

# MAKING HEADLINES

### Alabama Student-Athletes Paid for Autographs

Student-athletes of the 2009 National Championship football team at the University of Alabama are accused of accepting cash for autographs on memorabilia prior to the National Championship Game. Memorabilia collectors approached the student-athletes during the winter break and asked the players to sign items such as mini helmets, footballs, and other memorabilia. The allegations claim that some players made up to \$400 for their signatures. According to NCAA legislation, allegations based on violations that are over four years old will not be looked at unless the offense is extremely egregious and demonstrates a blatant disregard for fundamental rules such as recruiting, extra benefits, academics, and ethical conduct. The primary concern is whether the National Championship win will be vacated should the NCAA decide to punish Alabama over this issue. The NCAA has yet to make a ruling, and is working with the Alabama Compliance Office on the matter.

### UCLA Men's Basketball Players Arrested in China

Three freshmen student-athletes on the men's basketball team at UCLA were arrested in China for stealing items from high-end retail stores, including sunglasses and t-shirts. The men's basketball program was in China as part of the third annual "PAC-12 China Game" sponsored by Alibaba Group. Commissioner Larry Scott expressed his disappointment over the sour note created during this "good will trip," but left disciplinary procedures to UCLA itself. Upon being released from Chinese custody, the student-athletes were suspended indefinitely by the UCLA athletic department, while the Office of Student Conduct at UCLA does its own investigation. Any NCAA implications regarding eligibility have yet to be addressed due to the University's ongoing internal investigation. Athletic Director Dan Guerrero said the University will work with the NCAA in the process. One of the student-athletes has withdrawn from UCLA.



## COMPLIANCE MVP:

This month's Compliance MVP comes to us from the Marketing Department. We would like to thank Alejandro Rengifo for his support and help with the Compliance Office. Thank you Alejandro!



## OUTSIDE COMPETITION

A student-athlete may compete outside of the institution's declared playing and practice season as a member of an outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition during any official vacation period.

All student-athletes must have participation in outside competitions approved by the compliance office PRIOR to the event taking place.

If you know of any student-athletes interesting in participating in outside competition, please direct them to the compliance office to fill out the proper paperwork.

## Compliance Tip of the Month:

With the complexity of the recruiting calendars this month, remember that:

- **Contact Period** = in person, off-campus recruiting contacts/evaluations
- **Evaluation Period** = off-campus assessment of academic and athletic ability with no contact
- **Quiet Period** = no in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts/evaluations; on-campus allowed
- **Dead Period** = no in-person contacts or evaluations; emails, texts, and phone calls allowed

## PER DIEM ALLOWANCES

- Room and board may be provided to a student-athlete during official vacation periods in which they are required to remain on the institution's campus for organized practice sessions or competition.
- If an institution does not provide its student-athletes with a meal, a cash allowance may be provided.
- Any student-athletes that will be remaining on campus for injury rehabilitation reasons may also receive a per diem allowance.

## SELLING OR EXCHANGING AWARDS

Student-athletes that receive participation awards may NOT sell or exchange them for any monetary value. If the award goes missing or is stolen it should be reported to the Compliance office.

Awards received by student-athletes may not include cash, gift certificates, gift cards that redeemable for cash, a cash-equivalent reward, or a country club or sports club membership.

Awards may be distributed at any point after a student-athlete's full-time enrollment at the certifying institution.

Awards may be provided to recognize special achievements, honors and distinctions. Local organizations may provide teams with awards as long as the award is approved by Compliance and counts towards the award limits.

## COMPLIANCE NOTES

As we approach final exams and the winter break period, the majority of our teams will be out-of-season. It is important to remember that the NCAA bylaws remain in effect year-round, and despite most of our student-athletes being gone through this time-period, we must still continue to abide by NCAA legislation.

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## Vacation Period Reminders

**FINAL EXAMS: December 15-20**

**WINTER BREAK: December 21-January 15**

Sports that are out-of-season must cease all required activities one week prior to the start of final exams. Therefore, all CARA for these sports must stop by December 7th. Additionally, during a vacation period, sports that are out-of-season are not permitted to have required activities.

During a vacation period, student-athletes may receive room and board expenses in the following circumstances:

- Student-athletes who are required to remain **on campus** for organized practice sessions or competition.
- Student-athletes who are pre-approved by the coaching staff, athletic training, and the compliance office to remain on campus for rehab purposes.
- If a student-athlete lives at home during the vacation period, the cost of room and board may not be provided, except for a meal that is incidental to participation to required activities.

Student-Athletes who return to campus from institutional competition during the official vacation period during a regular academic term (e.g., Spring Break). Room and board expenses may be provided when the student-athlete arrives on campus.

If an institution does not provide a meal to its student-athletes, a cash allowance may be provided not to exceed the amount provided by the institution to institutional staff members on away from campus trips.

**As of December 7th, no required activities are allowed for the following sports::**

**Baseball, Men's & Women's Tennis, Golf, Rowing, Soccer, & Volleyball**

# Happy Holidays!

## DECEMBER RECRUITING CALENDAR

### BASEBALL

- Quiet Period - December 1-31

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

- Recruiting Period - December 1-23
- Dead Period - December 24-26
- Recruiting Period - December 27-31

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Evaluation Period - December 1-23
- Dead Period - December 24-26
- Evaluation Period - December 27-31

### FOOTBALL

- Contact Period - December 1-16
- Quiet Period - December 17
- Dead Period - December 18-31
- Mid-year JC Transfer Initial Signing Day—Dec. 20

### CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK & FIELD

- Contact Period - December 1-10
- Quiet Period - December 11
- Dead Period - December 12-15
- Quiet Period - December 16-31

### VOLLEYBALL

- Contact Period - December 1-3
- Quiet Period - December 4-12
- Dead Period - December 13-31

### SOCCER

- Contact Period - December 1-14
- Dead Period - December 15-31

### ALL OTHER SPORTS

- Contact Period - December 1-31



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# ASK BEFORE U ACT

Compliance Questions? Contact a compliance staff member, e-mail us at [Athleticcompliance@miami.edu](mailto:Athleticcompliance@miami.edu), or call 305-284-2692. Please follow us on Twitter (@UCompliance) and "like" us on Facebook, ([www.facebook.com/UCompliance](http://www.facebook.com/UCompliance)).