in voluntary workouts with the team, using UC facilities and receive workout gear from the equipment staff for voluntary workouts (Must be previously cleared by the Compliance Office)
- They must be aware of the following:
 - 1. If they are participating on a club team over summer, they may only receive up to the actual and necessary expenses to practice and compete on that team (e.g. travel, entry fees, food, and lodging).
 - 2. They need to use social media responsibly.
 - 3. They need to spend their summer free time responsibly. Activities during the summer may affect their status as a student-athlete here at the University of Cincinnati.

Compliance Crossword Puzzle

November 2016



Down

- 1. In Men's Basketball an institution may provide
 _____ visits to prospects over a
 rolling two-year period (13.6.2.6).
 3. If an athlete gets injured during their second
- 3. If an athlete gets injured during their second game they could qualify for a Medical _______Waiver (12.8.4)
- **8.** A prospect may not sign his/her NLI before _____ AM local time on the first day of the signing period.

Across

- 2. A student-athlete may not ______ a commercial product on social media (12.5.2.1)
 4. An institution may provide _____ to an
- athlete at any time (16.5.2).
- **5.** Monday Thursday of the week of the early signing period is a _____ period for purposes of recruiting.
- **6.** An official visit may last up to _____hours (13.6.4).
- **7.** It is _____ to email a prospect their NLI.
- **9.** NCAA rules require that athlete's get _____ day(s) off per week (17.1.7.4).
- **10.** The Early _____ Signing period begins on Nov. 9th.

Frequently Asked Questions - Dead Period Edi-

Q: May a countable coach call a PSA during a dead period?

A: **Yes**, a countable coach may call a PSA during a dead period.

Q: What's the difference between a dead period and quiet period?

A: A quiet period is a period of time when it is permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts only on the institution's campus. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts or evaluations may be made during the quiet period, whereas in a dead period, it is not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by prospective student-athletes to the institution's campus.

Q: Do dead period rules still apply after the PSA has signed an NLI?

A: **No.** Official and unofficial visits are impermissible during a dead period, but once a prospect signs an NLI, they may make an official or unofficial visit during a dead period beginning the calendar day after they sign the NLI or written offer of admission and/or financial aid or their institution receives a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission.

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Please contact the compliance office with any concerns.

Remember to ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!