

# The Interpreter

September 2004

## Playing & Practice Seasons

## Recruiting Reform

### Declaration of Playing Season

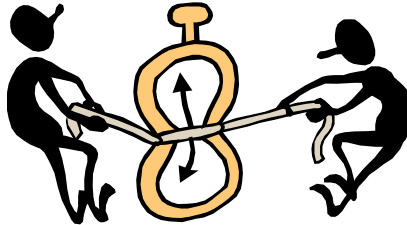
According to **NCAA Bylaw 17.1.3**, every sport at Florida State is required to declare, in writing, the playing season at the beginning of the academic year. These declarations will be kept on file in the Compliance Office.

### Countable Practice Hours

**NCAA Bylaw 17.1.5.1** limits the amount of time student-athletes may participate in countable athletically related activities. This bylaw states that a student-athlete's participation in athletically related activities shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week.

The NCAA defines countable athletically related activities as practice, meetings or any other instruction or activity involving sport-related information. Further, practice is considered to have occurred if one or more coaches and one or more student-athletes engage in activities such as chalk-talks, film study and weight training.

**NCAA Bylaw 17.1.5.4** requires one day off per week during the declared playing season. A travel day can be considered a day off, as long as no countable related activities occur during that day.



**NCAA Bylaw 17.1.5.2** states that outside the playing season during the academic year, a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities is further limited to eight hours per week. Additionally, in sports other than football, not more than two of the eight hours may be spent on individual workouts (provided no more than four student-athletes are involved at one time) and in the sport of football, not more than two hours may be spent on viewing game film.

**Proposal 2003-17**, which was adopted in June, requires at least two days off outside of the playing season during the academic year.

However, during the playing season, **NCAA Bylaw 17.1.5.3.6** states that daily and weekly hour limitations do not apply to countable athletically related activities occurring during an institution's official vacation period. The daily and weekly hour limitations do apply during examination periods.

Moving quickly to curb high-profile abuses in recruiting, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors has adopted a package of initiatives to reform the way member institutions attract student-athletes to their campuses.

The following measures approved by the Board of Directors take effect immediately:

- \* Campuses must develop written policies that specifically prohibit inappropriate or illegal behavior in recruiting. Policies must be approved by campus presidents by December 1, and be on file with conference offices. The current policies of member institutions must be on file in their conference office prior to bringing any prospect to campus for an official visit in the 2004-05 academic year.
- \* Institutions cannot use private or chartered airplanes when transporting prospects; instead, they must use commercial air travel at coach-class fares.
- \* Campuses must use standard vehicles to transport prospective student-athletes and those accompanying them on official visits
- \* Prospects and their parents or legal guardians must be housed in standard lodging and offered standard meals similar to those offered on campus.
- \* Student hosts must be current student-athletes or students who conduct visits or tours as part of the admissions process. Gender-specific groups will be allowed if they are organized consistent with an institution's overall campus visit program.
- \* Institutions cannot use personalized recruiting aides (such as jerseys or scoreboard presentations) or game-day simulations during campus visits. Prospects can visit the locker room before or after a game or stand on the sidelines during pre-game activities under this measure.

# 2005-06 NLI Signing Dates

Sport	Initial Date	Final Date
Basketball (Early Pd)	November 10, 2004	November 17, 2004
Basketball (Late Pd)	April 13, 2005	May 18, 2005
Football (JC Transfer)	December 15, 2004	January 15, 2005
Football (Regular Pd)	February 2, 2005	April 1, 2005
Soccer	February 2, 2005	August 1, 2005
All Other Sports (Early Pd)	November 10, 2004	November 17, 2004
All Other Sports (Late Pd)	April 13, 2005	August 1, 2005

A National Letter of Intent cannot be signed prior to 7:00 am (local time) on the following dates or after the final date listed for each sport.



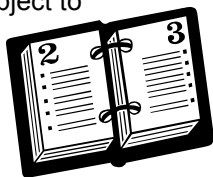
## From the Interpretation File



### Counting Contact & Evaluations

Evaluations that occur during the academic year count against the permissible number of recruiting opportunities. Outside the academic year, evaluations do not count against the annual number of recruiting opportunities. Contacts that occur with a prospect count against the permissible number of total recruiting opportunities regardless of the time period (e.g., academic year or outside the academic year). All contact and evaluations are subject to recruiting calendar restrictions.

(Ed. Column, 8/2/04)



### ARS Blanket Waiver of Bylaw 14.2.3.2 for Swimming /Diving

A blanket waiver has been granted for the 2004-05 academic year in the sport of swimming and diving to allow prospective student-athletes who have signed a NLI to participate in the 2004 Olympic Games without being charged with a season of competition or an academic year in residence. The subcommittee believes that if a prospect has committed to the university prior to the Olympic Games and the Olympic participation is the only competition the prospect competes in after August 1, 2004, he or she should not be subject to the new legislation in the sport of swimming.

### Fourth Season of Competition for a Partial Qualifier who Enrolled Prior to August 1, 2003

A current student-athlete who initially enrolled as a partial qualifier prior to August 1, 2003, may participate in a fourth season of competition, provided the student-athlete could have been certified as a qualifier under the initial eligibility standards applicable to student-athletes who initially enroll in a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2005, and the institution can certify that the student-athlete has satisfied all of the progress-toward-degree requirements applicable to student-athletes who initially enroll in a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2003, during each year of enrollment. (Official, 7/19/03)



# In the News....



## Georgia Gets Probation

The University of Georgia was placed on four years probation for rules violations involving academic fraud, unethical conduct and improper benefits in the men's basketball program.

The NCAA decided not to impose a one-year postseason ban on the basketball team, citing the school's self-imposed penalties in which it pulled the team out of the 2003 SEC and NCAA Tournaments.

The violations centered on former assistant coach Jim Harrick, Jr.

The NCAA found that Harrick Jr. provided \$300 in a wire transfer to Eva Davis, a friend of former Georgia player Tony Cole for Cole's personal expenses.

The NCAA also found that Harrick Jr. violated NCAA principles of ethical conduct during fall 2001 when he gave As to three players. Harrick Jr. engaged in unethical conduct by encouraging two players to lie to university and NCAA investigators.

The committee found that Harrick Jr.'s administration of his basketball coaching class resulted in an impermissible extra benefit for the men's basketball players because those students were not required to do any work.

The NCAA also found that the university staff was responsible in permitting six basketball players in November and December 2001 to receive extra benefits by not requiring them to pay for long-distance telephone calls incurred while the team was away from home. The extra benefits totaled \$1,572.66.

Georgia wins involving the six basketball players will be vacated and the team's records will reflect the change.

## NCAA Denies Bloom

The NCAA has denied Jeremy Bloom's request to play football at Colorado while accepting endorsements to support his skiing career.

Bloom, a junior receiver, has been battling the NCAA for more than two years over whether he can accept endorsement money as a professional skier and still keep his eligibility to play college football.

Bloom started accepting endorsement money last winter, saying he could no longer afford to train for skiing without them. The Colorado Court of Appeals denied his request for an injunction against the NCAA in May.

The university has appealed the decision with the NCAA.



## Coach Fired for Academic Fraud

Nicholls State head football coach Daryl Daye and an assistant have been fired over allegations of academic fraud involving players.

Daye was not implicated in the alleged fraud, but an investigation found he had failed to "maintain proper controls" of the assistant, according to a statement from the school.

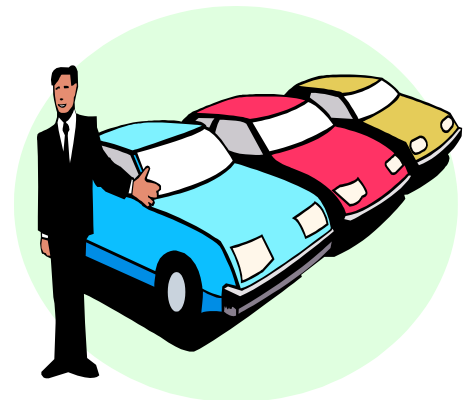
"Clearly, when a member of the coaching staff engages in academic fraud, among the most serious of NCAA violations, someone must be held accountable. The assistant coach who committed the fraud and the head coach who personally selected the assistant coach and who was responsible for establishing the parameters within the coach was to operate must be accountable in this situation," said Nicholls State Athletic Director Rob Bernardi.

## Booster Wants NCAA Apology

Disassociated University of Alabama booster Jim Johnson, a car dealer accused by the NCAA of improperly providing former Tide linebacker Travis Carroll with a vehicle, has sent a letter to the NCAA asking for a public apology "for defaming me and my reputation."

Johnson was part of the NCAA's allegation that Carroll received a used vehicle with no down payment and without signing an agreement.

By Alabama law, a party must be given five days to make a retraction before a lawsuit containing punitive damages can be filed.



## NCAA Institutes Year-Round Drug Testing

The NCAA's year-round drug testing program expanded August 1 to include Division I-A football and all Division I sports for which the NCAA sponsors championship competition.

Previously, Division I-A football and track were the only sports involved in year-round drug testing.

The year-round testing program involves the random selection of student-athletes for drug testing following the published NCAA Drug Testing Program Protocol.

# September Recruiting Calendar

Football		
Sept 1-30		Quiet
	except for 6 evaluation days	
Men's Basketball		
Sept 1-8		Quiet
Sept 9-Oct 5	Contact	
Women's Basketball		
Sept 1-8		Quiet
Sept 9-29		Contact
Sept 30-Oct 7		Quiet
Baseball		
Sept 1-9		Quiet
Sept 10-Nov 7		Cont/Eval
Softball		
Sept 1-30		Cont/Eval
Volleyball		
Sept 1-30		Cont/Eval

## Interpreter On-Line

The Interpreter can be found on-line at [www.seminoles.com](http://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 Heather McAtee. All comments should be directed to **The Interpreter**, P.O. Drawer 2195, Tallahassee, FL 32316, phone (850) 644-4272, or by e-mail: [hmcatee@mailier.fsu.edu](mailto:hmcatee@mailier.fsu.edu).

## COMPLIANCE STAFF 644-4272

**Mr. Bob Minnix**  
Associate AD for Compliance

**Mr. Brian Battle**  
Director of Compliance

**Ms. Heather McAtee**  
Compliance Coordinator

**Ms. Katie Hughes**  
Administrative Assistant

**Ms. Megan McHugo**  
Graduate Assistant

**Mr. Shawn  
McWashington**  
Graduate Assistant

**Mr. Lance Troester**  
Graduate Assistant