



COMPLIANCE THE NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2005

VOL. 4, NO. 10

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MAKING PROGRESS?

Just as the Fall semester draws to an end, the process of certifying the continuing eligibility of our student-athletes for the remainder of the academic year begins. Over two years ago, the NCAA revised its academic standards in an attempt to ensure the established measures will increase the graduation rates of student-athletes. This new “academic reform” has two different standards, primarily based on when a student-athlete initially enrolled in college on a full-time basis.

Enrolled full-time in college prior to August 1, 2003

In order to maintain athletic eligibility, a student-athlete must meet the following requirements:

- Complete 24 semester credits over the last two regular academic terms or an average of 12 hours per semester.
- No more than 6 of the 24 hours may be earned in the summer (25% overall).
- 6 hours of academic credit must be earned in the previous regular full-time academic term.
- Declare a major no later than the beginning of the fifth semester or third year of enrollment and, thereafter, complete the required credits in courses applicable to the declared major.
- Complete 25%, 50%, and 75% of the degree requirements before the beginning of the third, fourth, and fifth years of enrollment, respectively.
- Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average that is 90% of minimum GPA required to graduate (at least 1.8) at the beginning of the third year and 95% of the minimum GPA (1.9) at the beginning of the fourth and fifth years.

Enrolled on or after August 1, 2003

To maintain eligibility, a student-athlete must meet these minimum requirements:

- Complete 24 credits prior to the second year of enrollment.
- 18 semester credits must be earned during the academic year (excluding summer).
- 6 academic credits must be earned in the previous regular academic term of full-time enrollment.
- Declare a major no later than the beginning of the fifth semester or third year of enrollment and, thereafter, complete the required credits in courses applicable to the declared major.

>>CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 - - SEE PROGRESS>>



PROPOSAL 2 WATCH 4: #2005-70: LOCAL SPORTS CLUB - 50-MILE RADIUS

The current rule does not permit prospective student-athletes outside of a 50-mile radius of the institution to participate in a local sports club in which the institution’s coach is involved with (i.e. coaching). However, a recently submitted proposal by an NCAA committee would afford a prospect that resides outside of this distance the opportunity to be involved with the club, provided the institution documents that the club is the closest option for the student-athlete to participate in the sport. Citing numerous waiver requests that have been granted regarding the present legislation, the NCAA’s rationale is that no true recruiting advantage is gained by an institution. The initial review for this proposal will take place in January.

MAKING PROGRESS ? *(continued from Page 1)*

- Complete 40%, 60%, and 80% of the degree requirements before the beginning of the third, fourth and fifth years of enrollment, respectively.
- Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average that is 90% of minimum GPA required to graduate (at least 1.8) at the beginning of the second year, 95% of the minimum GPA (1.9) at the beginning of the fourth year and 100% of the minimum GPA (2.0) by the fifth year.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS/INTERPRETATIONS

- **MID-YEAR GPA CERTIFICATION**

For student-athletes whose initial enrollment was in the Fall 2003 semester, or later, the grade-point average requirement, as per NCAA Bylaw 14.4.3.3, must be certified on a term-by-term basis, starting with the completion of their third semester. Therefore, those student-athletes enrolled full-time in their second year of college must have at least the 90% (1.8) GPA requirement again at the end of the Fall term (in addition to subsequent terms).

- **TIMING OF CERTIFICATION AND CHANGE IN ELIGIBILITY STATUS**

The NCAA recently confirmed that if a student-athlete's eligibility changes at the end of a semester the student-athlete would become eligible or ineligible on the date that his or her particular eligibility is officially certified by the appropriate institutional authority (i.e., registrar). The certification of eligibility does not have to occur on the same day for all student-athletes at the certifying institution, but it may not be earlier than the day after the date of the last scheduled examination for the term that is ending, or later than the first day of classes of the following semester.

- **CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY AT THE END OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR (NEW INTERPRETATION)**

The NCAA recently determined that a student-athlete who was eligible for competition at the beginning of the academic year, but became ineligible at midyear, (e.g., due to failure to meet the six-hour requirement) could be certified as eligible at the end of the academic year for competition in a season already in-progress (e.g., outdoor track & field, baseball), provided the student-athlete meets all applicable progress toward degree requirements to be eligible for competition during the following fall semester. [Reference: Bylaw 14.1.10 (change in eligibility status)].

COMPLIANCE XPRESS: VACATION PERIOD REMINDERS

HOLIDAY EMPLOYMENT

NCAA Bylaw 15.2.7 addresses the issue of whether student-athletes are allowed to work over the holiday break. Basically, a student-athlete may obtain a job as long as the individual is compensated for work actually performed, is paid the going rate and is not compensated for publicity, reputation, fame or personal following that he or she has obtained because of their athletic ability. The NCAA has recently relaxed the rules regarding employment for student-athletes. There is no limit to the amount a student-athlete can earn from legitimate employment throughout the year. Student-athletes who work during the vacation period(s) are not required to complete the employment forms mandated for employment during the regular academic year.

TRAVEL DURING VACATION PERIOD

An institution traveling to a regular season competition during the institution's official vacation period may depart for the competition either 48 hours prior to the start of the competition or at the beginning of the institution's official vacation period. Further, an institution shall return to campus at the end of the institution's official vacation period or depart from the competition site not more than 36 hours following the conclusion of the event.

REQUIRED DAY OFF NOT MANDATORY DURING VACATION PERIOD

An institution is not required to provide student-athletes with one day off per week during a vacation period, provided classes are not in session during any portion of that week.

COMPLIANCE DID YOU KNOW??

AUDIO / VIDEO MATERIALS

A Division I institution may not produce audio/video materials to show or send to a prospect, unless it meets one of the following exceptions:

- 1) Highlight film/videotape/audio tape.
- 2) Nonathletics materials available to all students.
- 3) Hall of Fame/Museum video/audio tape.

What about...

Slide Presentations

Slide presentations that are computer-generated such as PowerPoint or Corel Show...are not permissible within the recruiting process. E-mailing a similar presentation as an attachment is also not permissible.

Electronic Greeting Cards

An institution may not provide greeting cards (e.g., birthday cards, holiday cards) to a prospect or prospect's coach. Electronic greeting cards also may not be provided to a prospect or a prospect's coach.

Online Notecards/Postcards

General correspondence, including letters and postcards issued by the U.S. Postal Service (i.e., blank card) and institutional notecards, may be sent to a prospect. Online notecards may only be provided to a prospect if considered to be an institutional notecard, and may be sport-specific if approved by the institution.

Media Guides/Recruiting Brochures

An institution may produce both a media guide/recruiting brochure in print and electronic form provided:

- 1) Similar information is contained within both publications.
- 2) The electronic version may not contain audio/video clips and must contain only one color of printing inside the covers.
- 3) You cannot give a prospect both a hard copy and electronic copy of the media guide/recruiting brochure.

COMPLIANCE HOT SEAT:

BRADLEY MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYERS SUSPENDED FOR EMPLOYMENT VIOLATIONS

Two Bradley University men's basketball players were suspended by the NCAA recently for getting paid for work they did not perform while on their summer jobs. Two other players also accused of being paid for work they did not do were forced to repay the money.

Center Patrick O'Bryant was suspended for eight games and point guard Will Franklin must sit out six games. The suspensions were handed down last month and the school appealed the move. The NCAA's Student-Athlete Reinstatement Division upheld the decision recently, the university said. The school said the players inadvertently violated the NCAA's extra-benefit/employment rule.

The NCAA said O'Bryant received a total of \$1,100 for work he did not do over the summer. For eight weeks, he was paid \$400 a week regardless of whether he showed up for work. Meanwhile, Franklin was paid more than \$40 an hour for a job that should have paid only about \$12 an hour. The school told the NCAA that two other basketball players also were paid for work not performed, but the infractions were deemed to be less serious. Those two other players, who have not been named because they were not suspended, were ordered to repay the money.

GAMBLING REMINDER

As the College Football Bowl season approaches, please remember that as per NCAA regulation (Bylaw 10.3 - Gambling Activities), it is impermissible for student-athletes and/or athletic department staff members to wager money or tangible items on any sport - both college or professional. If found to be involved in sports wagering activities, student-athletes risk the penalty of losing one year of athletic participation and competition.



SIGNING DATES FOR THE 2006-2007 NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

SPORT

INITIAL SIGNING DATE

FINAL SIGNING DATE

Basketball (Regular Period)
Soccer
Football
All Other Sports (Regular Period)

April 12, 2006
February 1, 2006
February 1, 2006
April 12, 2006

May 17, 2006
August 1, 2006
April 1, 2006
August 1, 2006



DECEMBER 2005

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| | | | | 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 | 31 |



DECEMBER COMPLIANCE QUIZ

Answer the following questions related directly to Bylaws found in the 2005-06 NCAA Division I Manual. The first DU Athletics staff member to e-mail the correct answers to the Compliance Office (christensen@duq.edu) wins a prize from the **Duquesne University Bookstore**.

TOPIC - COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSIONS (TICKETS)

TRUE or FALSE:

- 1.) An institution may provide up to four complimentary tickets per home or away contest to a student-athlete in the sport that they participate in.
- 2.) NCAA rules permit student-athletes to sell their complimentary tickets and/or receive something of value in exchange for the ticket.
- 3.) A nonqualifier is not permitted to receive a complimentary ticket to any of the institution's home contests during the first academic year of residence.
- 4.) During an official visit, a maximum of three complimentary tickets to a home athletic event may be provided to a prospective student-athlete, giving them access to a special seating section and/or the press box.

*November's Compliance Quiz Answers:
1-F, 2-F, 3-T, 4-T, 5-F

**NOVEMBER'S
COMPLIANCE QUIZ
WINNER:**

KATIE KIRSTEN
Women's Rowing Head Coach



DECEMBER DIVISION I RECRUITING CALENDARS

Baseball

Dec. 1 - 31 Quiet

Men's Basketball

Dec. 1 - 23 Evaluation
Dec. 24 - 26 Dead
Dec. 27 - 31 Evaluation

Women's Basketball

Dec. 1 - 23 Evaluation
Dec. 24 - 26 Dead
Dec. 27 - 31 Evaluation

Football

Dec. 1 - 17 Contact
Dec. 18 Quiet
Dec. 19 - Jan. 1 Dead

Women's Volleyball

Dec. 1 - 4 Contact/Eval.
Dec. 5 - 13 Quiet
Dec. 14 - 31 Dead

Women's Lacrosse

Dec. 1 - 31 Quiet

Contact Period - permissible to make in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts and evaluations.

Evaluation Period - permissible to be involved in off-campus activities designed to assess the academic qualifications and playing ability of prospects. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall be made with the prospect during an evaluation period.

Quiet Period - 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.

Dead Period - not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the member institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by prospects to the institution's campus.

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMPLIANCE OFFICE

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