

The Interpreter

April 2005

Summer Camps and Clinics

With less than two months of school left, and the weather heating up, it is time to think about summer. The lazy days of summer are not lazy for coaches conducting camps and clinics here at FSU. Here are a few reminders for coaches and student-athletes who are preparing for summer camps and clinics.

FSU is host to numerous camps and clinics throughout the summer months. These camps provide skills and competition training to young athletes trying to improve in a particular sport. FSU coaches and players are instrumental in providing a high level of knowledge about the sport, skills training, drills and practice techniques and competition tips and training. Please keep the following rules and regulations in mind so the camps run smoothly.

* Any and all prospects attending a camp or clinic must pay their own way.

Summer camps and clinics are sources of employment for student-athletes. Student-athletes may be employed at summer camps and clinics provided they abide by these NCAA rules and regulations:

1. Prior to a student-athlete working at a summer camp, the Florida State University Student-Athlete Camp Employee Request Form must be completed and signed by Mr. Hart. In addition, the Student-Athlete Letter of Agreement must be completed and signed by the student-athlete and camp director.
2. The student-athlete's role should generally be supervisory in nature. No more than half of the student-athlete's work time should consist of coaching or officiating.
3. The student-athlete's compensation should be commensurate with the going rate of camp counselors with the same teaching ability and experience. A student-athlete may not be paid based on the value that student-athletes may be to the employer because of athletics reputation or fame that the student-athlete has achieved.
4. A student-athlete who only lectures or demonstrates at a camp or clinic may not receive compensation for his or her appearance.

NLI Signing Late Period

Basketball

April 13 - May 8

Other Sports Except Football and Soccer

April 13 - August 1

Dead Period— April 11-14

The National Letter of Intent cannot be signed prior to 7 a.m. (local time) on the initial date of signing.

Unlimited Phone Calls for all sports except Football and Soccer:

April 13 - 15

Remember:

All signees remain prospects until the first day of practice or the first day of classes, whichever comes first.

ESPN Examines Pay-for-Play in Panel Discussion

With the NCAA Basketball tournaments in full swing, possible rewards from the tournament are in the back of everyone's mind. The NCAA will make money, the colleges will make money, the conferences will make money, even some fans who enter office or friendly pools will make money. But guess who will not be making money, the stars of the courts, the student-athletes. Money is a touchy issue, and the debate over whether student-athletes should be paid rages on.

To add fuel to the fire, ESPN conducted a town-hall type forum to debate, prime-time on national television, posing the question about whether or not student-athletes should be paid. Sports figures, coaches, former student-athletes, and other high-ranking and successful sports personalities added their two cents. Panelists included:

Myles Brand, executive director of the NCAA; John Thompson, former head basketball coach at Georgetown; Sonny Vaccaro of Reebok; Tony Dixon, cornerback for the Dallas Cowboys; Sheryl Swoopes, forward for the WNBA's Houston Comets; Drew Rosenhaus, NFL agent; and Mark Murphy, Northwestern's director of athletics, and an executive from the University of Florida booster organization.

The panelists argued about the value of an education, the plight of struggling student-athletes, the commercialization of collegiate sports, the academic reforms and policies recently taken effect and many other sides of the debate.

While the debate at hand had clear lines drawn between the two sides, many of the panelists turned the discussion to larger issues of the place of sports in the collegiate model, and the true value of an education.

The air of the debate settled on the fact that something needs to be done, but no one quite knows how to go about it. Paying student-athletes may seem like an easy solution, but when schools are already struggling fiscally, and when pay-for-play brings in issues such as employee/employer relationships, and how it could possibly be done fairly, it becomes clear

the solution is far more complex than it first appears.



From the Interpretation File



Basketball Recruiting During NCAA Tournaments

Institutions should note that pursuant to Bylaw 30.19, in men's and women's basketball, coaches are permitted to attend a single basketball event selected at the discretion of the institution, certified by the NCAA and held in conjunction with and conducted within a 30-mile radius of the championship site and host city of the respective men's or women's NCAA Division I Basketball Championship. The opportunity to attend such an event is limited to one per institution and is available for all coaching staff members. Institutional staff members are precluded from in-person, face-to-face contacts with prospects during such events. (continued next column)

In addition, pursuant to an official interpretation [ref: 1/11/03, Item No. 10-b-(1)], it is permissible for any athletics department staff member (e.g., director of basketball operations, administrative assistant) to attend a single basketball event certified pursuant to the NCAA Final Four basketball event certification process inasmuch as these events are celebratory in nature and are not conducted for recruiting purposes. Institutions should note that for the 2005 Men's Final Four, two separate basketball events have been certified per Bylaw 30.19. As noted above, the opportunity to attend such an event is limited to one per institution. Therefore, each institution must choose only one event to attend, if any.

Official Visit Entertainment Allowance includes Entertainment of Athletics Staff and Student Hosts

The committee confirmed that the permissible official visit entertainment money that a student host may receive is to cover all actual costs of entertaining the prospective student-athlete (and the prospect's parents, legal guardians or spouse) and the entertainment of the student host(s) and/or the institution's athletics department staff members who accompany the prospect. (official, March 9, 2005)



In the News....

April Recruiting Calendar

Texas State University—San Marcos Penalized

Texas State University—San Marcos has been placed on a three year probation for NCAA violations involving impermissible financial aid and excessive practice sessions in football. The combined incidents led NCAA officials to a finding against the institution of lack of institutional control over its athletic program.

The NCAA accepted the self imposed penalties and noted in the report that the institution took appropriate and decisive action, once the violations came to the attention of the university president. The three year probationary period will end March 9, 2008.

The violations occurred in two main areas. First, the system the student-athletes used to purchase text books was abused. The students were credited with \$500 each semester, however, the system did not track how much of that money was used and whether it was used for the classes in which the student-athlete was enrolled. The violations within this system amounted to more than 135 individuals receiving impermissible aid in an amount totaling \$73,845. Evidence also showed that the problem was brought to the attention of an athletics director, but no corrective action was taken.

The second area of violations took place within the football program during the spring and summer of 2003. The coaching staff implemented a mandatory strength and conditioning program. They took attendance, observed the workouts, threatened playing time.

As part of their penalty, the institution must file annual compliance reports indicating the progress made, and the systems in place to monitor the problem areas.

Oklahoma Investigates Athletes' Backgrounds

Student-athletes who are considering playing for Oklahoma now have an additional decision to weigh, whether they want their background checked. A university policy was implemented for this current spring semester that all athletes who want to play will be subject to a criminal background check.

Oklahoma athletics director, Joe Castiglione, stated that, "it doesn't necessarily mean we would turn any and all away if we found some problem in their past, it just means we would like to know about it prior to their arrival."

All potential recruits must agree to a background check before the school sends letters of intent.

Castiglione contends that it is prudent on the part of the athletic department to know of potential problems in the student-athletes' pasts. It is also a protection against liability issues.

Title IX Compliance—New Federal Policy

The U.S. Department of Education has clarified the third prong of the three-part test that has been used to assess Title IX compliance within university athletic departments.

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued a statement indicating the onus of proof will lie upon the shoulders of the government investigators or protesting students. An institution will be deemed compliant with Title IX if, "despite the underrepresentation of one sex in the intercollegiate athletics program, the institution is fully and effectively accommodating the athletic interests and abilities of its students who are underrepresented in its current varsity athletic program offerings."

The interest is measured using questionnaires or surveys which the OCR has provided and example of and will provide tips on how to best distribute.

Football

Apr 1-14 Quiet
Apr 15-May 31 Eval/Quiet

Men's Basketball

Apr 31-5 (noon) Dead
Apr 5(12:01pm)-6(7:59am)Quiet
Apr 6(8:00 am)-11 Contact
Apr 11-14 Dead
Apr 15-30 Contact

Women's Basketball

Apr 1-14(noon) Dead
Apr 15-19 Eval
Apr 20-30 Quiet

Baseball

Apr 1-10 Cont/Eval
Apr 11-14 Dead
Apr 15-30 Cont/Eval

Softball

Apr 1-10 Cont/Eval
Apr 11-14 Dead
Apr 15-30 Cont/Eval

Volleyball

Apr 1-10 Cont/Eval
Apr 11-14 Dead
Apr 15-30 Cont/Eval

All Other Sports Except Soccer

Apr 11-14 Dead

**ATTENTION:
Athletic Department
Compliance Tests**

Dust off those NCAA Manuals, and start hitting the books!

During the month of May, staff within the athletic department will be given a closed book compliance test.

The tests will be in a multiple choice and true/false format, and will be designed to focus on your particular department. Should you feel your studying skills are not up to snuff, review sessions will be available for each department.

Study hard!

**Interpreter
On-Line**

The Interpreter can be found on-line at www.seminoles.com by clicking onto "NCAA Compliance", in the left column. The Interpreter icon is under the "What's New??" section. Past issues are archived here and contain more detailed information than space prohibits in the newsletter form.

The Interpreter is published by Megan McHugo. All comments should be directed to **The Interpreter**, P.O. Drawer 2195, Tallahassee, FL 32316, phone (850) 644-4272, or by e-mail: mpm03@garnet.fsu.edu.

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**April 2005
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Departmental Compliance
Tests!**