

VILLANOVA

ATHLETICS COMPLIANCE NEWSLETTER

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Oklahoma Admits Major Violations

The Associated Press August 2, 2011

NORMAN, Okla. -- Oklahoma admitted Thursday that its men's basketball program committed two major rules violations and asked the NCAA for leniency despite its second serious infractions case in the last five years. Under NCAA bylaws, a "repeat violator" can face a minimum of having the sport dropped for one or two seasons with no scholarships provided for two seasons. The NCAA infractions committee has the authority to override such a designation.

In a summary disposition report put together jointly with NCAA investigators, the school conceded it does qualify under the description of repeat violator -- having two major infractions cases within five years in the same sport -- but said previous cases show those penalties "are not appropriate in this case." "This is an isolated incident involving a single member of the coaching staff, who clearly knew his lack of action to prevent or report the violation was not acceptable," the university said.

Instead, Oklahoma asked the NCAA to place the program on two more years of probation, vacate its wins from a 13-18 season in 2009-10 and take away one scholarship, two official visits and 10 in-person recruiting days during the upcoming academic year. Athletic department spokesman Kenny Mossman said the school had no additional comment after releasing the 430-page report.

The violations occurred while the Sooners were still on probation for major rules violations involving recruiting phone calls by former coach Kelvin Sampson in a case that ended in 2006 and major infractions involving football players being paid for work they weren't doing at a Norman car dealership in a 2007 case. There were also major rules violations by the men's and women's gymnastics teams considered in the football case. In the latest case, the school said former assistant coach Oronde Taliaferro broke NCAA rules by failing to report that a player had received an impermissible extra benefit and by lying to Oklahoma and NCAA enforcement staff during the investigation.

The heavily redacted report does not show the player's name, but former center Keith "Tiny" Gallon has said in interviews that he took \$3,000 from a Florida financial adviser to pay for his high school transcripts and allow him to attend college. Taliaferro's phone records link him to the adviser, Jeffrey Hausinger, and Hausinger even offered in an email to allow Taliaferro to stay with him.

Hausinger's name is not included in the report but the phone calls are referenced in the transcript of an interview with Taliaferro and the times match up with those released by Oklahoma after previous open records requests. Taliaferro says in that interview that he had been resisting a financial representative who was hoping to get connected with NFL tight end Antonio Gates -- a friend of Taliaferro -- and perhaps also with Oklahoma's players with NBA potential.



Oklahoma Admits Major Violations (cont.)

In a partially redacted statement provided by Taliaferro for the report, he said he did wrong and calls it a "lapse in judgment" that he made out of compassion. He describes how the case is similar to how his father was murdered in Detroit when he was 6 years old.

"I know all too well about running into walls and watching my own mother fight to help get me to a better place. It is hard to not have compassion for other's struggles," Taliaferro wrote. "Sometimes good people make a poor decision, and that's what happened with everyone involved in this particular matter. That does not excuse anything at all."

Taliaferro resigned last year when it became clear he'd be implicated in the NCAA investigation.

Former head coach Jeff Capel is not implicated in the violations. He was fired in March and replaced by Lon Kruger.

The university also responded to an open records request with details of recent secondary rules violations -- two in football, softball and women's volleyball and one apiece in men's tennis, men's gymnastics and women's golf.



OCTOBER RECRUITING CALENDARS

<p style="text-align: center;">Baseball</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 8 Quiet Sept 9-Sept 30 Contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Field Hockey</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Men's Soccer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Crew, Golf, Tennis Swimming & Diving, Water Polo</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Men's Basketball</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 8 Quiet Sept 9-Sept 30 Contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Football</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Evaluation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Women's Soccer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Women's Basketball</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 15 Quiet Sept 16-Sept 30 Contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Men's Lacrosse</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact <i>No Evaluations</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Softball</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Cross Country & Track</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Women's Lacrosse</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Volleyball</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sept 1-Sept 30 Contact</p>	



RULES TRIVIA

Q:

The women's soccer team has reported for pre-season practice at Ocean State University. Because of the heat, the coach would like to provide ice cream to her student-athletes as a snack during this pre-season period. Is it permissible for these student-athletes to receive a snack? Is it permissible for the coach to give the student-athletes cash to buy ice cream?

A:

Yes, it is permissible to provide the student-athletes with an additional meal during the preseason. The coach cannot, however, give cash to purchase ice cream. **NCAA Bylaw 16.5.2(b)** states that the institution may provide the cost of room and board to student-athletes who report for pre-season practice prior to the start of the academic year, it being understood that the student-athlete has been accepted for admission to the institution at the time such benefits are received. Further, an institution, at its discretion, may provide an additional meal (as opposed to the cash equivalent) to student-athletes to meet their nutritional needs as a benefit incidental to participation during the pre-season practice period prior to the start of the academic year.



Q:

Break A. Way is a freshman student-athlete at Bay State College (BSC). Break was recruited by BSC and has reported for soccer practice, but she has not yet been certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. How many days can Break participate in practice before being certified?

A) 14 B) 21 C) There is no limit on the number of days D) She can't practice until certified

A:

The answer is B. **NCAA Bylaw 14.3.5.1.1** states that if a recruited student-athlete reports for athletics participation before his or her qualification status has been certified, the student may practice, but not compete, during a 21-day period, provided the student meets all other requirements to be eligible to practice. An institution shall not provide athletically related financial aid to the student during this period. After the 21-day period, the student shall have established minimum requirements as a qualifier (as certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center) to continue practicing or to compete and receive athletically related financial aid. *(Revised: 1/11/89, 10/7/05, 5/9/07, 9/18/07, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

NLI SIGNING DATES 2011-2012

BASKETBALL & ALL OTHER SPORTS NOT LISTED

(EARLY PERIOD): NOV 9-NOV 16

BASKETBALL

(REGULAR PERIOD): APR 11-MAY 16

ALL OTHER SPORTS NOT LISTED

(REGULAR PERIOD): APR 11-AUG 1

FIELD HOCKEY, SOCCER, T&F, XC:

FEB 1-AUG 1

FOOTBALL

(MIDYEAR JC TRANSFER): DEC 21-JAN 15

FOOTBALL

(REGULAR PERIOD): FEB 1-APR 1

PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASON REMINDERS- SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL

COUNTABLE ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES (CARA)	LIMITATIONS		PERSONNEL THAT CAN BE PRESENT	FINAL EXAMINATIONS	ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS
	WEEKLY HOUR	# OF STUDENT-ATHLETES			
Weight Training	Up to 8 hours/ week	No limit from <u>September 15 to April 15</u> ; <u>Prior to September 15 and after April 15</u> , no more than 4 student-athletes from the same team may be involved in skill-related instruction with their coaches at any one time in any facility	Strength & Conditioning Coaches, Countable Coaches, Sport Specific Staff Members (Observe Only)	One week prior to the beginning of the final examination period for the applicable term through the conclusion of each student-athlete's final exams	Skill-Related instruction shall not be publicized and shall not be conducted in view of a general public audience
Conditioning					
Skill-Related Workouts	Up to 2 hours/ week				

Legislation- ALL SPORTS-(Bylaw 16.7) TEAM ENTERTAINMENT

16.7.1—Away from Home Contests and Vacation Periods: The institution may pay the actual costs (but may not provide cash) for reasonable entertainment that takes place within a 100-mile radius of where a team plays/ practices in connection with an away from home contest or en route to or from such a contest. In addition, an institution may pay the actual costs (may not provide cash) for reasonable entertainment that takes place within a 30-mile radius of the institutions campus or practice site during vacation periods when the team is required to reside on campus (or at a practice site normally used by the institution) and classes are not in session.

16.7.1.1—Professional Sports Tickets: Complimentary tickets to professional sports contests shall not be provided to student-athletes, unless the tickets are provided by the institution (or by a representative of athletics interests through the institution) for entertainment purposes to student athletes involved in an away from home contest. Under the latter circumstances, the institution may pay actual costs for reasonable entertainment that takes place during a team trip.

16.7.2—Movies in Conjunction with a Home Contest: The institution may rent a film or movie, provide pay-per-view movies in the student athlete's hotel rooms or take its intercollegiate team to the movies the night before a home contest without the film or movie being considered an extra benefit.

INTERPRETATION Payment of Internet Access and Long-Distance Charges During Official Team Travel: It is permissible for an institution to pay a student-athlete's Internet access charges and long-distance charges incurred during official team travel that are necessary to enable the student-athlete to complete academic course work, provided the academic course work is required to be completed while the student-athlete is **away** from campus on official team travel or within a reasonable period of time thereafter. The subcommittee noted, however, that if an institution elects to provide such expenses, the institution remains responsible for ensuring that the student-athlete's use of the Internet is not for personal reasons.



ASK Before You ACT!

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