The Educator

Some Recently Released Interpretation

**Recruiting Calendars:**

**Football:**
Dead Period: Jan. 1-3 & 7-10.
Contact: Jan 4-5 & 11-31.
Quiet period: Jan. 6th.

**Men's Basketball:**
Recruiting period: Jan 1-31.
Note: All live evaluations during the academic year shall be limited regularly scheduled high school, prep school and jc contests/tournaments, practices and regular scholastic activities involving students enrolled only at that institution.

**Women's Basketball:**
Shall not exceed 100 recruiting person days. One staff member out one day = 1 recruiting person day. Two staff members out on same day = Two days.

**Softball:** Quiet period: Jan 1.
Contact period: Jan 2-31st.

**Volleyball:**
Quiet period: Jan. 1 -18;
Contact Period: Jan 19-31.

**Cross-Country & Track and Field:** Quiet period: Jan 1-2; Contact period 3-31

**Soccer, Golf, & Tennis:**
Contact/Evaluation period all month

**Baseball:**
Dead Period Jan. 3-6.

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**Donation to Group That Involves or Benefits Prospective Student-Athlete:**

*Athlete: The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that in sports other than men's basketball, an institution (or an institution's coach/staff member or representative of its athletics interests) may contribute to a bona fide youth organization that includes prospective student-athletes and nonprospective student-athletes (e.g., YMCA, YWCA, Boys and Girls Clubs), provided the assistance is not earmarked for a particular prospective student-athlete, is not earmarked for the purpose of contributing to a boys' basketball program, and is offered in conjunction with the organization's regular fund-raising activities.

**Graduate Assistant Coach Receiving Meal with Prospective Student-Athlete on Official Visits:**
To The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that a graduate assistant coach and an undergraduate student assistant coach may receive a meal with a prospective student-athlete during the prospective student-athlete's official visit, within a 30-mile radius of the institution's campus.

**Teams of Prospective Student-Athletes Not Organized Under the Auspices of a Scholastic Governing Body – Basketball and FBS Football:**
NCAA Division I institutions should note that a team made up of prospective student-athletes (e.g., home school or academy team) that is not organized or administered under the auspices of a scholastic governing body is considered a nonscholastic team. Pursuant to NCAA Division I Bylaw 13.1.7.8, in basketball, evaluations of live athletics activities are limited to regularly scheduled high school, preparatory-school and two-year college contests/tournaments and practices, and regular scholastic activities involving prospective student-athletes enrolled only at the institution where the regular scholastic activities occur.

Additionally, at specified times (e.g., April), evaluations may also occur at certified events that may include nonscholastic teams. Pursuant to Bylaw 13.1.7.9.4, in bowl subdivision football, all live athletics evaluations are limited to regularly scheduled high school, preparatory-school and two-year college contests and practices, regular scholastic activities involving prospective student-athletes enrolled only at the institution at which the regular scholastic activities occur and events that are organized and conducted solely by the applicable state high school athletics association, state preparatory school association or state or national junior college athletics association.

**Coach Accompanying Prospective Student-Athlete During Travel To and From an Official Visit:**
The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that only those coaches who are counted by the institution within the numerical limitations of full-time coaches who may contact or evaluate prospective student-athletes off campus are permitted to accompany a prospective student-athlete [and his or her parents or legal guardian(s)] to and from his or her home to campus on an official visit, regardless of whether such a visit occurs during a permissible contact period; further, that it is permissible for such coaches to transport the prospective student-athlete in an institutional vehicle or the coach's automobile.
A Buffett Of Secondary Violations Reported By Others

The University of Missouri has reported two secondary violations within their men’s basketball program. In one, a coach watched a recruit participate in summer competition that was not certified by the NCAA. In the second, Missouri held a summer basketball camp that had “elite level” prospects eating and sleeping at different locations than the regular prospects and camp attendees. The institution reduced recruiting days by four for 2012-13 and also cut out a scheduled basketball camp in response to the violations.

At Auburn University, a violation led to the termination of a department employee who typed speech outlines for six student-athletes, valued anywhere from $7 to $17.50. The violation occurred because the employee “had a skewed sense of priorities and used poor judgment,” believing, “it was ‘the lesser of two evils’ to type the outlines for the student-athletes rather than have them submit hand-written outlines, or turn in their outlines the next day or sometime over the weekend, which may have resulted in a lower grade,” the report states.

Alabama State University reported impermissible contact with a four-year transfer prospect before it had received notice of permission to contact from the appropriate authorities. The prospect eventually enrolled at the institution. The school’s head football coach and director of football operations were found to have impermissible contact with the prospect and were cited for such, they also originally provide false information during the institution’s investigation.

The University of Southern California suspended its head women’s basketball coach for one game for the use of an ineligible player in practice.

Stanford University suspended a football student-athlete for three games, including the Rose Bowl, for a secondary violation regarding his rental of off-campus housing.

Using Social Networks and Micro-blogs

Institutions should note that email communication is not limited to traditional email services provided by an institution, website or Internet service provider. Permissible email communication extends to communication through electronic services and applications comparable to traditional email in which a message is sent directly to another individual. Accordingly, it is permissible for an athletics department staff member to send electronically transmitted correspondence to a prospective student-athlete using a service that permits a private message to be sent between only the sender and recipient in a manner comparable to traditional email (e.g., Twitter “direct message,” Google+ messenger, Facebook email feature). However, as previously noted, all other electronically transmitted correspondence through other services or applications remain impermissible, including those that may be directed to a specific individual but are accessible to other users of the service or application (e.g., Twitter “@replies” or “mentions,” Facebook wall-to-wall feature).

In men’s basketball, any type of electronic correspondence (e.g., text messages, Instant Messenger) may be sent to a prospect provided the correspondence is sent directly to the prospect (or his or her parents or legal guardians) and is private between only the sender and recipient. Institutions should note that these requirements are linked to the legislation regarding comments before signing and, therefore, are not applicable to electronic correspondence sent once a prospective student-athlete signs a NLI or a written offer of admission and/or financial aid.