



Athletic Trainer's Rules Education Session

Topics to Discuss...

- ✓ NCAA Bylaw 10.1
- ✓ Recruiting
- ✓ Medical Examinations
- ✓ Medical Expenses
- ✓ Terminology (Medical Waivers, etc.)
- ✓ Extra Benefits
- ✓ Gambling
- ✓ Agents
- ✓ Promotional Activity/Donations

Definition of an Institutional Staff Member

The unethical-conduct provisions set forth in Bylaw 10.1 applicable to institutional staff members include **any individual who performs work for the institution or the athletics department**, even if the individual is a student at the institution (e.g., student manager, student trainer) **and/or does not receive compensation from the institution for performing such services (e.g., volunteer coaches, undergraduate assistant coaches and graduate assistant coaches)**.

10.1 UNETHICAL CONDUCT

Unethical conduct by a prospective or enrolled student-athlete or a current or former institutional staff member (e.g., coach, professor, tutor, teaching assistant, student manager, student trainer) may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Refusal to furnish information relevant to an investigation of a possible violation of an NCAA regulation when requested to do so by the NCAA or the individual's institution;
- (b) Knowing involvement in arranging for fraudulent academic credit or false transcripts for a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete;

- (c) Knowing involvement in offering or providing a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete an improper inducement or extra benefit or improper financial aid;
- (d) Knowingly furnishing the NCAA or the individual's institution false or misleading information concerning the individual's involvement in or knowledge of matters relevant to a possible violation of an NCAA regulation;

- (e) Receipt of benefits by an institutional staff member for facilitating or arranging a meeting between a student-athlete and an agent, financial advisor or a representative of an agent or advisor (e.g., "runner");
- (f) Knowing involvement in providing a banned substance or impermissible supplement to student-athletes, or knowingly providing medications to student-athletes contrary to medical licensure, commonly accepted standards of care in sports medicine practice, or state and federal law;

- (g) Failure to provide complete and accurate information to the NCAA or institution's admissions office regarding an individual's academic record (e.g., schools attended, completion of coursework, grades and test scores);
- (h) Fraudulence or misconduct in connection with entrance or placement examinations; or
- (i) Engaging in any athletics competition under an assumed name or with intent to otherwise deceive.

Representative of Athletics Interests (Booster)

A "representative of the institution's athletics interests" is an individual, independent agency, corporate entity (e.g., apparel or equipment manufacturer) or other organization who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to:

- (a) Have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program;
- (b) Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;

Representative of Athletics Interests (Booster) (cont.)

- (c) Be assisting or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
- (d) Be assisting or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families; or
- (e) Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution's athletics program.

Ex. Former S/As, Season Ticket Holders, Staff Members, Donors, etc...

Terms of the Booster

- Once an individual, independent agency, corporate entity or other organization is identified as such a representative, the person, independent agency, corporate entity or other organization retains that identity ***indefinitely.***



Definition of a Prospect

- **A prospective student-athlete is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's relatives or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students generally. An individual remains a prospective student-athlete until one of the following occurs (whichever is earlier):**
 - **(a) The individual officially registers and enrolls in a minimum full-time program of studies and attends classes in any term of a four-year collegiate institution's regular academic year (excluding summer); or**
 - **(b) The individual participates in a regular squad practice or competition at a four-year collegiate institution that occurs before the beginning of any term; or**
 - **(c) The individual officially registers and enrolls and attends classes during the summer prior to initial enrollment and receives institutional athletics aid.**

13.11.2 Comments Before Signing

An institution is not permitted to announce the signing of a prospect until after the signing of the National Letter of Intent (NLI) or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid.

- The institution is permitted to **confirm** the **recruitment** of a prospect. However, we are not permitted to make general comments regarding their ability or their potential contribution as a student-athlete.
- **In your capacity you should not be talking about who we are recruiting with fans or other students.**

Medical Examinations

- During a prospect's official or unofficial visit to campus, a member institution, through its regular team or other designated physician, may conduct a medical examination to determine the prospect's medical qualifications to participate in intercollegiate athletics.
- A single scouting bureau recognized by a professional league is permitted to conduct one medical examination per student-athlete during the academic year without jeopardizing the student-athlete's eligibility in that sport, provided the examination does not occur off campus.

Speaking Engagements

- **Off-campus Medical Examinations.**

It is permissible for an institution's athletic trainer to visit a high school for the purpose of providing information regarding athletics injuries to high school trainers or for the purpose of examining prospects for possible athletically related injuries, provided the trainer is not directed by the institution's athletic department to visit the high school, the examination does not include any test or procedure designed to measure the ability or skill of the prospect and no recruiting activities occur.

Speaking Engagements (cont.)

- **Sports Medicine Clinic for Prospects.**

Prospects may attend a sports medicine clinic or seminar sponsored by an institution's athletic trainer that offers information on injury prevention and rehabilitation, and allows participation in clinical activities (i.e., use of rehab equipment), provided the clinic is open to any and all entrants (as opposed to only prospective student-athletes), and is conducted solely for educational purposes and not designed to measure the athletics ability or skill of prospects.

Permissible Medical Expenses

- ☞ (a) Athletics medical insurance;
- ☞ (b) Death and dismemberment insurance for travel connected with intercollegiate athletics competition and practice;
- ☞ (c) Drug-rehabilitation expenses;
- ☞ (d) Counseling expenses related to the treatment of eating disorders;
- ☞ (e) Glasses, contact lenses or protective eye wear (e.g., goggles) for student-athletes who require visual correction in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics;
- ☞ (f) Medical examinations at any time;
- ☞ (g) Medical expenses (including surgical expenses, medication, rehabilitation and physical therapy expenses and dental expenses).

Permissible Medical Expenses (cont.)

- (h) Special individual expenses resulting from a permanent disability that precludes further athletics participation. The illness or injury producing the disability must involve a former student-athlete or have occurred while the student-athlete was enrolled at the institution, or while the prospective student-athlete was on an official paid visit to the institution's campus. An institution or outside agency, or both, may raise money through donations, benefits or like activities to assist the student-athlete or a prospective student-athlete. All funds secured shall be controlled by the institution, and the money shall be used exclusively to meet these expenses; and

Permissible Medical Expenses (cont.)

- (i) Expenses for medical treatment (including transportation and other related costs). Such expenses may include the cost of traveling to the location of medical treatment or the provision of actual and necessary living expenses for the student-athlete to be treated at a site on or off the campus during the summer months while the student-athlete is not actually attending classes. Medical documentation shall be available to support the necessity of the treatment at the location in question

Non-permissible Medical Expenses

- An institution may not finance student health insurance if the insurance is provided or offered to the general student body only on an optional basis. However, if such insurance is required for a particular group of students (e.g., foreign students), such expenses may be paid for student-athletes who are members of such a group. Only such required fees may be paid as a part of an institutional grant-in-aid for student-athletes.

Academic Support Services/Use of Training-Room Facilities

- A prospective student-athlete who has signed a National Letter of Intent or, for an institution that does not use the National Letter of Intent, a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid, and is enrolled in the institution's summer term prior to the student's initial, full-time collegiate enrollment may be provided academic support services by the institution and also may use the institution's training-room facilities.

Terminology

- The term Medical Redshirt does not exist; the correct term is Hardship Waiver.



Hardship Waiver Criteria

- The injury occurs in one of the four seasons of intercollegiate competition.
- The injury or illness must occur within the first half of the playing season and prevents the student-athlete from returning to competition.
- The injury or illness occurs prior to the student-athlete participating in more than 2 contests or 20% of the institutions scheduled contests (whichever is greater).

Hardship Waiver Criteria (cont.)

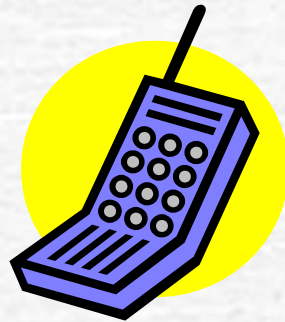
- Hardship Waivers are approved by the Big East Conference and are coordinated by the Compliance Office.
- Do not speculate on Hardships and Exemptions with parents and student-athletes without consulting with the Compliance office
- The letter issued from the physician should have a definitive determination on the injury.
- Document everything!
- Note: If a SA is injured prior to the season and cannot participate that academic year due to the injury a Harship Waiver is not applicable.

Permanent Medical Exemption

- **This waiver permits an institution to continue to provide aid to a student-athlete who has suffered an incapacitating injury or illness without counting within NCAA Financial Aid limitations.**
- **Once a student-athlete becomes a permanent medical exemption they can no longer compete.**
- **Requires a letter from a physician stating that the student-athlete can no longer participate.**
- **Permanent Medical Hardships are processed by the Compliance Office.**

Extra Benefits

- Student-Athletes are not permitted to accept any type of benefit that is not otherwise available to the general student body.
- Staff members are not permitted to provide a prospective student-athlete with any type of benefit.
- See John Carns if you have any questions.



Examples of Extra Benefits

- ✓ Money, loans, bond, or co-signing of loans
- ✓ Free transportation (use of a car, airline tickets, bus tickets, etc.)
- ✓ Free storage
- ✓ Free merchandise (clothes, video games, etc.)
- ✓ Free Entertainment (sporting events, movies, concerts, etc.)
- ✓ Free meals
- ✓ Discounted merchandise because of status
- ✓ Free use of a credit card, calling card, etc.
- ✓ Free use of the athletic department copy machine, fax, mail, etc.

16.12.1.5 Occasional Meals

- A student-athlete or the entire team in a sport may receive an occasional meal in the locale of the institution on infrequent and special occasions from an *institutional staff member*. An institutional staff member may provide reasonable local transportation to student-athletes to attend such meals.



Gambling

- It is impermissible for a student-athlete, or athletic department staff member to wager money or tangible items on any sport both amateur or professional that the NCAA sponsors.

- This includes fantasy football leagues and NCAA brackets if anything of value is wagered.

- Do not discuss injuries or disciplinary issues with people outside of athletics because gamblers look for an “inside” edge.



Lookout for Agents



- If a student-athlete (or their family) accepts anything from an agent or runner he/she will render themselves ineligible.
- Student-athletes are not permitted to enter an agreement both written or orally with an agent until their eligibility has expired.
- Staff members cannot facilitate meetings or accept gifts from agents for “brokering” a meeting with a student-athlete.
- If you have any questions contact Nick Ojea.

Promotional Activities & Donations

- ☛ All promotional activities that include student-athletes must be approved by the compliance office, regardless of how large or small the activity is. **(this is to prevent a student-athlete from jeopardizing his/her eligibility)**
- ☛ All donations to outside groups must be approved by the Compliance office. **(this is to prevent the possibility of a recruiting inducement)**

Any Questions

