Vacation–Period Expenses

Per Bylaw 16.5.2(f), SJSU may provide the cost of room and board (R&B) to student-athletes during official vacation periods under the circumstances listed below. If the student-athlete lives at home during the vacation period, the cost of room and board may not be provided, other than to permit the student-athlete to participate in team meals incidental to practice sessions. If we do not provide a meal to our student-athletes under such circumstances, a cash allowance may be provided, but may not to exceed the amount provided to our institutional staff members on away-from-campus trips.

1. Student-athletes who are required to remain on the institution's campus for organized practice sessions or competition during SJSU's vacation period may be provided R&B.

2. Student-athletes who return to campus during SJSU's vacation period from a competition may be provided R&B.

3. SJSU may provide an additional meal (as opposed to the cash equivalent) to student-athletes to meet nutritional needs as a benefit incidental to participation during each day of any vacation period.

Compliance Brain Busters

1. A student-athlete hosting a prospect on an official visit during a vacation period may stay in the hotel room with the prospect.:
   True
   False

2. If a student-athlete is enrolled in winter session, he/she is subject to daily and/or weekly hour limitations.
   True
   False

Answers on Page 2
Happy Holidays! There will be no rules education sessions for the month of December. Rules Education Sessions will resume in January 2016 with dates that will be announced in the January newsletter.

Sports Wagering Prohibition

With the FBS Bowl season approaching, please be mindful of the NCAA’s position on gambling.

- NCAA rules prohibit athletics department staff members and student-athletes from engaging in sports wagering activities as they relate to amateur, intercollegiate or professional sporting events (includes both practice and competitions).
- **Sport Wagering** is defined as an any agreement in which an individual agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value; an activity in which there is both a "risk" and a "reward." For example, if an individual is required to pay a fee to enter (risk) with the possibility of receiving a prize (reward), the activity is prohibited.
- **Examples of Sports Wagering:** The use of a bookmaker or parlay card; internet sports wagering; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize. Participation in Bowl “Pick-Em’s” is a violation of NCAA sports wagering legislation.

Brain Buster Answers

1. **False** – Per a 4/13/94 Staff Interpretation, an institution at its discretion may allow a student host to stay in the prospect’s hotel room during an official visit, provided the official visit does not occur during a vacation period.

2. **False** – Per a 5/31/91 Staff Interpretation, daily and weekly hour limitations do not apply to countable athletics related activities during a member institution’s mini term (Winter Session) that is not mandatory.

Compliance Education Sessions

Happy Holidays! There will be no rules education sessions for the month of December. Rules Education Sessions will resume in January 2016 with dates that will be announced in the January newsletter.

Interpretation Questions and Answers

**Question:** Is it permissible for athletics department staff to participate in an Alumni Contest?

**Answer:** Yes. Per an 11/11/15 Staff Interpretation, athletics department staff members may participate in an alumni contest organized and conducted by an educational institution he/she formerly attended as a student, provided the individual does not receive any expenses from the institution to participate in the competition, does not engage in any recruiting activities and does not report back any information to the institution’s coaching staff.

**Question:** Can a prospect be provided a Christmas postcard that includes a picture of the team?

**Answer:** Yes. Per Bylaw 13.4.1, in sports other than men’s basketball (MBK), prospects may be provided general correspondence beginning September 1 of the junior year and in MBK beginning June 15 of the sophomore year. There are no restrictions on the design or content of general correspondence, except that the size of the correspondence may not exceed 8 1/2 by 11 inches. There are no restrictions on an envelope, except that the size may not exceed 9 by 12 inches.

**Question:** Is it permissible for a student-athlete to participate on an outside team during a vacation period?

**Answer:** Yes. Per an 8/9/95 Official Interpretation, student-athletes may engage in competition on an outside amateur team outside of the institution’s playing season during an institution’s official vacation period that occurs between terms after completion of the student-athlete’s final exams. An Outside Competition Form must be completed and submitted to the Compliance Office for approval for ALL outside competition PRIOR to participation.

SJSU Fun Fact
Coach Hanson was named Coach of the Year by the Mountain West Conference. Women’s Soccer won it’s first Mountain West Conference tournament championship! Congrats Lady Spartans on a great year!