



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

April 2006

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball –

3/1 – 7/31 **Contact/Evaluation Period** except:
4/10 – 4/13 **Dead Period**

Men's Basketball –

4/1 – 4/30 **Contact Period** except:
4/1 – 4/4 (noon) **Dead Period**
One certified event in conjunction with, and in the host city of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship **Evaluation Period**
4/10 – 4/13 **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**
3/31 – 4/13 **Dead Period** (with exceptions)
4/7 – 4/9 **Quiet Period**
A certified event in conjunction with, and in the host city of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship **Evaluation Period**
4/15 – 4/16 Evaluations permitted at non-scholastic women's basketball events
4/19 – 7/5 **Quiet Period**

Football –

2/3 – 4/14 **Quiet Period**
4/15 – **Evaluation Period** through 5/31 (4 designated weeks) Days not designated for **Evaluation Period: Quiet Period**

Volleyball –

1/1 – 7/31 **Contact & Evaluation Period** except:
4/10 – 4/13 **Dead Period**
All Other Sports –
Contact & Evaluation Period except:
4/10 – 4/13 **Dead Period**

NLI SUBMITTALS

The late signing period for basketball and all other sports is April 12. Rebecca Hinkel will be out of the office on April 7. Please have all NLI's to her by April 5 so all the necessary signatures can be obtained to send them in time.

NON-TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS

A serious problem facing the NCAA and its member institutions is high school students earning diplomas from non-traditional high schools. These students are able to drastically improve their academic records in short periods of time upon enrolling at certain prep schools and non-traditional high schools. In response, NCAA President Myles Brand organized a panel consisting of various academic and athletic authorities in order to ensure the integrity of NCAA student athletes' academic credentials. The panel endorsed the following recommendations: (1) Prohibiting the use of courses from institutions that are identified as not academically sound; (2) Placing limits on the

number of NCAA-required courses that can be taken during the student's senior year and beyond; (3) Monitoring the number of courses taken concurrently by students; (4) Possibly mandating that testing agencies, such as ACT and SAT, directly send scores to the NCAA Clearinghouse; and (5) Requiring prospects to register with the Clearinghouse before or during any official visits or prior to an offer of admission or financial aid.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Buckeye fans will no longer enjoy the 1999 Final Four banner that used to hang in Value City Arena. A two year NCAA investigation has determined that Ohio State's basketball team used an ineligible player from 1999 to 2002. Boban Savovic was found to have received unwarranted benefits and committed academic fraud while playing for the Buckeyes. As such, the NCAA placed Ohio State on probation for three years and has directed the Buckeyes to essentially erase the four seasons that Savovic played from their program's media guides. Consequently, Ohio State has removed from Value City Arena all media relating to Ohio State's tournament trips, Big Ten Championships, and Final Four appearance that occurred between 1999 and 2002. Furthermore, the Buckeyes must return an estimated \$800,000 to the NCAA, money which Ohio State earned during the postseasons.

CAMPUS TOURS DURING INSTITUTIONAL CAMPS/CLINICS

The following interp has recently been released regarding campus tours during summer camps. "We believe a campus tour for the purpose of showing the camp participants a tour of all the facilities they will be using during their stay, such as dorms, student-unions, athletics facilities or to provide some sort of informational

material to the campers so that when there is down time, the campers will be able to negotiate themselves around the campus would be permissible. This is really a generic tour that simply provides them basic information about where everything is on-campus. We believe an organized tour promoting the benefits of a particular campus would not be permissible. Since the membership has attempted to clarify that recruiting activities should not occur at camps and clinics, we need to advise against any tour that, in essence, is designed to promote the benefits of the institution."



FEE-FOR-LESSON INSTRUCTION

Coaches should remind student-athletes about stipulations surrounding fee-for-lesson instruction. Student-athletes can not use institutional facilities for fee-for-lesson activities, even if the institutional facilities are available to the general public.

Bylaw 12.4.2.1 A student-athlete may receive compensation for teaching or coaching sport skills or techniques in his or her sport on a fee-for-lesson basis, provided:

- (a) Institutional facilities are not used;
- (b) Playing lessons shall not be permitted;
- (c) The institution obtains and keeps on file documentation of the recipient of the lesson(s) and the fee for the lesson(s) provided during any time of the year; and
- (d) The compensation is paid by the lesson recipient (or the recipient's family) and not another individual or entity.
- (e) Instruction to each individual is comparable to the instruction that would be provided during a private lesson when the instruction involves more than one individual at a time.
- (f) The student-athlete does not use his or her name, picture or appearance to promote or

advertise the availability of fee-for-lesson sessions.

CLEARINGHOUSE

Please encourage all NLI signees and known walk-ons to register for the NCAA Clearinghouse if they have not done so already. Your sport academic advisor is able to give you a list of who has registered. Remember, we will not allow student-athletes to report and/or receive athletic aid until we have received the official certified eligibility status from the NCAA Clearinghouse.

BIG EAST NON-QUALIFIER POLICY

Please read the approved Big East non-qualifier policy that is inserted in this month's compliance corner. It has been approved and is in effect immediately. This is another reason to make sure your PSA's are registering with the Clearinghouse early and sending in all necessary information.

EXTRA BENEFITS

Here are a few reminders about extra benefits. An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a representative of the institution's athletics interests to provide a SA or the SA's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation.

- Occasional meals to a SA or entire team, in the locale of the institution, are permissible as long as the meals occur on an infrequent basis only. The SA may also receive home meals, from an institutional staff member, on infrequent occasions, provided that the meal occurs in the staff member's home, not at a restaurant. It is permissible to provide occasional transportation to a SA for an occasional meal only if it takes place in the home of a staff member. When an occasional meal is provided, a form must

be completed and submitted to the compliance office prior to the meal.

- Any SA or SA's family member who receives a discount at a restaurant and the discount is not offered to the general public will be ineligible for competition until the value of the discount is repaid, they are withheld from a percentage of their games, and are reinstated by the NCAA. This also applies if a patron of the restaurant "picks up the tab" for a SA solely on the basis that the customer is a SA. Please remind your athletes of these rules.
- Athletic department staff members may not transport a SA to a job interview or to or from the SA's work place.
- It is not permissible to offer employment opportunities to PSA's or their relatives and friends. Be careful what you say to people associated with PSA's because it might be construed as an offer or inducement.

Under NCAA rules, if a SA receives an impermissible extra benefit valued over \$100, he or she becomes immediately ineligible for intercollegiate competition. The SA must then apply for reinstatement before he or she may compete again. If the value of the benefit is under \$100, the SA is ineligible until the value of the benefit is repaid.

NCAA OKAYS SPORTSHOOTER.COM PICTURES

The NCAA has decided that pictures of student athletes posted on the website sportshooter.com do not violate any regulations. The photos simply serve an editorial use. "Since the images are not being used to promote commercial purposes, they do not fall foul of association regulations."

GAMBLING ISSUE AND SEMINAR

If one still needs convincing of the potential dangers of internet gambling, consider the story of the sophomore class president at Lehigh University, who allegedly robbed a Wachovia Bank in Allentown, PA, in order to sustain an online poker habit. Friends and family described the student as “one of the nicest kids,” and were shocked to hear of the incident. The 19-year-old sophomore had taken up online poker to relieve stress. However, this stress reliever soon became a daily addiction as he quickly found himself \$5000 in debt. According to his lawyer, “His gambling addiction led him to make a terrible, terrible mistake.”

On this note, **Michael Franzese**, a former Mafia member, will be speaking to our student-athletes on **May 1** about the dangers of gambling and athletics. Men’s and women’s basketball will be at 4:00 and the rest of the teams at 7:00. Location is yet to be determined. Please inform your athletes that they will need to be there.

PRACTICE ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT

Practice Activities with a Prospective Student-Athlete Prior to Enrollment and Outside of the Playing Season. It is not permissible for an institution's coaching staff member to engage in any practice activities (e.g., review of playbook, chalk talk, film review) with a prospective student-athlete prior to his or her initial enrollment at the certifying institution and outside of the institution's playing season.

OFFICIAL VISIT MEALS

Remember, on official visits you can only provide meals to the parents, legal guardians, spouse and children of the PSA. No other family members or friends are permitted to be provided meals, even if they are the only people accompanying the PSA on the visit.

HOUSING

Coaches, if you want any non-freshmen athletes to room in CRC, let Rebecca Hinkel know by April 14.

Also, make sure that freshmen are applying for housing after they confirm their acceptance to the university, even if you are placing them in your reserved spots.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Please notify your student-athletes that registration for summer school begins April 4 and the application form must be submitted to the head coach by April 14.

Student-athletes may pick up an application in the Academic Services office from their academic advisor. Please recommend that student-athletes see their college advisor to get recommendations on what classes to take in the summer before seeing their athletic advisor. CAT students are **required** to see their advisor to have their block lifted. To be eligible for summer school, student-athletes must have earned at least 36 quarter hours (UC guidelines) that count toward satisfactory progress requirements during the academic year. Those earning 27 hours (minimum NCAA standard to attend summer school) but less than 36 hours will be required to meet with sport oversight/Senior Associate Athletic Director for approval.

Summer school aid cannot exceed the proportional amount of aid that the student-athlete received during the academic year.

FEES 2006–07

A 5% increase to Room and Board rates effective July 1, 2006 was approved. Coaches will be receiving an updated copy of the housing costs for next year. It is slightly different than what we originally distributed.

NCAA GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility for students entering fall 2006 is now available online. Effective immediately, the guide will no longer be printed and mailed to NCAA member institutions. The guide is posted on the NCAA Web site and can be accessed at:
http://www.ncaa.org/library/membership/international_guide/2006/2006_international_guide.pdf. One feature in the 2006 guide that you are strongly encouraged to read is the section regarding the issuance of SEVIS Form I-20, and how it relates to admissions eligibility, financial aid eligibility and the academic status of international student-athletes. This information was prepared by the NCAA Foreign Student Records Committee and NCAA membership services staff.

Don't forget that all international student athletes must sign in with the International Student Services Office soon after they arrive on campus or they risk being deported. They will not be allowed to practice before signing in at ISSO. ISSO will inform the compliance office after the student signs in.

The University Of Cincinnati Compliance Staff

Maggie McKinley

Associate Director of Compliance & Student Services

Kathy Kelley

Coordinator for Continuing Eligibility and Scholarships

Rebecca Hinkel

Compliance Specialist

Ann Orme

Compliance Administrative Secretary

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 or Rebecca at 556-4835 or Rebecca.hinkel@uc.edu