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Additional information is available at:
usctrojans.cstv.com
www.pac-10.org
www.ncaa.org

Basic NCAA Rules for Parents of USC Student- Athletes



Dear Parents:

The University of Southern California is proud of its great tradition in intercollegiate athletics. We are committed to achieving at the classroom, while abiding by all National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and Pacific-10 Conference rules.

This guide has been developed to provide you with the basic information you need to know about rules that affect you and the eligibility of your child to participate in intercollegiate athletics. The scope and complexity of NCAA rules preclude us from addressing every possible situation in a short guide like this. However, additional information about NCAA rules may be found on the USC, Pac-10 or NCAA Web sites.

Please read the information in this brochure and feel free to contact the Compliance Office with additional questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Mike Garrett
Director of Athletics



EXTRA BENEFITS

Acceptance of an extra benefit by student-athletes (**or their relatives or friends**) is a violation of NCAA regulations. Any inappropriate, even inadvertent activity on the part of the student-athlete (or his or her family) could result in:

- Declaring a currently enrolled student-athlete ineligible to participate for USC.
- Jeopardizing the eligibility of a prospective student-athlete.
- Sanctions placed on the University and its athletics programs.
- Restrictions placed upon your involvement with USC's athletics program.

What is an Extra Benefit?

The NCAA defines an extra benefit as any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a representative of the institution's athletics interest ("booster") to provide a student-athlete (or a student-athlete's relative or friend) a benefit that is not generally available to the public or other USC students or, is not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation.

Here are some examples of extra benefits:

- anything from an employee of USC or a USC athletics booster (e.g., use of a car, clothing, gifts, money, tickets for any kind of entertainment, payment of long distance telephone calls).
- free or reduced cost room and/or board from any USC employee, USC booster or another parent of a USC student-athlete. This includes in California, in the student-athlete's home city or any other location.
- free or reduced cost storage room for personal belongings for the summer months from any USC employee or booster.

GAMBLING

Gambling includes any activity in which one wagers or bets money, or puts up some material good in hopes of winning more than was placed at risk. This includes fantasy leagues, basketball pools or any other activity where money or other tangible good is put up for the possibility of winning a prize.

Student-athletes as well as athletic department and conference office staff members may not:

- Knowingly provide information to individuals involved in any type of organized gambling activities (e.g., bookmaker, parley card) concerning intercollegiate athletics competition;
- Solicit a bet on any intercollegiate or professional team, including a bet for a non-monetary material item (e.g., shirt, dinner) that has tangible value; or
- Accept a bet on any USC team or participate in any gambling activity involving intercollegiate or professional athletics through any method employed by organized gambling.

MAINTAINING AMATEUR STATUS

Your son or daughter may NOT:

1. Be paid (in any form) or accept the promise of pay for participating in an athletics contest or on an athletics team, including directly or indirectly receiving any salary, bonus, award or educational expenses from an amateur or professional sports team. NOTE: It is permissible for student-athletes to receive actual and necessary travel, and room and board expenses for practice and games from an amateur team, but they may not receive any other expense allowance;
2. Use athletics skill for pay in any form (e.g., television commercials, demonstrations);
3. Compete on a professional athletics team;
4. Sign a professional sports contract or verbally commits to an agreement with a professional sports organization or an agent; or
5. Request that his or her name be placed on a professional league's draft list. (There are some exceptions in football and basketball. Ask the Compliance Office for additional information.)

FINANCIAL AID

One-Year Limit

There is no guaranteed four-year scholarship in Division I athletics. The NCAA rules do not permit an institution to award an athletics scholarship for a period longer than one academic year. This scholarship may be renewed (or reduced or cancelled) at the end of the year for the next academic year.

Renewal /Nonrenewal of Athletic Aid

If your child is receiving an athletic scholarship, the NCAA rules require that your child be notified by July 1 of each year whether the athletic scholarship will be renewed for the following year. The official notification will come from the financial aid office and not from the athletics department. If the athletic department decides not to renew your child's athletics scholarship for the upcoming year, he or she will be provided a hearing opportunity (on request) from a group outside of the athletic department. Athletic aid can be reduced or cancelled for ANY reason at the end of the term of that scholarship.

Reduction or Cancellation During Period of Award

During the period of your child's financial aid award (e.g., the term, the year), their athletics scholarship may be reduced or canceled if they:

- Become ineligible for intercollegiate competition;
- Fraudulently misrepresent any information on an application, letter of intent or financial aid agreement;
- Engage in serious misconduct warranting substantial disciplinary penalty; or
- Voluntarily withdraw from your sport at any time for personal reasons.

AGENTS

During your child's collegiate enrollment, he or she may be contacted by a sports agent, financial advisor or "runner". A sports agent is someone who may want to represent your child in contract negotiations or for commercial endorsements if he or she shows the potential to be a professional athlete in a particular sport.

Agents or their representatives may have contacted your child already. This is an attempt to gain an advantage over other individuals who may want to represent your child once his or her collegiate eligibility has expired. Many times, these individuals will not represent themselves as agents, but as individuals interested in your child's overall welfare and athletics career. These individuals also may attempt to provide gifts or benefits to you, your child, and your family.

Your child will be ineligible for intercollegiate competition if you or your child agrees (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent while in high school or college, regardless of whether the agreement becomes effective immediately or after his or her last season of collegiate eligibility. The receipt of any benefits or gifts by you, your child, your family or friends from an agent or runner will also jeopardize your child's eligibility in that sport.

If an individual attempts to contact you or your child regarding the marketing of your child's athletics ability in any manner, be careful. If you have concerns regarding a sports agent, please contact the coach, the Compliance Office, the Director of Athletics or the NCAA national office for assistance.

THE DO'S

- ✓ You may request information from a professional team or organization concerning your child's professional market value.
- ✓ You may use the head coach of your child's sport to contact agents, professional sports teams or organizations on your child's behalf.
- ✓ You may consult an attorney concerning a professional contract for your child but the attorney may not be present during negotiations with the professional team.
- ✓ Your child may borrow from a lending institution to secure disability insurance as long as a third party does not secure the loan.

THE DON'TS

- ✗ You and your child may not agree to be represented by an agent for the purpose of marketing their athletic ability. If an agreement is made your child will no longer be eligible to participate in NCAA athletics.
- ✗ You, your child, other relatives or your child's friends may not accept benefits from an agent or anyone associated with the agent business. (Benefits include, but are not limited to, transportation, money and gifts, regardless of the value of the benefit or if it is used.)
- ✗ If your child makes an agreement with an agent, the university may decide whether to terminate his/ her scholarship.
- ✗ Retain professional services (legal or financial advice) at less than the normal charge.