

## **Atlantic Coast Conference Bylaws Conference Eligibility Rules**

### **Article VI. Rules of Eligibility Applicable to all Sports**

#### **Section VI-1. Conference Initial-Eligibility Rule**

A nonqualifier whose first full-time collegiate enrollment occurs at an ACC institution shall not be eligible for competition, practice, or athletically related financial aid at any conference institution. On an annual basis, a conference member may permit a maximum of four nonqualifiers (two in men's sports and two in women's sports with no more than one in any single sport) who have been granted a partial waiver by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Waiver Committee permitting them to receive athletic aid and/or practice per NCAA rules and whose first full-time collegiate enrollment occurs at an ACC institution. *(Revised: February 2006)*

A nonqualifier who transfers to a conference institution from a two-year college must have graduated with an AA degree, satisfactorily completed a minimum of 48 semester or 72 quarter hours with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on transferable degree credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution, and have attended the two-year college as a full-time student for at least three semesters or four quarters (excluding summer terms) in order to be eligible for competition, practice, and athletically related financial aid. A nonqualifier who transfers to a conference institution from a four-year college outside the ACC must, in addition to meeting all NCAA rules regarding such transfers, have satisfactorily completed 48 semester or 72 quarter hours with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on transferable degree credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution, and have attended the four-year college as a full-time student for at least three semesters or four quarters (excluding summer terms) in order to be eligible for competition, practice, and athletically related financial aid.

A nonqualifier who transfers to a conference institution from a two-year college, subsequent to attending a four-year college outside the-ACC, must meet all NCAA rules regarding 4-2-4 transfers.

Upon written application and good cause shown, the faculty representatives, acting as a committee of the whole, shall have the authority to grant exceptions to this rule based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances which warrant the waiver of the normal application of this rule (e.g., the student's overall academic record, whether the student was recruited by the institution). An approved waiver requires an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the member institutions, with the involved institution being eligible to participate in the discussion but not in the final vote. A written summary of the faculty representatives' decision will be distributed to all Conference members and kept on file in the Conference office.

#### **Section VI-2. Intra-Conference Transfer Rule.**

A student-athlete who transfers directly to an ACC institution from another ACC institution and who was recruited by the institution from which they are transferring, for

whom the athletics department interceded in the admissions process, or who received any athletically related financial aid during the academic year immediately prior to the transfer is required to complete one (1) academic year (two full semesters or three full quarters) of residency at the certifying ACC institution before being eligible to compete for or to receive athletically related financial aid from the certifying institution. Such an academic year of residency shall count as one of the student-athlete's four (4) permissible seasons of competition permitted under NCAA legislation. During such a year of residency, the student-athlete is permitted to practice pursuant to NCAA eligibility rules regarding practice eligibility. A transfer student-athlete admitted after the twelfth day of class may not utilize that semester or quarter for the purpose of establishing residency. Waivers of this ACC rule may be considered by the ACC faculty representatives, acting as a committee of the whole, provided the student-athlete has qualified for an exception or waiver of the NCAA four-year college transfer rule. Further, the waiver request must demonstrate objective evidence that proves the student-athlete's extraordinary personal hardship merits a waiver of the normal application of the policy. *(Revised: February 2006)*

- a. **Exception.** A student-athlete who receives a baccalaureate degree at one member institution and who has been admitted into a degree program at another member institution may transfer to another member institution without being subject to the intra-conference transfer rule. NCAA transfer regulations would apply. *(Revised: February 2006)*

### **Section VI-3. Intra-Conference National Letter of Intent Rule.**

An individual who signs a valid National Letter of Intent with an ACC institution and does not satisfy the one-year attendance requirement or the Junior College Graduation provision of the National Letter of Intent may not represent another ACC institution in intercollegiate athletics competition until the individual has completed one (1) full academic years of residence at the latter ACC institution and shall be charged with the loss of one (1) season of eligibility in all sports. An individual receiving a mutual release per Item 5 of the National Letter of Intent may not represent another ACC institution in intercollegiate athletics competition until the individual has completed one full academic year at the latter ACC institution and shall be charged with the loss of one season of eligibility in all sports. Waivers of the ACC rule must demonstrate objective evidence that proves the student-athlete's extraordinary personal hardship merits a waiver of the normal application of the policy. These waivers may be considered by the ACC faculty athletics representatives, acting as a committee of the whole, only after all appeals to the National Letter of Intent Steering Committee and the National Letter of Intent Appeals Committee have been processed. *(Revised: April 2007)*