Don’t Bet On It

The NCAA prohibits all forms of sports wagering, whether legal or illegal, on NCAA sponsored sports. Sports wagering is defined by the NCAA as wagering anything of value for the chance to win anything of value. Items of value are not limited to cash, but can also be goods or services. NCAA Bylaw 10.3 expressly prohibits student-athletes, athletic department staff, and even non-athletic depart staff members who have any responsibility within or over athletics from engaging in sports wagering. The prohibition on sports wagering applies to any collegiate, professional or amateur practice or competition in all NCAA sponsored sports. This includes March Madness Brackets.

You can fill them out for fun, but cannot fill them out for money.

Penalties for sports wagering violations are harsh and inflexible, and apply to both student-athletes and athletics staff. A student-athlete who gambles on the NCAA tournament becomes immediately ineligible. Typically, the student-athlete must be withheld from a minimum 10% of a season before he or she is reinstated. It is important that our student-athletes and staff understand that even a $1 bet is a violation of NCAA rules!

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Q: Due to a rare winter storm, the fields at Southern Miss are buried in snow. Student-athletes have had to help clear and line the fields for practice and games. If coaches are supervising the student-athletes, is this a countable activity?

A: No, field or facility preparation or maintenance that is performed by a student athlete, related to practice or competition and required, supervised or monitored by a coaching staff member is not accountable athletically related activity— NCAA Official Interpretation 12/21/11— Bylaws 17.02.1/17.1.6.1/ 17.1.6.2

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Academic Calendar
March 9-13
Spring Break holiday
March 18th For 8W2
Last day to drop classes without instructor permission
April 1
Last day to add / drop without Academic/ Financial penalty

Last day to file application for degree for summer 2015 commencement.
**NLI DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport(s)</th>
<th>Initial Signing Date</th>
<th>Final Signing Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball (Early Period)</td>
<td>November 12, 2014</td>
<td>November 19, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball (Regular Period)</td>
<td>April 15, 2015</td>
<td>May 20, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football (Regular Period)</td>
<td>February 4, 2015</td>
<td>April 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>February 4, 2015</td>
<td>August 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Sports (Early Period)</td>
<td>November 12, 2014</td>
<td>November 19, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Sports (Regular Period)</td>
<td>April 15, 2015</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**April 15th is signing day in sports other than football and soccer! Coaches, please submit NLI requests on ARMS at least a week in advance of signing.**

Contact the Compliance Office with questions or concerns. Daniel is located in the Duff Athletic Center. Scott and Anthony are in the West Football Stadium.

Daniel Feig  
Senior Associate AD  
601-266-6586

Scott Garrison  
Director of Compliance  
601-266-4532

Anthony Martinez  
Compliance Coordinator  
601-266-5485

**COACH REMINDERS**

Residence Halls open back up on Sunday March 15th at 8 am.

Continue to submit transcripts for 2015-16 and 2016-17 recruits. Remember, 2016-17 recruits (current juniors) are required to meet specific initial eligibility requirements by the end of this year!

April 1st is the initial date that fall 2015 enrollees may request final amateurism. Please instruct your signees and other committed prospects to request final amateurism as soon as they are able.

In the News

**Autonomy Legislation:** “Power 5” Conference members have begun proposing rule changes in areas of “legislative autonomy.” Look for more information about these changes and their effect on Southern Miss at an upcoming monthly rules education session.

**Women’s Basketball:** The Conference USA Women’s Basketball Tournament starts Wednesday March 11th and concludes Saturday March 14th.