For Your Interpretation……

University of Missouri Athletics Compliance Office

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In this issue…

Out-of-Season Activities and Expenses……..…1

Occasional Meal and Entertainment…..……..1

August 2014 Recruiting Calendar……..……...1

From the Interpretation Files……..….....2

MU Compliance Staff……..2

July 2014 Recruiting Calendars

Men's Basketball-
August 1-31 —Quiet Period

Women's Basketball-
August 1-31 —Quiet Period

Football-
August 1-31 —-Quiet Period

Track/Cross Country-
August 1-9 — Quiet Period
August 10-31 — Contact Period

All other Sports-
August 1-31—Contact Period

Out-of-Season Conditioning Activities and Expenses

With the new school year rapidly approaching, teams have the opportunity to participate in outside team building activities. Under NCAA rules, participation in activities such as a ropes course, yoga, etc. may be considered conditioning activities that may occur during an out-of-season segment. Coaching staff may be present during this activity, but the time spent must be counted toward the 8 hour per week limitation of countable athletically-related activities during an out-of-season segment. Mizzou may cover expenses associated with the activity (fees to participate, equipment cost, instructor cost, etc.); however, Mizzou may only cover expenses associated with actual participation in the event and may not cover lodging, transportation, or other ancillary expenses associated with participation in the activity. Additionally, it would be permissible to provide an occasional meal in conjunction with this activity so long as it counted toward the yearly allotment of occasional meals, is for a special occasion, and is prior approved by the Compliance Office.

Occasional Meal and Entertainment

An online video of Alabama players tubing behind a boat driven by Coach Nick Saban raised the question about the permissible entertainment a coach may provide to student-athletes. The SEC determined that water tubing was permissible under the NCAA occasional meal legislation. Bylaw 16.11.1.5 states that student-athletes may receive an occasional meal from an institutional staff member under the following conditions: the meal is provided in the staff member's owned home, on campus, or at a facility that is regularly used for competition. Since Coach Saban provided an occasional meal at his lake home, the student-athletes enjoyed the entertainment opportunities present at his home. This could include the use of a pool table, swimming pool, arcade room, or boating equipment that is personally owned by the coach. This additional entertainment would not be considered an extra benefit so long as the items provided for use are personally owned (not rented) by the institutional staff member (as opposed to a neighbor) and occur only during a permissible occasional meal.

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From the Interpretations Files…



Question: Would it be permissible to use pictures of current players in flyers to promote an institutional youth league?
Answer: Yes. While NCAA rules restrict the use of student-athletes names, likeness, and images, it is permissible to use pictures of current student-athletes in institutional promotions. Materials should promote only the institution and associated activities and should not include direct or indirect promotions of any commercial products or services.

Question: If a prospect signs a National Letter of Intent with a two-year college, could they still sign a letter of intent with Mizzou?
Answer: Yes. The National Letter of Intent program services only NCAA Division I or II institutions. Therefore, if a prospect has signed an NAIA or NJCAA letter of intent, they are still free to sign a National Letter of Intent with a division I or II institution.

Question: A recruit that comes from a nontraditional family will be taking an official visit. Both mom, dad, and step dad would like to accompany the recruit on the visit. How does provisions of meals and lodging work in this situation?
Answer: Typically, during an official visit, an institution is limited to providing meals and lodging to the prospect and prospect's parents or legal guardians. In the instance of a nontraditional family, the NCAA has granted some latitude to accommodate the prospect's stepparents as well. Accordingly it would be permissible to provide separate lodging for the prospect, the prospect's mom and stepdad, and the prospect's dad, for a total of three hotel rooms. Additionally, it would be permissible to provide meals and complimentary admissions to the prospect and the prospect's mom, dad, and stepdad. However, it would not be permissible to incur the cost of meals or lodging for any other relatives and transportation costs may only be paid for the prospect, though others may accompany the recruit to campus if traveling by car. Provision of expenses in basketball and football may differ. Please contact the Compliance Office with sport-specific questions.

Question: Is it permissible to provide autographed memorabilia from former student-athletes as a camp participation award?
Answer: NCAA rules require that the value of a camp award fit within the cost of camp attendance fee in combination with any other benefits received by the camper. For example, the value of the award along with the cost of meals, lodging, t-shirt or other tangible camp services or expenses must not exceed the cost to attend the camp. In order to provide autographed memorabilia the value muse be accounted for in the camp attendance fee.

Question: May coaching staff members observe and/or participate in bona fide leadership development and/or teambuilding activities, including those with physical components, at any time?
Answer: Yes. Leadership training and/or teambuilding activities conducted as a part of the life skills programming that include physical components incidental to the activity may occur at any time. Such activities are not countable athletically related activities as long as they are separate and distinguishable from normal practice or strength and conditioning activities, occur only on an infrequent basis, and neither tactical or technical instruction related to the student-athlete's sport is provided. All leadership training and/or team building activities must be approved by the Compliance Office prior to the activity.

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