

DUKES COMPLIANCE INSIDER

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APRIL 2009

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NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT REMINDERS

Many Duquesne sports programs will be involved in the next signing period for the 2009-10 National Letter of Intent, which starts on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 (April 15, 2009 for basketball). The following information should be reviewed prior to extending an offer of athletic financial aid to a prospective student-athlete.

Financial Aid Requirement

- The NLI must be accompanied by one full academic year's worth of athletic financial aid (two semesters). It is not permissible for a non-scholarship student to sign a valid NLI (e.g., ceremonial NLI) that does not include an offer of aid. NLIs with offers of aid for one semester will not be validated by the Atlantic 10 and Northeast Conferences.
- With a valid NLI, the PSA's obligation is to attend the institution for one academic year (2 consecutive semesters).

Junior College PSAs Signing an NLI

- 2(yr.)-4(yr.) transfer student-athletes may sign an NLI in the first year of junior college enrollment if he/she was a qualifier and never previously signed an NLI.

14-Day Signing Deadline

- If the PSA and his/her parent/legal guardian fail to sign the NLI within 14 days from the date issued, the NLI will be invalid. In that event, another NLI may be issued within the appropriate signing period.

Parent/Guardian Signature Required

- PSAs who are not yet 21 must have a parent/guardian "cosigner" to the NLI. In the event that such an individual is not available (incarcerated, death, etc.), it is permissible for another approved individual to act as a "cosigner."

Delivery of the NLI

- A coach may NOT be present when a PSA signs an NLI off-campus. NCAA Bylaw 13.1.6.7.1 states any in-person, off-campus contact made with a PSA for the purpose of signing an NLI, or attendance at activities related to the signing of the NLI, or other commitment to attend the institution, is prohibited.
- An NLI may NOT be hand-delivered to a PSA off-campus. However, a PSA can receive an NLI while on campus for an official or unofficial visit.
- An NLI may be delivered and/or received by a PSA via express mail, courier service, regular mail, fax or email.

Media Releases Regarding Signing

- Institutions may not announce a PSA's signing/commitment until they have received a valid, complete copy of the NLI **AND** financial aid agreement.
- Posting pictures and videos of a PSA that has signed an NLI on an institutionally-controlled web site is permitted.

Dead Periods

- There are recruiting Dead Periods for all sports participating in the NLI process, which typically surrounds the initial date(s) for each respective signing period. Below is a list of the remaining NLI signing dates. Please also refer to the additional information about Dead Periods (pg. 3) and the April Recruiting Calendar (pg. 4) that can be found in this newsletter.

2009-10 National Letter of Intent Signing Dates

Sport	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Football	February 4, 2009	April 1, 2009
Soccer, Track/Cross Country	February 4, 2009	August 1, 2009
Basketball	April 15, 2009	May 20, 2009
All Other Sports	April 8, 2009	August 1, 2009

COMPLIANCE DID YOU KNOW??

Summer Outside Competition and Practice

Many times the Compliance Office fields questions regarding outside (non-Duquesne) team involvement by its student-athletes. Typically, a student-athlete would like to continue participating in their sport over the summer in a competitive league or club. As returning DU student-athletes, in most cases, they are permitted to practice and possibly compete on such teams and/or as an individual, in activities that take place outside of an institution's declared playing and practice seasons during an official vacation period (e.g., summer). Prior approval for this must be provided by a student-athlete's head coach, the Compliance Office, and in some cases the Director of Athletics. This can easily be obtained by contacting the Compliance Office and obtaining an **"Approval For Out-of-Season Vacation Period Participation Form."** Please note, in some cases, there are limitations on the types of leagues student-athletes may participate in, the proximity of the league to their home and/or campus, and the number of fellow DU teammates who may represent the same outside team. Specifically, sports like basketball, soccer and women's volleyball have additional restrictions. NCAA Bylaw 14.7 (Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility) and the respective sport's section in Bylaw 17 can provide more information about these regulations.

Upcoming Meetings:

Staff & Coaches

Tues., April 14 @ 9:30am

Coaches Roundtable

Tues., April 21 (TBA)

SAAC

Mon., April 6 @ 9:00pm

Mon., April 20 @ 9:00pm

*All meetings are held in the AJ Palumbo Center Team Room.



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REMINDER



Student-Athlete Employment

If a student-athlete is currently employed or plans on obtaining a job for the remainder of the spring semester, or in the summer, they must fill-out an Employment Approval Form as soon as possible. The NCAA requires that this information is reported to the Compliance Office to ensure that amateurism and eligibility standards are maintained. Student-Athletes can stop by to see Rick or Lindsay in the Compliance Office to pick-up the form to be completed.

Interpretation of the Month:

Meals and Lodging while in Transit to Official Visit

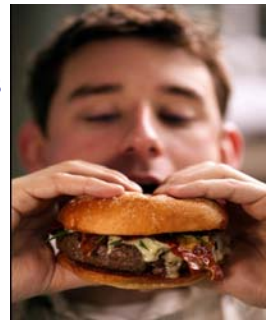
This recent rules interpretation covers issues related to meals and lodging for prospective student-athletes while they are traveling to our campus for an official visit. Please let us know if there are any questions about the initiation of the 48-hour official visit period.

(a) A prospective student-athlete may receive lodging in the locale of the institution without beginning the 48-hour official visit period in instances in which he or she arrives in the locale too late to begin the official visit that day. Such expenses may not be provided for any other individual who is accompanying the prospective student-athlete on the official visit (e.g., parents, spouse) prior to the start of the 48-hour official visit period, including the cost of additional occupants in the room.

(b) A prospective student-athlete may receive a drive-thru or "to-go" meal while in transit with an athletics department staff member from the major airport or bus or train station nearest the institution without beginning the 48-hour official visit period. Such expenses may not be provided for any other individual who is accompanying the prospective student-athlete on the official visit (e.g., parents, spouse, children) prior to the start of the 48-hour official visit period.

(c) A prospective student-athlete may receive a "sit-down" meal at the major airport or bus or train station nearest the institution while accompanied by an athletics department staff member at the time of his or her arrival for an official visit or a "sit-down" or "drive-in" meal enroute to the institution's campus with an athletics department staff member, even if such a meal occurs outside a 30-mile radius of the institution's campus; however, such a meal begins the 48-hour official visit period. Under these circumstances, the prospective student-athlete's parents (or legal guardians), spouse and/or children may also receive such a meal.

(d) A prospective student-athlete may receive a meal at or in the vicinity of his or her place of lodging without beginning the 48-hour official visit period in instances in which he or she arrives in the locale of the institution too late to begin the official visit that day, provided no athletics department staff members or student-athletes are present during the meal. Such expenses may not be provided for any other individual who is accompanying the prospective student-athlete on the official visit (e.g., parents, spouse, children) prior to the start of the 48-hour official visit period.



Recruiting Calendar “Periods” Defined

A **“Dead Period”** is a period of time when it is not permissible to:

- Make in-person recruiting contracts or evaluations on or off the institution’s campus;
- Permit official or unofficial visits by prospective student-athletes to the campus; and
- Allow a coach to serve as a speaker at or attend a meeting or banquet at which prospective student athletes are in attendance.

It remains permissible, however, for an institutional staff member to write or telephone a prospective student-athlete during a dead period. Dead Periods usually occur around the signing of the National Letter of Intent and the national coaches’ conventions and championships of specific sports.

During an **“Evaluation Period”** it is permissible to be involved in off-campus activities designated to assess the academic qualifications and playing abilities of prospects. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall be made with the prospect during an evaluation period

A **“Quiet Period”** consists of a of time when it is permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts only on the member institution’s campus. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts or evaluations may be made during the quiet period.

A **“Contact Period”** is a period of time when it is permissible to make in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts and evaluations of prospective student-athletes.



“If student-athletes fail to return their textbooks within a week of final exams, they will be billed 50% of the retail cost of each book.”

Duquesne Athletics Textbook Policy

At the beginning of each semester, those student-athletes awarded books on athletic grant-in aid will be compiled on a list and provided to the campus bookstore. The student-athlete will then be issued **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS ONLY** for each course. Receiving duplicate copies or additional materials is prohibited. If a student-athlete drops a course, he or she must notify the Office of Academic Support Services for Student-Athletes and the book must be returned to the bookstore for credit. If a course is added, an updated class schedule must be presented to the bookstore in order to be issued new books. All textbooks purchased are property of the Athletic Department.

All textbooks and accessories must be returned to the Office of Academic Support Services for Student-Athletes staff member in the designated student-athlete textbook return location during the textbook return times at the end of each semester or one week after final exams. Textbooks and accessories **should not** be left with a bookstore staff member or returned for cash. Any packets, manuals, or CD ROMs that come with a book or are



required for class, must be returned. Student-athletes must receive documented authorization from the Office of Office of Academic Support Services for Student-Athletes in the Athletic Department in order to keep text necessary to finish an incomplete course or for a class offered the following semester. If student-athletes fail to return their textbooks within a week of final exams, they will be billed 50% of the retail cost of each book. They will also become ineligible to receive textbooks for the following semester and a hold will be placed on their academic record until the bill is paid. This includes books that may have been lost or stolen; there will be no exceptions.

COMPLIANCE HOT SEAT

University of Alabama Textbook Violation Case

As reported by ESPN.com

Last month, The University of Alabama told the NCAA that athletes improperly obtained free textbooks from other students and that the school had failed to adequately monitor distribution. The violation was reported after uncovering them during the 2007 football season, when five players were suspended. The infractions occurred in several sports and included allowing athletes to improperly receive textbooks and other supplies, failure to monitor textbook distribution and to provide adequate education on the rules to athletes and employees at the university bookstore. The violations allegedly occurred from 2005-06 school year through the fall of 2007, which means the University could be punished as a repeat violator. Along with claiming that other athletes intentionally broke



five football players for four games for using their athletic scholarship to get free textbooks for others. “These intentional wrongdoers knew that they were taking advantage of the University and its supply store,” the University said in its response to the NCAA. “However, these student-athletes believed that because the textbooks were either returned to the supply store or charged to them if not returned, no NCAA rules were implicated by their conduct.” The University said none of the textbooks or materials were used for profit or to get items not related to academics, and that the athletes involved who still have remaining eligibility have had to pay restitution. The violations were exposed after an Alabama supply store employee noticed that one athlete had more than \$1600 in charges for the Fall semester of ‘07.

APRIL 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Proposal to Watch: No. 2008-29

Voluntary Summer Conditioning

In sports other than football and basketball, a prospective student-athlete may engage in voluntary summer workouts conducted by an institution's strength and conditioning coach with department-wide duties and may receive workout apparel (on an issuance and retrieval basis), provided he or she is enrolled in the institution's summer term prior to the student's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution; further, an institution may finance medical expenses for a prospective student-athlete who sustains an injury while participating in such workouts. If passed in late-April, this legislation will be **effective IMMEDIATELY**.

DUKES COMPLIANCE TRIVIA

Answer the following question related directly to Bylaws found in the 2008-09 NCAA Division I Manual. **The first DU Athletics staff member to email the correct answer with the relevant Bylaw cited to Lindsay (busseyl@duq.edu) in the Compliance Office wins a gift card to Barnes & Nobles.** The winner will be announced in the next edition of the Weekly DU Compliance Item.

Which of the following statements is **NOT TRUE concerning activities during a "dead period"?*

- A coach may not attend a banquet where a PSA is in attendance.
- Coaches may not write or telephone a PSA.
- If a PSA visits the institution as a part of a group during the dead period, he or she may be offered complimentary admissions.

April Recruiting Calendar:

Football

- Quiet Period: April 1-14
- Evaluation Period: April 15-30

Men's Basketball

- Dead Periods: April 2-9 (noon); 13-16
- Contact Periods: April 9 (noon)-12; 17-22
- Quiet Period: April 1; 23-30

Women's Basketball

- Contact Periods: April 1-2
- Dead Periods: April 3-9; 13-16
- Quiet Period: April 10-12; 22-30
- Evaluation Period: April 17-21*
 - * Evaluation permitted at nonscholastic WBB events during April 17-19

Baseball, Women's Volleyball, Women's Lacrosse, and All Other Sports, except Soccer and Track/XC

- Dead Period: April 6-9



GOT COMPLIANCE?

**Have a question about NCAA rules?
Please contact the Duquesne Athletics
Compliance Office at:**

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