

SACRED HEART NEWS

Athletics Compliance

For Coaches and Athletics Staff

February 2004

EVERYTHING YOU HAVE EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT LOCAL SPORTS CLUBS

If an institutional coach owns or operates a local sports club, the club must be engaged in competitive activities (i.e., not formed only to provide instruction to prospects, except in women's golf, per Bylaw 13.12.3.8); however, if the coach is merely an employee, then the club need not engage in competitive activities in order to be permissible. NCAA Bylaw 13.12.2.3 states: "In sports *other than basketball*, an institution's coach may be involved as a participant or in instructional or coaching activities in the same sport for a local sports club or organization located in the institution's home community, provided all prospects participating in said activities are legal residents of the area (within a 50-mile radius of the institution)." It is critical to note that a prospect participating in local sports clubs must not just live or reside within a 50-mile radius of the institution. Specifically, prospects in local sports clubs must be *legal residents* within the 50-mile radius. In the past, failing to note this distinction has led NCAA coaches to violate this rule. "In all sports, an institution's coach may be involved as a participant or in instructional or coaching activities in a sport other than the coach's sport for a local sports club or organization located in the institution's home community, provided all prospects participating in said activities are legal residents of the area (within a 50-mile radius of the institution). "Further, in club teams involving multiple teams or multiple sports, the 50-mile radius is applicable only to the team with which the institution's coach is involved; however, it is not permissible for the coach to assign a prospect who lives outside the 50-mile area to another coach of the club." Finally, coaches may be involved in activities with non-prospects regardless of where such individuals reside. Please adhere to these guidelines. Penalties for failure to do so have included letters of reprimand, withholding student-athletes from practice and competition and limiting off-campus recruiting.

BEWARE OF TRYOUTS

Local Sports Clubs are an exception to the tryout rule. Therefore, coaches must pay close attention to the NCAA restrictions on local sports clubs to avoid a serious violation of NCAA bylaws. Bylaw 13.12.1 states that "A member institution, on its campus or elsewhere, shall not conduct (or have conducted on its behalf) any physical activity (e.g., practice session or test/tryout) at

which one or more prospects reveal, demonstrate or display their athletic abilities in any sport except as provided in Bylaws 13.12.2 and 13.12.3." Previous violations of the tryout rule that have involved local sports clubs are factually diverse, but have similarities: unexpectedness and misunderstandings. For example, a coach was working with his local sports club and a prospect that was not a member asked to participate and did so as the coach supervised him and directed his activity. That is a violation because the prospect was not a member of the club. Also, a local club coach invited an institutional coach to watch his team and the institutional coach instructed the prospects in various activities. That is a violation because the institutional coach was not an official staff member of the club. Occasionally, coaches have also violated the tryout rule because of a failure to understand the limited scope of local sports clubs as an exception. Local sports clubs' prospects are members and its coaches are staff. There are procedures for becoming a member or a club coach. Some coaches have incorrectly thought that the local sports clubs exception permitted them to work out with any prospect in the community. To lessen the likelihood of violations, coaches involved in local sports clubs have instituted procedures including but not limited to the following: (1.) Potential members must complete an application in which they specify their legal residence and (2.) No prospect or non-prospect may participate in the club unless s/he has completed the application and been accepted as a member.

23 of the **33** local sports club secondary infractions on record with the NCAA were due to prospects in clubs having a residence beyond the 50 mile radius.

NO INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORSHIP OF LOCAL SPORTS CLUBS ALLOWED

NCAA Bylaw 13.12.2.3.1 prohibits any member institution's sponsorship of a local sports club.

Specifically, the Bylaw states that

"Neither an institution's athletics department nor an institution's athletics booster group may sponsor a local sports club that includes prospects."

However, "It is permissible for a department of the institution that operates independent of the athletics department (e.g., physical education department, recreation department) to sponsor a local sports club that includes prospects, provided no athletics department staff member is involved with the club team."

The obvious question then is: what constitutes "institutional sponsorship"? Examples include: an institution renting space to a club at a discount; an institution providing free accounting services to a club; an institution paying a coaches travel expenses with a club when he also performed recruiting duties on the same trip.

To avoid institutional sponsorship violations: (1.) Maintain a clear line of demarcation between your role as an institutional coach and a club coach (e.g., discounts you receive because of institutional affiliation may not be received by the club and (2.) Ask before you act! Contact the Office of Athletic Compliance if you have any questions.

STUDENT-ATHLETES IN LOCAL SPORTS CLUBS:

Potential for Violations in Countable Hours and Financial Aid

When student-athletes become involved in local sports clubs the opportunity for violations of NCAA rules increases. Institutional coaches must remain aware of the following information. Countable hours violations may result if an institutional coach owns, operates or coaches at a local sports club that includes student-athletes as members or employees. If a coach employs (i.e., the coach owns or operates the club that hired the student-athlete) or directs the activities of a student-athlete that is an employee or member of a local sports club, then the hours are countable and may only occur during the twenty-hour segment of the playing season.

For example, if a hockey team used its twenty countable hours and a hockey student-athlete worked two hours per night at his coaches' local hockey club, then there would be three violations. There would have been more than four hours per day, more than twenty hours a week and a failure to provide a day off. The NCAA penalty schedule mandates a team hour reduction of twice the amount of impermissible hours on the first occasion.

Outside the season, an institutional coach may not employ a student-athlete in a local sports club. That would constitute impermissible countable hours. Neither could an institutional coach provide instruction to his or

her team's student-athletes as club members because institutional coaches may not coach their student-athletes on outside teams except Olympic, Olympic developmental teams and, during the summer, in individual sports other than equestrian. Similarly, violations of financial aid limits can occur within the same scenario as described before. If the coach owns or operates the club *or* if the coach intervened on the student-athlete's behalf in securing the employment, then for (a.) student-athletes in their initial year of residence, all earnings would be countable in team limits and (b.) for student-athletes after their initial year of residence, all earnings over \$2,000 would be countable in team limits.

Serious violations of NCAA rules on countable hours and financial aid limits could result in reductions of countable hours and financial aid.

RECRUITING & AMATEURISM

Recruiting Issues

During the academic year, the institution does not use one of its permissible evaluations for any prospect participating in any competition against the local team the institutional coach coaches. Any other contests observed by the coaching staff member involving prospective student-athletes (e.g., scouting future opponents for the club team) must count as an evaluation for each prospect participating in the contest.

In women's volleyball, any coach's involvement with a local sports club outside a contact/evaluation period must be included in the institution's 80 evaluation days.

Further, an institution must count an evaluation day for each coach who is involved on a given day with a local sports club outside a contact/evaluation period. Finally, the NCAA noted that a coach involved with a local sports club (either during or outside a contact/evaluation period) is not included in the permissible number of coaches who may recruit off campus at any one time.

Amateurism Issues

A student-athlete loses amateur status for receiving expenses from an outside sponsor or organization for dues to a local sports club. A sports club may waive membership dues for participants in the club, provided the club has an established policy that includes selection criteria unrelated to athletics

FYI . . .

RECENT INTERPRETATIONS

Pursuant to NCAA Division I Bylaw 14.1.10, if a student-athlete's eligibility changes at the end of a quarter or semester, the student-athlete shall become eligible or ineligible to compete on the date his or her eligibility *officially* is certified by the appropriate institutional authority. In a case in which the student-athlete becomes eligible at the end of the term, the earliest date on which the student can become eligible to compete is the day after the date of the last scheduled examination listed in the institution's official calendar for the term that is ending. In a case in which the student becomes ineligible, the ineligibility shall become effective not later than the first day of classes of the following semester or quarter. Please note that if a student-athlete's eligibility changes at the end of a semester or quarter, that student-athlete shall become eligible or ineligible on the date that his or her particular eligibility is officially certified by the appropriate institutional authority. Further, the certification of eligibility does not have to occur on the same day for all student-athletes at the certifying institution, but it may not be earlier than the day after the date of the last scheduled examination for the term that is ending or later than the first day of classes of the following semester or quarter. Doug Bohn certifies all of our athletes at the end of the winter intercession.

NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

The dates for the Spring Signing Period are fast approaching. Please see Kim **BEFORE APRIL 10th** if you are planning on any activity during this time!

SUMMER CAMP ADVERTISING AND BROCHURES

Sports should confine the use of a student-athlete's name, picture, and institutional affiliation to the camp counselor section in a summer-camp brochure for the purpose of identifying the student-athlete as a staff member. No sport may use a student-athlete's name or picture in any other way to directly advertise or promote the camp.

Second, if a sport is interested in advertising a summer camp or clinic in a recruiting publication, then, in order for such advertising to be permissible, the publication (actual or online) must include a camp directory where

in: the advertisements" size (not to exceed one-half page) and form are identical and multiple listings of summer camps exist within the directory (i.e., at least two summer-camp advertisements of the same size must appear on each page). Furthermore, please note that it is not permissible to place an institutional camp or clinic advertisement in high-school or two-year college game programs or other forms of media present at high school or two-year college competitions (e.g., billboards at stadiums). Third, the preceding restrictions related to advertisements of an institution's sports camps and Clinics in recruiting publications; they do not apply to sports camp and clinic advertisements in nonrecruiting publications (e.g., a member institution's game program). Finally, for sports that have yet to complete camp brochures, remember that departmental policy now requires approval by Athletic Compliance before printing. Similarly, the office of Athletic Compliance will be available to review any advertising for a camp or clinic. Always remember to ask before you act!

PAYMENT FOR INTERNET ACCESS

Recent legislation has determined that 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. It should be noted that if coaches elect to provide such expenses, they are responsible for ensuring that the student-athlete's use of the Internet is not for personal reasons.

GAMBLING

With March Madness approaching, please be advised that student-athletes and athletic staff members are strictly prohibited from placing wagers of any kind on the NCAA Men's or Women's basketball tournaments. This includes prohibiting staff members from completing tournament brackets where the winner receives any type of prize or item. This would also preclude staff members from entering such contests on-line (espn.go.com or cnsi.com) or wagering through legal means in Nevada.

UNLIMITED CALLS

For sports other than Football, there are very few exceptions to the one call per week rule outlined in Bylaw 13.1.3. These exceptions are:

- ✂✂ Five days immediately preceding the prospect's official visit.
- ✂✂ On the day an in-person, off-campus contact occurs.
- ✂✂ On the initial date for the signing of the NLI and two days after
- ✂✂ Subsequent to the prospect signing a NLI with SHU.

ONE MORE YEAR FOR EXISTING NCAA DIVISION I INITIAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

For students entering any college or university during the 2004-05 academic year, their NCAA initial eligibility will be evaluated under the new rule as described on this sheet. If they are ineligible under the new rule, the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse will automatically re-evaluate their academic record under the former rule to obtain the best possible result. **It is not possible to mix and match rules.** For example, you cannot use the 13 core-course standard of the former rule and the sliding scale from the new rule.

For students entering any college or university on or after August 1, 2005, their NCAA initial eligibility will be evaluated using the new rule only.

THE NEW RULE: Increases the number of core courses from 13 to 14. This additional core course may be in any area: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, non-doctrinal religion/ philosophy, or computer science. The breakdown of core course requirements is listed below. Please see http://www.ncaa.org/eligibility/d1_i-e_changes.pdf for details on the sliding scale.

NEW RULE

14 Core Courses:

- 4 years of English
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
- 1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 3 years of additional courses (from any area above or foreign language, non-doctrinal religion/philosophy, computer science).

LATE ADDITIONS TO TEAM ROSTERS

Please use the form that has been distributed to all coaches regarding late additions to rosters. Please note that all students not initially listed on the team roster that was reported last fall must complete this form. Students not attending the initial compliance and medical meetings that occur each fall will be required to walk this form through the necessary steps in order to participate on an athletics team at SHU. It is necessary to confirm that each student meets the basic enrollment, academic, and physical/health requirements for participation. **The student will not be allowed to receive equipment nor practice until he or she has been approved for practice through this process!**

For deletions, please complete the form in its entirety, providing as much detail as possible as to the reason the athlete is leaving. We must have detailed explanations AS TO WHY THE STUDENT-ATHLETE IS LEAVING YOUR TEAM!

Both forms are available on the website, at <http://sacredheartpioneers.ocsn.com/compliance/saht-compliance.html>

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

2001-8 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- MEN'S AND WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY -- PRESEASON PRACTICE

Status: Adopted - Final

Intent: In men's and women's ice hockey, to specify that an institution shall not commence on-ice preseason practice sessions in the sport of ice hockey prior to the Saturday of the 25th full weekend prior to the first round of the NCAA championship.

WHAT'S UP FOR SPRING?

Etiquette Dinner – March 1, 5pm –7:30pm

The etiquette dinner is a **MUST** for all of our athletes. There will be a 30-minute lecture on etiquette and how it can support any career choice, followed by an actual “hands-on” dinner. Last year this event won “Event of the Month” from the student body and we would like to see as many athletes there as possible. Coaches can sign up as well and have a team table. It will be first come, first serve, so sign up with Lucy Cox ASAP.

Spring Recruitment -The resumes of your upperclassmen need to be approved by Career Development prior to any spring recruiting event and/or resume referral, so please encourage your athletes to stop by the Office of Career Development, 2nd floor Curtis Hall, ASAP! Brandon Graham (former SHU Football

Star) is the resume expert and is seasoned in helping student-athletes achieve their career dreams. We will be sponsoring two **REQUIRED** workshops this semester for student-athletes – more info to follow.

GRADES

I cannot say it enough, great job!!! I still have not heard from all of you in-regards to which student-athletes you want me to watch, so I am going to assume all is well. Please remind all of your student-athletes the importance of class attendance! All athletes should read over their syllabi and complete any extra credit work. It's like money in the bank!

TEAM TRAVEL

Notice of Team Travel Forms must be presented to professors the first week of school. If you have an athlete missing more than 3 classes, they should consider another class or section. If the class meets once a week, missing 3 is too much – *that's 3 weeks of class*. Please make sure you check these for all your athletes so there are no surprises at the end. Those sports that are sensitive to weather need to be very communicative with their professors – do not skip class for any other reason.

SHU

ATHLETICS

Compliance Staff:

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Associate Director of Student-Athlete Academic Services



LUCKY THE DAWG SAYS “ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!!”

CURRENT RECRUITING CALENDAR	
<u>Softball</u>	
Jan. 2 – July 31 Contact/Evaluation Period	
Except For:	
April 12 – 15	Dead Period
May 25 – June 1	Dead Period
<u>Men’s Basketball</u>	
Nov. 20 – Mar. 15	
Designated 40 days	Evaluation Period
All others are designated Quiet Period	
Mar. 16 – Mar. 22	Contact Period
Mar. 23 – April 7	Quiet Period
Except for:	
April 1-April 6	Dead Period
April 7 – April 30	Contact Period
Except for:	
April 12 – April 15	Dead Period
<u>Women’s Basketball</u>	
Oct. 8 – Feb. 29	*Evaluation Period
Mar. 1 – April 1	Contact Period
18 person days only	
All other days are Quiet Period	
April 2 – April 9	Dead Period
April 9 – April 11	Contact Period
April 12 – April 15	Dead Period
*[40 evaluation days]	
<u>Football</u>	
Feb. 1	Quiet Period
Feb. 2-5	Dead Period
Feb. 6-April 14	Quiet Period
April 15 – May 31	*Evaluation Period
*[4 weeks]	
<u>All Other Sports Except for Soccer and Field Hockey</u>	
<u>Hockey</u>	
April 12 – April 15	Dead Period
<u>Men’s Ice Hockey</u>	
April 7 – April 11	Dead Period
April 12 – April 15	Dead Period
<u>Women’s Ice Hockey</u>	
March 25 – 29	Dead Period
April 12 – 15	Dead Period
<u>Women’s Volleyball</u>	
Jan 1 – Feb 13	Quiet Period
Feb 14 – July 31	Evaluation Period*
Except for:	
April 12-15	Dead Period
*[80 evaluation days]	
<u>Soccer and Field Hockey</u>	
Feb 2 – 5	Dead Period

