For Your Interpretation...

University of Missouri Athletics Compliance Office

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January 2018 Recruiting Calendars

Men's Basketball
January 1-31 - Recruiting Period

Women's Basketball
January 1-31 - Evaluation Period

Football
January 1-11 - Dead Period
January 12-31 - Contact Period

Baseball
January 1-3 - Quiet Period
January 4-7 - Dead Period
January 8-31 - Quiet Period

Cross Country/ Track and Field
January 1-2 - Quiet Period
January 3-31 - Contact Period

Volleyball
January 1-12 - Quiet Period
January 13-31 - Contact Period
*In states that play high school volleyball season in the winter, contacts and evaluations shall be permissible Jan. 1 through the Friday prior to the Presidents Weekend Tournaments

Softball
January 1 - Quiet Period
January 2-31 - Evaluation Period
*Scholastic Events only

Soccer
January 1-5 - Dead Period
January 6-31 - Contact Period

All Other Sports
January 1-31 - Contact Period

Impermissible Outside Aid

A student-athlete may receive financial aid through an established and continuing program to aid students, provided:

- The recipient's choice of institutions is not restricted by the donor of the aid;
- There is no direct connection between the donor and Mizzou; and
- The financial aid is not provided by an outside sports team or organization that conducts a competitive sports program to an individual who is or has been a member of that team or organization.

For example, it would be impermissible for a student-athlete to receive aid from a Rotary club that requires the recipient to enroll at a college or university within the state, from a donor who is an alumnus of Mizzou, or from a club team on which a student-athlete participated. However, it may be permissible for a student-athlete to receive outside aid from a high school booster club or a committee including a parent of a current student-athlete that is not an alumnus of Mizzou. Contact the Compliance Office with any questions about permissible outside aid.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day – January 15, 2018

January 15 is an institutional holiday, celebrating the birth of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and as such, all sports which are not in-season on this day may not require any countable athletically related activity (CARA). Sports that are in-season may require CARA, and any activities on January 15 are not counted in weekly limitations for the week this day falls in. For example, a team's declared week is set Sunday to Saturday, then for the week of January 14-20, any CARA on the 14th and 15th do not need to count toward the weekly 20 hour limitation. Any CARA during the 16th through the 20th must be included in the hourly limitations. Student-athletes must receive one day off during this period while in-season.

Changes to Positive Coaching Admissions Process

The Department of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology in the School of Education has informed our office of a change in the admissions process for the Positive Coaching Master's degree. The Master of education in educational, school and counseling psychology with an emphasis in positive coaching degree is a primarily online degree program. The admissions requirements for the degree state a student must have completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and must have a 3.0 GPA in their previous 60 hours of undergraduate coursework. Students applying with a GPA between 2.5 and 3.0 must also include a resume and a personal statement for additional review. Students with a GPA below 2.5 will not be considered for admission. International students pose additional complications, as they must score an 80 on the TOEFL test and must also take in-person courses in Columbia in order to receive a visa. Should you have questions about the Positive Coaching program, please reach out to our office.

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From the Interpretations Files…



Question: Would it be permissible for current student-athletes to sign a birthday card to be sent by the coaching staff to a recruit who has already signed a National Letter of Intent?

Answer: Yes. Once a recruit signs a National Letter of Intent, institutional financial aid agreement, or is accepted to MU and pays their enrollment fee, the individual is no longer subject to the restrictions of a prospective student-athlete. Accordingly, it would be permissible for student-athletes to engage in correspondence with a recruit *who has signed*, even if it is at the direction and/or the expense of the institution. Please keep in mind that it would still remain impermissible for a student-athlete to engage in correspondence with a recruit who has not signed with Mizzou or been admitted and paid his or her enrollment fee, if such communication is at the direction and/or the expense of the institution.

Question: Is it permissible to provide conference tournament gifts to a student-athlete who is academically ineligible?

Answer: No. It is not permissible for an institution or conference (or organization approved by either) to provide awards in recognition of conference or national championships to student-athletes who were not eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition during the applicable sport season. This also includes student-athletes who are in their year of residence.

Question: Would it be permissible to run a home game attendance promotion providing free admission to all event attendees who are 18 and under, or must the group be more limited to exclude prospect aged individuals?

Answer: It would be permissible to provide complimentary admission to an athletics contest to prospect-aged students as part of an incentive that is available to all individuals who are 18 and under. Please keep in mind that publicity legislation remains in effect. Accordingly, it would not be permissible to announce the presence of any high school student, or recognize a scholastic group at the event, if the groups attendance is for the purpose of recruitment.

Question: A current student-athlete was declared medically exempt after having endured multiple knee surgeries. The student-athlete has recently suggested that he is physically capable of playing again. If he were to play again, be it at MU or elsewhere upon transferring, how would that affect his previously exempted aid?

Answer: As stated in Bylaw 15.5.1.3.2, if a student-athlete's circumstances change to the point that a previous career ending injury no longer exists and the student-athlete can be cleared to participate in intercollegiate sports, the institution shall be required to count the previously exempted financial aid during each academic year in which the aid was received.

Question: When a student-athlete speaks to a group or organization is it permissible for that student-athlete to receive a token of appreciation for doing so?

Answer: No. Bylaw 12.5.1.1 permits student-athletes to make promotional appearances for educational, charitable or institutional purposes. However, this bylaw also restricts the student-athlete's ability to benefit from this activity other than to accept actual and necessary expenses directly associated with the event. For example, if the student-athlete spoke to a group during a luncheon, it would be permissible for the organization to comp the student-athlete's meal at the event. However, it would not be permissible for the organization to provide even a gift card of nominal value to be used at a later date as a token of appreciation.

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