



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

June 2006

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball –

3/1 – 7/31 Contact/Evaluation Period

Men's Basketball –

5/1 – 7/5 Quiet Period except:

NBA Predraft Camp Evaluation Period

Women's Basketball –

4/19 – 7/5 Quiet Period

Football –

6/1 – 7/31 Quiet Period

Volleyball –

1/1 – 7/31 Contact & Evaluation Period

All Other Sports –

Contact & Evaluation Period

NATIONAL TEAM TRY-OUTS

The committee confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to host national team tryout events on its campus conducted by the applicable national governing body.

SUMMER REMINDERS

*The last meal in the dining hall will be lunch on Friday, June 9.

*The dorms close at noon on Saturday, June 10.

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

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.

OUTSIDE SUMMER COMPETITION – BASKETBALL

In accordance with Bylaw 14.7.3.2-(a), a SA may compete during the period between June 15 and August 31 or the institution's opening day of classes, whichever comes earlier, on an outside team which is in a league approved by the NCAA per Bylaw 30.15, provided the SA has received written permission from the institution's director of athletics (or the AD's representative) prior to participation in the league. Further, as set forth in Bylaw 30.15, all Division I players must limit his or her summer basketball competition to one team in one league. Each summer basketball team must limit its roster to not more than two SA's with intercollegiate basketball eligibility remaining from any two or four-year college (other than Divisions II or III institutions). A SA who is listed on the roster of a team and withdraws or is injured and will not continue to practice or compete may be replaced for the remainder of the season by another basketball SA from the same institution. The institution is permitted only one replacement per summer league basketball team. Also, if an individual (two- or four-year PSA) transferring to a Division I institution, has been officially accepted for enrollment in the second institution and the previous institution certifies that the student has withdrawn and does not intend to return to that institution for the next term, the SA is not countable on the summer league roster as a representative of either institution. Under such circumstances, written permission to participate

in the sanctioned summer basketball league must be obtained from the institution to which the SA is transferring. A high school or two-year college PSA, including one who has signed a NLI, is not counted against any institution's limit of one SA per team, inasmuch as he or she is not a SA pursuant to Bylaw 12.02.5. Finally, in accordance with Bylaw 14.7.3.1-(f), basketball SA's from Divisions I, II and III institutions also may participate in state or national multi-sport events. Bylaw 17.5.8.2-(a) specifies that not more than two SA's from the same Division I institution may participate on an outside team in state or national multi-sport basketball competition at any time.

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.

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.

COACHES PRACTICE TEST

The 2006-2007 Division I practice exam was released March 31 and may be accessed at the following link:

http://www1.ncaa.org/membership/membership_svcs/coaches_certification/Coaches_Practice_Test

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Savannah State on three years' probation

Savannah State was placed on probation, restricted its official visits for football and had other self-imposed sanctions for rules violations by the football program. The investigation found unethical conduct by a former assistant football coach, which included him providing lodging, meals and transportation to several PSA's before they enrolled and encouraging players to purchase and use NCAA-banned substances. The violations constituted a lack of institutional control.

University of Iowa is investigating reduced cost merchandise to football players

The University of Iowa is investigating allegations that a former cell-phone salesman discounted merchandise to some Iowa football players in exchange for 2006 Outback Bowl tickets. Supposedly, the salesman sold a \$79.99 headset and a \$49.99 phone charger to at least

one student-athlete for one cent each. Some of the implicated student athletes are seniors and thus have used up their eligibility. After an internal investigation, UI said it would report its findings to the NCAA.

Purdue investigation results in violations

Purdue self-reported numerous violations. One violation occurred when a former basketball coach allowed two players to store personal items at her apartment during the summer, including a car. A second violation occurred when the coach let four players use her university-issued cell phone when they were in the Bahamas for a tournament. The players involved in these violations repaid the value of the benefit to a charity.

There was a violation of academic misconduct and impermissible phone contact with two PSA's.

Another violation occurred when a SA had an impermissible logo on her headband which she turned inside out for a game, but subsequently it

The school has proposed one loss of scholarship next year, permanent ineligibility of one player who was involved in the academic misconduct, and had an ethicist talk to staff member.

St. John's on probation for extra benefits violation

St. John's is on probation for two years and has a loss of one scholarship for two years for providing improper payments to a former men's basketball player. The former player claimed he was given \$300 a month by a member of the basketball staff and the school's investigation found supporting evidence. The school thinks the payments were made with a humanitarian intent, but it still violates NCAA rules. No current players, staff, or coaches were involved.

It was also discovered that special arrangements were made for the player to receive an apartment at a reduced rate and \$2,400 to help pay for tuition before he was on scholarship. The school also had to forfeit all wins the player participated in and repay 90 percent of the money it received for participating in the 2002 tournament. It has already fulfilled a postseason tournament ban.

FINANCIAL AID AWARD PROCEDURE CHANGES

A change has been made to the procedure of awarding financial aid. It is now required that you award athletically related financial aid for a period of one academic year, except as specified; further, it is required that you offer full year awards in equal amounts for each term of the academic year.

Aid can always still be cancelled for the following reasons during the period of the award:

- ineligibility
- voluntary withdraws from sport
- serious misconduct
- fraudulently misrepresenting information on application, NLI or financial aid agreement

If a SA enters the academic year only needing 2 or less quarters to graduate, you may award the aid for the number of terms it SHOULD take the SA to graduate (one term, 2 terms).



GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE & ATTACHMENTS

In accordance with Bylaw 13.4.1, in sports other than men's basketball, a member institution may not provide recruiting materials to a prospect until September 1 at the beginning of the PSA's junior year in high school. In men's basketball only, an institution may not provide recruiting materials to a PSA until June 15 at the conclusion of the PSA's sophomore year in high school.

Attachments to general correspondence may only include information that is not created for recruiting purposes, except for items that are specifically permitted as printed recruiting material (e.g., questionnaires). For example, it is not permissible to create a recruiting newsletter and send it to PSA's as an attachment to general correspondence; however, it is permissible to attach a black and white copy of an article from a nondepartmental publication (e.g., newspaper, magazine) regarding an institution's athletics program. Institutions will note that the focus of the committee's determination is that materials produced for a recruiting purpose are not permitted to be attached to general correspondence. In addition, impermissible attachments would include any other material that is produced for a recruiting purpose, such as a comic strip or puzzle related to the institution's athletics program or a specific sports program.

Any necessary pre-enrollment information, including information in a video format, regarding orientation, conditioning, academics and practice activities may be provided to a PSA, provided the prospect has signed a NLI or has been officially accepted for enrollment. Once this occurs, such pre-enrollment information may be provided as stand-alone information (i.e., does not have to be attached to general correspondence). Prior to the signing of a NLI or financial aid agreement or the PSA's official acceptance for enrollment, it remains permissible for an institution to provide pre-enrollment information as a black and white attachment to general correspondence, as such information is not created for a recruiting purpose. Further, it is not permissible for institutions to send

necessary pre-enrollment information to PSA's via an express mail delivery service.

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.

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