



The University of Cincinnati Bearcat Compliance Corner



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

June 2004

RECRUITING DATES

Baseball –

3/1 – 7/31 **Evaluation Period**

Men's Basketball –

5/1 – 7/7 **Quiet Period**

Women's Basketball –

4/16 – 7/7 **Quiet Period**

Football –

6/1 – 7/31 **Quiet Period**

Soccer –

Contact & Evaluation Period

Volleyball –

2/14/04 – 7/31/04 **Contact/Eval. Period**
(80 Evaluation days)

All Other Sports –

Contact & Evaluation Period

NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

Below are the dates of the remaining signing periods:

All other sports except Football & Basketball –

Last day to sign is 8/1/04

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Please make sure that all student-athletes are aware that they are required to report any employment to the compliance office. During the summer, there are no limits on the amount that student-athletes may earn, but we still need to be aware of their employment arrangements. This includes any athletes that are working summer camps. There are few things that we need to be aware of regarding summer employment:

- ▶ Athletic Department staff members may not transport a student-athlete to a job interview, or transport a student-athlete to or from their work place.
- ▶ A student-athlete may receive compensation only for work actually performed and be paid at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services and at the same rate as other employees performing similar work.
- ▶ A student-athlete may not be employed to sell equipment related to the student-athlete's sport if his or her name, picture or athletics reputation is used to advertise or promote the product, job or employer.
- ▶ Employment at summer camps needs to be approved IN ADVANCE by the Director of Athletics.

It is mandatory that all student-athletes inform the compliance office of any summer employment to help prevent any violation of NCAA legislation (especially concerning issues about summer camps and clinics) that could jeopardize the student-athlete's eligibility.

NEW LEGISLATION

2003-139 PERMISSIBLE BENEFITS -- MEDICAL EXPENSES (Effective Immediately)

To permit an institution to provide a student-athlete's medical expenses (including surgical expenses, medication, rehabilitation, physical therapy expenses and dental expenses) resulting from any injury or illness regardless of whether the injury or illness occurs during the academic year or summer vacation period.

Currently, institutions are generally limited to paying for medical treatment for athletically related injuries and may only cover surgical expenses for a student-athlete who is injured during voluntary workouts during the academic year and expenses for medication and physical therapy used by a student-athlete during the academic year. This proposal would permit NCAA institutions to pay for medical treatment resulting from any injury or illness, even if the injury or illness is not an athletically related one. This proposal is **permissive** in nature and will enhance student-athlete welfare by providing significantly greater medical benefits to student-athletes.

A set of standards and criteria will be in place to determine what injuries will be paid for. Criteria will include how the injury occurred and whether it was within the student-athletes control. Student-athletes who do not meet the criteria will be able to apply to use special assistance and student-athlete opportunity fund money to assist with paying their medical bills.

Please note that adopted proposal 2003-86 permits an institution to finance medical expenses for NLI signee basketball prospects enrolled in summer school who sustain an injury only while participating in the voluntary summer workouts conducted by the strength and conditioning coach.

For example, a prospective basketball student-athlete who sustains an injury in a summer league basketball game would not be able to his/her medical expenses financed by the institution. A prospective basketball student-athlete who sustains an injury while participating in weight lifting activities or conditioning activities conducted by the strength coach would be able to have his/her medical expenses financed by the institution.

2002-83-A FINANCIAL AID -- MAXIMUM LIMIT ON FINANCIAL AID -- INDIVIDUAL LIMIT (Effective August 1, 2004)

Establishes a student-athlete's individual maximum financial aid limit as the cost of attendance. A student-athlete may receive institutional financial aid based on athletics ability, outside financial aid for which athletics participation is a major criterion only up to the value of a full grant-in-aid, but a student-athlete may receive any other financial aid unrelated to athletics ability up to cost of attendance.

Every student-athlete should have the opportunity to receive financial aid to cover his or her cost of attendance through a combination of permissible sources of financial aid, similar to the financial aid limit opportunity available for students generally. This proposal will not impact athletics budgets because a student-athlete may not receive athletically related financial aid in excess of a full grant-in-aid.

This will allow for student-athletes to receive institutional academic scholarships in combination with their athletic grant-in-aid up to the cost of attendance. Currently, they are only able to receive academic scholarships and athletic grant-in-aids up to the value of a full grant-in-aid. Academic scholarships, SEOGs, and other financial aid that currently counts against a team's and student-athlete's equivalency will continue to count against the team's and student-athlete's equivalency up to 1.00.

2003-34 - Recruiting -- Recruiting Communication (Effective August 1, 2004)

Specifies that all electronically transmitted direct human interaction voice exchange shall be considered telephone calls and that all electronically transmitted correspondence shall be considered general correspondence.

Currently, instant messenger is considered a phone call. With the adoption of this new legislation, it will be considered general correspondence. This will impact coaches in the fact that you may not have an instant messenger exchange with any prospect that has not reached September 1 of their junior year of high school, even if they IM you first.

SUMMER WORKOUT REMINDERS

Which prospects may participate in weight lifting activities on campus?

1. High School, Two-Year or Four-Two-Four Transfer Prospect who signed a National Letter of Intent provided: *(Staff 11/12/03)*

- There are no coaches present, except the strength and conditioning (S&C) coach;
- The activities are not prearranged; and
- The S&C is performing normal duties and responsibilities in the supervision of the weight room or facility in use (e.g., track) and he or she does not work directly with the prospective student-athlete.

2. Four-Year College Transfer Prospect who signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid provided: *(Official 10/15/03)*

- There are no coaches present, except the strength and conditioning (S&C) coach;
- The activities are not prearranged; and
- The S&C is performing normal duties and responsibilities in the supervision of the weight room or facility in use (e.g., track) and he or she does not work directly with the prospective student-athlete.

3. Prospect who did not sign a National Letter of Intent or who participates in a sport that does not use the NLI program provided: *(Staff 11/12/03)*

- The facilities are open to the general public.

4. In addition, a football prospect who signed a National Letter of Intent or a written offer of admission and/or financial aid may engage in summer workouts provided: *(Bylaw 13.12.3.9 and Official 7/2/03)*

- The workouts are not mandatory; and
- An institution's strength and conditioning coach with department-wide duties conducts the workouts.

5. Basketball Prospective Student-Athletes who signed a National Letter of Intent or a written offer of admission and/or financial aid may engage in summer workouts provided: *(Proposal 2003-86)*

- The prospects are receiving financial aid to attend summer school;
- The workouts are not mandatory;
- The workouts begin when summer classes begin for the prospect; and
- An institution's strength and conditioning coach with department-wide duties designs or conducts the workouts.

REMEMBER:

► Skill instruction must be at the request of the student-athlete and is only permitted in individual sports over the summer

► SAs are not required to report to any staff member concerning the activity in person, by mail, or by phone

► Strength and conditioning coach is permitted to design and provide a workout program at the request of the SA

► Staff members, with the exception of the strength and conditioning coach, CANNOT observe the activity and/or report to the coaching staff

► Staff can provide information in terms of time and availability of strength and conditioning coach's schedule and availability of facilities

► Activities cannot be recorded and/or reported to coach

► No penalties or punishments can be placed on the SA for not participating in the workout

► Awards/Incentives cannot be provided for participation in workout activities

AROUND THE COUNTRY

LSU's Self-Imposed Sanctions to Stand

The NCAA ruled that it will not further impose any sanctions against the LSU football program. In 2002 allegations grew that athletes were cheating on tests, plagiarizing papers and benefiting from pressure on faculty to change grades. Following an internal investigation, LSU submitted its report to the NCAA claiming the violations were secondary and not systemic. After review of the report, the NCAA elected not to further punish LSU beyond their already self-imposed actions.

The penalties that LSU self-imposed are as follows:

- Loss of two football scholarships for 2005
- Loss of four official visits by recruits
- Various discipline to those involved

In addition to the above mentioned penalties, LSU transferred a former director of the Academic Center for Student-Athletes and reprimanded an employee of the athletic department as corrective measures.

In the internal investigation done by LSU, the following were found:

Alleged misconduct came from a prospective player receiving tutoring her was not entitled to receive free. The player was unaware that he was not entitled to the tutoring, but donated \$40 to charity to cover the cost. In addition a text book had key passages underlined by a tutor so two players would not have to read the book.

A LSU instructor and graduate assistant filed lawsuits against the university alleging they were told to change the grades of players who plagiarized papers to keep the players eligible for the 2000 Peach Bowl. They are currently in federal court.

If you have any questions regarding the LSU situation or academic misconduct please see the compliance office.

NCAA GAMBLING STUDY

Recently the NCAA released the results of a gambling study among college athletes. The study, called the National Study on Collegiate Sports wagering and Associated health Risks, surveyed 21,000 athletes about their gambling activities. The results found that of the 21,000 surveyed, 35 percent of male athletes and 10 of female athletes have bet on college sports in the last year. It was found that Division III athletes were the most likely to wager on college sports and Division I were least likely.

The following statistics were compounded:

- 1.1 percent of football players reported taking money for playing poorly in games
- 2.3 percent of football players admitted they were asked to influence the outcome of games because of gambling debts
- 1.4 percent acknowledged altering their performance to change the outcome

According to the study, the sports with the highest percentages of male student-athletes involved in wagering on collegiate sports are men's golf, wrestling, lacrosse and football. For female student-athletes wagering on collegiate sports, the sports with the highest involvement are golf, lacrosse, basketball and field hockey.

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