



The 'Dons Defender

Mastodon Athletic Compliance News

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Recruiting Calendars October 2009

Baseball

Oct.: Contact

Men's Basketball

Oct. 1-5: Contact

Oct. 6-31: Evaluation

Women's Basketball

Oct. 1-6: Contact

Oct. 2-4: Evals permitted at

nonscholastic WBB events

Oct. 7-31: Evaluation

Cross Country/Track

Oct.: Contact

Soccer

Contact

Softball

Contact :

Women's Volleyball

Contact

Other Sports: Contact

Compliance Newsletter

October 2009

Study Shows Increased DI Spending on Academics

NCAA News - Almost 92 percent of Division I institutions report that spending on academic support for student-athletes remained steady or increased since 2007, even though more than half of those schools cut overall athletics spending in the wake of the national economic downturn. The finding was part of an NCAA study this summer of academic-support services for student-athletes at DI institutions.

The study also showed that more institutions reported coaches becoming more supportive of the academic success of their student-athletes, an effect tied directly to the increase in academic standards brought by enhanced progress-toward-degree requirements and other policies established by the Academic Performance Program. The study found that most schools experienced a 1-20 percent increase in total spending on academic programs over the last two years, with 12 percent reporting even greater increases. At the same time, overall reductions on athletics were identified. Football Bowl Subdivision members reported spending more on academic-support services than their counterparts in the Football

Championship Subdivision and Division I programs without football. The median total academic-support budget reported at the FBS level was up \$655,000, compared with about \$150,000 in the other subdivisions. Similarly, more FBS institutions reported greater use of academic resources among their student-athletes than those in other subdivisions.

FBS schools also reported that they were more likely to provide a broader array of academic-support services than those in the other subdivisions. Most schools, however, offer assistance with course selection, degree-progress monitoring, class-attendance checks, study-hall facilities, course-specific tutoring and computer labs for student-athletes. Many institutions reported requiring the use of academic-support services, such as study hall, for incoming freshmen student-athletes. Though recent NCAA data collected through the APP have indicated that many incoming transfer student-athletes are at risk academically, fewer schools are likely to require transfers to take advantage of the academic-support opportunities available to them.

NLI Committee Adopts Policy on Release Procedures

The National Letter of Intent Policy and Review Committee of the Collegiate Commissioners Association has adopted a policy to render null and void any letter of intent that contains any advance agreements that would release the prospect in case of a coaching change or other circumstance.

The change addresses evidence of institutions making such arrangements with prospects for a release to be granted should circumstances warrant, such as a coaching-staff change.

"The committee is saying this isn't the intent of the NLI program," said Susan Peal, the associate director of operations at the NCAA Eligibility Center and liaison to the committee. "We have a formal release process in place."

Peal said if prospective student-athletes want to be released from the National Letter of Intent

agreement, they should submit the release-request form. The formal NLI release process has been established to ensure consistency among all NLI member institutions and to maintain accurate NLI records. The committee does not want institutions to be negotiating their own agreements.

Violations of this policy, Peal said, could bring other institutional penalties (such as a letter of reprimand and possible expulsion from the NLI program) in addition to the NLI being declared null and void.

Divisions I and II presidents and chancellors, athletic directors and commissioners were notified about the policy, and IPFW coaches were made aware Tuesday morning in the monthly rules education meeting.

NLI Early Signing Period

The NLI Early Signing Period for all sports other than soccer, track and field, and cross-country is on Wednesday, November 11, and ends on Wednesday, November 18. The dead period surrounding the initial signing date is Monday, November 9, to Thursday, November 12. The time period for unlimited phone calls runs from Monday, November 9, to Wednesday, November 11.

Coaches, please get your NLI request forms to the Compliance Office as early as possible! Also, please verify that all the information on the request form is complete and accurate. Also, make sure you have the correct address as to where the

NLI should be sent.

If you have tentative commits or requests, go ahead and submit the information, but confirm with the Compliance Office that the NLI will be held until your decision to send it out. This way, if the prospect commits late in the signing period, the NLI can be sent out immediately.

In accordance with NCAA Bylaws 13.1.6.7 and 13.1.6.7.1, a coach or an institutional representative may not hand deliver an NLI off campus or be present off campus at the time a prospective student-athlete signs it. An NLI may be delivered by express mail, courier service, regular mail, e-

mail, or facsimile machine. An NLI transmitted by fax machine or electronically shall be considered valid.

All participating conferences and institutions are obligated to respect a prospective student-athlete's signing and shall cease to recruit that PSA upon his/her signing an NLI. A prospective student-athlete is obligated to notify any recruiter who contacts him/her that he/she has signed an NLI. Once the prospective student-athlete enrolls in the institution named in the document, the NLI "Recruiting Ban" is no longer in effect, and the applicable recruiting bylaws go back into effect.

Redshirts and Medical Redshirts

Bylaw 14.2.3.1 states: Any competition, regardless of time, during an intercollegiate athletics season counts as a season of competition in that sport. Even if a student-athlete participates for one second of a competition, it shall count as one of their four seasons of competition. Likewise, **Bylaw 14.2.3.1.3** states: Student-athletes, in the sports of soccer and basketball, in their initial year of enrollment may compete in preseason exhibition contests and preseason practice scrimmages (as permitted in their sport) without counting as a season of competition.

Medical Hardship Waiver

A Student-athlete may be granted an additional year of eligibility if they suffer an incapacitating injury or illness and the injury/illness occurs:

During one of the four seasons of intercollegiate competition or subsequent to the first day of class during the student-athlete's senior year of high school;

Prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship and results in incapacity to compete for remainder of the season;

In team sports, the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition or 30% (whichever is greater) of the scheduled or completed contests/dates of competition; and

In individual sports, the student-athlete has not participated in more than three dates of competition or 30% (whichever number is greater) of the maximum permissible number of dates of competition plus one date for a conference championship.

Compliance Wordy Gurdy

September's Infraction Answer: It is not permissible for there to be any involvement whatsoever by the institution or representative of its athletics interests (boosters). Additionally, boosters may not contact a prospect at any time, including after the prospect signs an NLI, Offer of Admission and/or athletics aid.

October's Wordy Gurdy: Use the clues to come up with two word, rhyming answers!

1. More intelligent first stringer (_____) (_____)
2. A wise enrolled one (_____) (_____)
3. Simmer sideline stroller (_____) (_____)
4. Educational plague (_____) (_____)
5. All the rage bylaw (_____) (_____)
6. Greet a prospective student-athlete (_____) (_____)
7. Nonprofessional antagonist (_____) (_____)
8. More gloomy letter of appeal (_____) (_____)
9. Disobedience of conformity (_____) (_____)
10. Countable Athletically Related Activities possession of local outfitter's paisley products (_____) (_____)

Find the answers to October's Compliance Wordy Gurdy in next month's issue! Be sure to enter your answers as they will be totaled during the 2009-10 year for a championship competition during the June 2010 Rules Education meeting. Participants may email their answers to Ryne Hillenberg. He will confirm number of correct answers submitted.

Featured Compliance Question:

What are the rules regarding publicity before and after a prospective student-athlete signs an NLI or Offer of Admission, and what can and can not be done?

Presence of Media during Recruiting Contact: IPFW shall not permit a media entity to be present during any recruiting contact made by a coaching staff member.

Comments before Signing: Before the signing of a PSA to an NLI or a written offer of admission and/or financial aid, IPFW may comment publicly only to the extent of confirming its recruitment of the PSA. IPFW may not comment generally about the PSA's ability or the contribution that the PSA might make to one of IPFW's sports teams. IPFW is precluded from commenting in any manner as to the likelihood of the PSA's signing with IPFW.

PSA's Visit: IPFW shall not publicize (or arrange for publicity of) a PSA's visit to Indiana's campus. A PSA may not participate in team activities that would make the public or media aware of the PSA's visit to IPFW (e.g., running onto the floor/field with the team, celebratory walks to or around the stadium or arena, on-field pre-game celebrations).

Introduction of PSA: IPFW may not introduce a visiting PSA at a function (e.g., awards banquet or an IPFW athletic contest) that is attended by media representatives or open to the general public.

Evaluations for Media Recruiting Services: Athletics department staff members shall not evaluate or rate a PSA for news, media, scouting services or recruiting services prior to the PSA's signed acceptance of IPFW's written offer of admission/ or written tender of financial assistance to be provided upon the PSA's enrollment.

Intent to Enroll: IPFW shall not publicize (or arrange for publicity of) a PSA's intention to accept its offer of financial assistance.

Photograph of PSA: It is permissible for IPFW to photograph a PSA during a campus visit to be used in IPFW's permissible publicity and promotional activities (e.g., press release, media guide), but the photograph may not be given to the PSA. It is permissible for IPFW to use a PSA's photograph in printed IPFW items (e.g., season ticket brochure) that promote a sport's season in which the PSA will participate as a student athlete, provided the PSA has signed a NLI or IPFW's written offer of admission and/or financial aid and the PSA's name or photograph is not used in any promotional items that involve the purchase or receipt of commercial advertising (e.g., season-ticket advertisement in newspapers or on a billboard).

Media Releases Regarding Signing: Publicity released by IPFW concerning a PSA's commitment to attend IPFW shall occur only after the PSA has signed a NLI or subsequent to the PSA's signed acceptance or IPFW's written offer of admission and/or financial aid. Such communication (with no limit on the number or content) may be released to the media outlets at the institution's discretion except as limited by Bylaw 13.10.8.2. IPFW is prohibited from purchasing or receiving commercial advertising (e.g., print, media, or billboard) to be used to identify a PSA by name or picture.

Video Clips: It shall be permissible for IPFW to show video clips

of a PSA during its announcement of the PSA's signing, provided such publicity occurs only after the PSA has signed a NLI or subsequent to the PSA's signed acceptance of IPFW's written offer of admission and/or financial aid. Other PSA's may appear in the video clips, provided the focus of the clips is related to the PSA who has committed to IPFW.

One-Time Press Conference: IPFW may conduct one formal press conference on its campus for the sole purpose or presenting to the media the names of all PSAs in a sport who have signed an NLI or acceptance written offers of admission and/or financial aid from IPFW, with the understanding that no PSAs (or their friends or relatives) may be in attendance.

Celebratory Functions: Coaching staff members may attend functions designed to celebrate the institution's signees in the applicable sport and may discuss prospective student-athletes who have signed commitments to attend the institution, including discussions with working media, provided the institution previously has released communications of the PSA's commitments to attend the institution to media outlets.

Independent Announcement by PSA: Press conferences to announce the signing may be arranged independently by the PSA (or the PSA's family), provided there is no arrangement or involvement whatsoever by IPFW or representatives of its athletic interests.

Booster Functions: IPFW may produce a single highlight film (one per sport), which includes video clips of all PSAs who have signed an NLI or accepted a written offer of admission and/or financial aid from IPFW, to show in conjunction with celebratory functions. Other PSAs may appear in the video clips, provided the focus of the clips is related to the PSA who has committed to IPFW.

Staff Member Presence: IPFW staff members are expressly prohibited from personal contact with media representatives at the site of the signing or at any other prearranged site when a PSA accepts an offer made by IPFW. This does not preclude the presence of bona fide media representatives who are employed on a part-time basis with the school.

Signings on Campus: IPFW is responsible for signings on its campus (whether involving an individual or a group of PSAs). Any contact by the media with PSAs on campus during the time the PSA signs an NLI or tender of financial aid shall be considered to be prima facie evidence of institutional involvement in arranging media involvement and shall be prohibited.

Press-Release Content: The contents of a properly issued press release may be determined by IPFW and may include comments by its coaching staff members about the abilities of the PSA.

[NCAA Bylaw 13.10]



THANK YOU FOR ASKING!

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October Random Fact:

An NCAA memo went out to member institutions recently regarding bagel and bread spreads. In locker rooms across the country, programs have fruit, energy bars and bagels, which according to Bylaw 16.5.2.g are legal. However, according to the memo, providing cream cheese and butter as condiments for the bagels is illegal, stressing an emphasis in more balanced nutrition.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL IPFW SPORTS COMPETING IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER!

GO 'DONS!!!

1. When taking recruiting trips, it is imperative that you complete a request to travel form (located on the athletic forms website) and submit it to the compliance office. After being approved, the form must be given to Tim Heffron who signs off and forwards the form to Bev Saalfrank. Bev then fulfills any monetary need you may have.
2. In regards to all prospective student-athletes coming to IPFW for an official visit, you must turn in an official visit record, most recent transcript, and test scores (if applicable). In addition, all prospects must be fully registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse.
3. Lastly, please provide the names and Clearinghouse IDs of any walk-on student-athletes joining IPFW teams during the 2009-10 academic year to the compliance office.

2009-2010 ACT/SAT Test Dates

ACT	September 12, 2009	October 10, 2009
	October 24, 2009	November 7, 2009
	December 12, 2009	December 5, 2009
	February 6, 2010	January 23, 2010
	April 10, 2010	March 13, 2010
	June 12, 2010	May 1, 2010
		June 5, 2010
		SAT

2009-2010 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

FALL	Aug. 24, Classes Begin	SPRING	Jan. 11, Classes Begin
	Sept. 7, Labor Day Holiday		Jan. 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
	Oct. 12-13, Fall Recess		Mar. 8-14, Spring Recess
	Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Recess		May 3-9, Finals Week
	Dec. 14-20, Finals Week		

DON'S DEFENDER OF THE MONTH



For the month of October, the Don's Defender of the Month Award goes to the following people for learning how to conduct initial eligibility evaluations for prospective student-athletes.

Women's Basketball Staff: Chris Paul, Head Coach, Alex Webster, Assistant Coach, Hilary O'Connell, Assistant Coach, Ali Mann, Assistant Coach

August's Defender: Men's Baseball Staff

September's Defender: Robert Barrett and Jack Dahl