

## **Boosters, Websites, and Recruiting**

While recruiting has long been a topic of discussion for fans throughout college athletics, the internet has significantly changed the amount of recruiting information that is available and increased the potential for booster involvement in the recruiting process. While the internet may provide the latest breaking news regarding prospective student-athletes, it may also create situations for boosters that run afoul of NCAA regulations. Therefore, it is imperative that boosters of UNC athletics understand the regulations regarding the recruitment of prospects.

The use of social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace can very easily be used by individuals in an attempt to influence prospective student-athletes to attend a specific institution. **The NCAA prohibits any involvement by boosters in the recruitment of prospects**, and individuals who might initiate these attempts to contact prospects could jeopardize the institution's ability to continue the recruitment of such prospects.

As boosters, you may forward information regarding a particular prospect to the appropriate UNC coaching staff members. You may also view a prospect's athletics contest at your own expense, provided you do not contact the prospect, his/her family members, or the prospect's school's staff in an effort to evaluate the prospect's athletic or academic ability. However, any attempt by a booster to influence a prospect's decision throughout the recruitment process violates NCAA regulations.

Please remember that NCAA regulations permit only authorized institutional staff members to be involved in the recruiting process. If you have any questions about NCAA regulations pertaining to boosters, websites, and recruiting, please do not hesitate to contact the Compliance Office at (919) 962-6000. The UNC Department of Athletics appreciates your efforts to comply with NCAA regulations.