Occasional Meals

The NCAA permits what it calls “occasional meals” and defines those meals as a meal that a student-athlete, or the entire team in a sport may receive in the local of the university from a coach or other institutional staff member. These meals must also be infrequent and for special occasions. Occasional meals are in addition to what student-athletes receive through their scholarships and for team travel. As a representative of Ole Miss athletics interests, it is important for you to also know University and SEC guidelines surrounding occasional meals.

The main policies around occasional meals are as follows:

- The SEC defines “infrequent” as one per month so each student-athlete may not receive more than one occasional meal per month.
- Because occasional meals are limited, our coaching staffs use their allotment for events like recruiting weekends, beginning of semester gatherings or holiday gatherings.
- The coaching staff or institutional staff member must have pre-approval from the Compliance Department before hosting the meal.
- Since there are limitations on occasional meals and our coaching staffs use their allotments, representatives of athletics interest, or boosters, should NOT host/provide any meals for student-athletes.

Occasional meals have received a lot of attention as a result of the University of Miami major infractions case. Please help protect the integrity of our student-athletes and the Ole Miss athletics program by not providing or hosting occasional meals for student-athletes.

NCAA rules are often very complicated so if you find yourself in a position where you have questions about this or any other compliance-related topic, please do not hesitate to contact us using the contact information on the following page. GO REBS!
**University of Alabama** assistant strength and conditioning coach, Corey Harris, was placed on administrative leave for providing impermissible benefits to junior football safety Ha Ha Clinton-Dix. Clinton-Dix was suspended for two games before he was reinstated by the NCAA. Harris allegedly made a short-term loan to the safety after his car was broken into in late June. He was said to have repaid Harris shortly after. [Read about it.](#)

**University of Georgia** director of on-campus recruiting was recently issued a five-day suspension after the program discovered that non-coaching staff members had mailed general correspondence to high school juniors before they were permitted to receive mailings. They also received a separate violation for violating logo and mailing rules. [Read about it.](#)

Football agent, **Terry Watson** is currently facing fourteen felony counts in North Carolina on charges that he violated the State’s law concerning athlete agents. He has been indicted for allegedly providing illegal benefits to former players at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. [Read about it.](#)

**Coastal Carolina**'s director of golf and men’s golf coach, Allen Terrell, recently resigned after he was informed that the school learned of serious infractions within his program. The school self-reported a series of violations, which included improper extra benefits and recruiting misconduct. Terrell allegedly provided a former student-athlete with private lessons while he was still in high school, as well as giving that same student-athlete $1,000 to receive private lessons for another local golf instructor. [Read about it.](#)

The NCAA recently issued its decision regarding the major infractions case for the **University of Miami**. The University was under investigation after a Yahoo! Article describing widespread recruiting violations over an extended period of time. The NCAA found that the University lacked institutional control resulting in almost a decade of violations. [Read about it.](#)

The term “Thanksgiving” appears in fifteen secondary violations in the NCAA violations database. Many of the violations surround practicing over an institutional vacation period. It is a violation to have current student-athletes participate in practice over a holiday period instituted by the school. Other violations have to do with coaching staff violating the texting rules, by sending impermissible texts saying “Happy Thanksgiving” to prospective student-athletes.

**REBEL RESOURCES**

Below are some resources relevant to NCAA, SEC and Ole Miss compliance issues. Click on each to view the website.

- Rebel Compliance
- Role of Boosters (published by NCAA)
- SEC Compliance
- Eligibility Center
- Guide for College-Bound Student-Athletes
- Guide to International Academic Standards
- NCAA Transfer Guide

**THANKS FOR ASKING**
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662-915-1594

**Follow us on Twitter @RebelCompliance**