

# Athletics Newsletter

University of Wyoming

December 2011

## UAAA Summit reinvigorates agent oversight

Published November 22, 2011, on NCAA.org

After a day-long summit, leaders from state agencies, professional athletics and the NCAA identified additional opportunities to collaboratively investigate and enforce violations of agent laws. Knowing the threats to the integrity of collegiate athletes, the leaders left the summit committed to collaboration, education and enforcement of the Uniform Athlete Agent Act (UAAA).

“As the world of collegiate athletics evolves, it’s important to make sure laws and NCAA rules remain relevant and enforceable,” said Rachel Newman Baker, NCAA managing director of enforcement. “For the first time, we gathered the people who enforce the UAAA, people who are impacted by the law and NCAA representatives for an open dialogue about the current trends in agent activity among collegiate athletics.”

While agents operate under a national law, 42 states have adopted the Uniform Athlete Agent Act to allow for the uniform registration, certification and criminal history disclosure of agents working with student-athletes.

After reviewing the history of the UAAA, the group discussed the many threats facing student-athlete agent activity, including the challenges presented by unscrupulous runners and outside third parties. Runners are individuals that serve as a conduit between top prospective student-athletes and agents. While these individuals are not under the jurisdiction of the NCAA or professional players associations, they are covered under the UAAA enforced by the states.

While uniformity is a key benefit of the act, many states tailor the law to fit within their legal system. During the summit, representatives from state attorneys general and secretaries of state offices shared how they have amended the law. Agents in attendance gave participants an inside look at the day-to-day implications of how the law affects their operations.

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The Compliance Office would like to thank Brian Benight for his work on this month's Newsletter.



## COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

### Question 1:

Outside of the playing season student-athletes may be required to participate in what kinds of activities?  
How many hours per week?

### Question 2:

A new student-athlete had a forward thinking uncle who purchased a college tuition plan years ago.  
How do you classify this aid?

# INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATIONAL COLUMN OF INTEREST

## 4-4 Transfer -- Fulfillment of Nonqualifier Residency Requirement for Practice and Financial Aid (I)

Date Published: November 21, 2011

Interpretation:

The academic and membership affairs staff determined that a nonqualifier who attends two four-year institutions during his or her first year of enrollment (e.g., one semester at each, one quarter at one and two quarters at the other) may combine the terms of enrollment at the two institutions to fulfill the one-year residence requirement for practice and athletically related financial aid.

## Incomplete Grades and Fulfillment of Credit-Hour Requirements (I)

Date Published: November 7, 2011

Interpretation:

The academic and membership affairs staff determined that when applying credit-hour requirements, a course taken during the summer but completed during the academic year must be counted during the summer and not during the academic year.

## COWBOY DEBIT CARD

Have your student-athletes activated their Cowboy Debit Card??

UW recently made the move to Higher One as a 3rd party vendor for distribution of student funds. Debit cards and instructions for creating an account were mailed in green envelopes for delivery around the 2nd week of Nov. Here's some additional info:

- \* Every student at UW will need to activate an account with Higher One. Your reimbursement funds, grants, scholarship, loans and stipend funds will all be disbursed in this manner.
- \* Lost or destroyed your card? Get a new card by providing the address information to the Accounts Receivable Office at 307-766-6232
- \* Use your card as a credit card when making purchases from other business' to avoid debit charges.
- \* DOING NOTHING IS NOT AN OPTION – Ignoring the card and expecting that you will still receive a paper check from the University is not an option. Your funds will not be advanced until you indicate your preference for disbursement.
- \* If you have any questions please contact either the number above or Pam Shuster at 307-766-6101.

### PER DIEM/MEALS DURING WINTER BREAK

During the Winter Break you may provide meals or per diem to student-athletes **REQUIRED** to remain on campus during the break (this is regardless of whether they are in the dorms or not). On these days (December 10<sup>th</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup>) you may provide all three meals (or their cash per diem value) to your students-athletes **required** to remain on campus during the break. The NCAA allows for an optional holiday “fourth meal” per day during winter break – but this must be actual food and not cash.

1. Provide \$35 dollars and one actual meal per day. Please note that this “fourth meal” is optional but **MUST** be actual food (not money).
2. Provide four actual meals per day. Again, note that the “fourth meal” is optional.
3. Provide a mixture of meals and money per day. Keep in mind that Breakfast/Lunch per diem rates are \$10 dollars while Dinner is \$15 dollars. You cannot exceed 3 meals per day **IN CASH**. The “fourth meal” is optional but **MUST** be actual food.

As always if you have questions about any of this information please contact your sports supervisor or the compliance office.

## Agent Oversight (Cont.)

“We all know that when an agent operates outside of the law, a university’s reputation and financial standing can be impacted greatly. In order to avoid these implications, enforcing the UAAA is paramount,” said Brad Phelps, Arkansas chief deputy attorney general. “The summit gave us an opportunity to share what the state of Arkansas is doing to enforce the UAAA and learn from other states and organizations about the challenges they are facing and how we can all collaborate to enforce the act.”

As ideas were shared, the group came to a consensus that moving forward they must continue to find new ways to collaborate and share information to help each other understand the current landscape.

“It’s important that states, professional leagues and players associations and the NCAA continue to find new ways to work together to penalize agents that operate outside of the laws,” said Baker. “Just today, we discussed ways to become smarter investigators by increasing the amount of outreach and education, involving local law enforcement agencies and encouraging collaboration.”

In addition to states monitoring and changing enforcement to keep up with new trends, the NCAA is also considering updates to its agent legislation, updating the current definition of an agent and creating the NCAA Agent Registration Program.



### DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

A new feature starting this year for the Athletics Newsletter is the Department Spotlight. Each month we will be getting to know employees in various departments of Athletics. This month we will be talking with the Cowboy Joe Club (CJC) staff. The CJC staff includes Randy Welniak, Jeff Pivic, Sarah McCance, Suzy Taylor, Aengle Smith, Marisa Reilly, Molly Black, Andrew Joannides and Jack Tennant. We asked all of them 4 questions that will help us get to know them.

- 1) Do you travel for the Holidays? If so, where to?
 

**Randy:** Typically, we go to Ord, Nebraska for the weekend before or after Christmas. Great time for the kids to see their cousins (all 26 of them!)  
**Jeff:** This year I will travel to Rock Springs to be with my parents and family for Christmas.  
**Sarah:** My family usually stays in Cheyenne, but perhaps this year we’ll be heading to one of four exciting destinations... ☺  
**Suzy:** To Cheyenne or Denver where the kids and grandkids are.  
**Aengle:** Sometimes...Florida or Nebraska  
**Marisa:** I used to go to California every Christmas to spend with my mother. I have stayed in town the last two years.  
**Molly:** I am really looking forward to being able to travel home to Bend, Oregon for a few days over Christmas Break.  
**Andrew:** I don’t travel during the holidays, always stayed at home with the family.  
**Jack:** Over the last couple years I have just gone home to Mahomet, Illinois where I grew up. This year, my plans include going to the New Mexico Bowl and to Scottsdale, AZ for a family reunion.
- 2) Turkey or Ham for Christmas dinner?
 

**Randy:** Prime Rib! Take advantage of the brothers that are ranchers.  
**Jeff:** Both, obviously.  
**Sarah:** Definitely ham!!  
**Suzy:** Neither-Prime Rib  
**Aengle:** Both..Turkey and Ham  
**Marisa:** Turkey or prime rib.  
**Molly:** I have never been much of a turkey person so if I had to choose, it would definitely be Ham for Christmas Dinner. Nothing Better!  
**Andrew:** Turkey! Lucky for me, because I’m not the biggest ham fan.  
**Jack:** Both...Duh! Plus a couple pieces of pie.
- 3) Do you like eggnog?
 

**Randy:** It makes me gag. It is horrible.  
**Jeff:** No way.  
**Sarah:** Not. At. ALL!
- 4) What is the best present you have ever received?
 

**Suzy:** Not really-too rich  
**Aengle:** Love Eggnog  
**Marisa:** Yes  
**Molly:** Eggnog-hmm, I have to be really craving it. It is definitely not my favorite thing in the world but there are certain times where I indulge.  
**Andrew:** I do not like eggnog, never understood the excitement over it!  
**Jack:** I like eggnog so much I make my hot chocolate with it.

**Randy:** Received a \$50 bill on the tree and airline tickets to Disneyland for the entire family (all 9 of us) when I was in 7 years old.  
**Jeff:** I have received a number of good presents but the one I didn’t receive sticks out. I once asked Santa for new hair, he didn’t come through.  
**Sarah:** The best present ever will be the one I’m getting this year...a puppy!  
**Suzy:** Trip to Hawaii with family  
**Aengle:** My daughter ☺  
**Marisa:** A guitar when I was 14.  
**Molly:** That is a tough one. I have the best parents in the world and last year for Christmas they gave me a plane ticket to go visit some family in Missouri for a week on Christmas Day. I think that one takes the cake.  
**Andrew:** When I was 9 or so and my 2 brothers, my dad and I all went to Chicago for a Bulls game. Saw Michael Jordan play in their championship season in '96.  
**Jack:** The best present I ever received was a guitar 2 years ago from my pops...It gives me something productive to do in my spare time.



Jeff Pivic, Molly Black, Aengle Smith, Suzy Taylor, Sarah McCance, Marisa Reilly (Randy Welniak, Andrew Joannides, and Jack Tennant were not available for this picture)

# UW FACULTY/STAFF CORNER

## Division I initial-eligibility changes

The changes adopted by the Division I Board of Directors continue to use a student-athlete's grades in high school core courses in combination with the student-athlete's ACT or SAT score and core-course accumulation.

Prospective student-athletes who achieve the current minimum initial-eligibility standard on the test score-GPA sliding scale with at least a minimum 2.0 core-course GPA would continue to be eligible for athletically related financial aid during the first year of enrollment and practice during the first regular academic term of enrollment. Student-athletes serving this academic redshirt year would have to successfully complete nine semester or eight quarter hours during their first academic term to be eligible for practice during their second term.

For immediate access to competition, prospective student-athletes will be required to present at least a 2.3 GPA and an increased sliding-scale credential. Specifically, prospects need to earn about a half-point higher GPA for a given test score compared to the standard for aid and practice. For example, an SAT score of 1,000 would require a 2.5 high school core-course GPA for competition and a 2.0 high school core-course GPA for aid and practice.

Incoming student-athletes will be required to successfully complete 10 of the 16 total required core courses before the start of their senior year in high school. Seven of those 10 courses must be in English, math and science.

For more information on these changes please visit [naaa.org](http://naaa.org).

## COMPLIANCE WORD SEARCH

A A G M V U G S L A W D X K L  
 I M E N O S Y A C H O H F A I  
 C Z A W I O T A Y I W J C E I  
 O U M T B V D I R G L T Y R M  
 M V D W E E I E U X B H U B E  
 P B O U M U P G W R X G M R I  
 L C Y I L T R R S K C Z Z E D  
 I J C U E T H I U K W E S T R  
 A S F I E O L T S H N Z R N E  
 N X U A G E N T S M K A O I P  
 C Q O S L R I G W O C F H W S  
 E G B H E L I G I B I L I T Y  
 A Z E I S M F W K R Z T P X A  
 O M L C K Z H X O E B X V T L  
 S V X Q I R M A C T E I M C D

ACADEMICS  
 AGENTS  
 AMATEURISM  
 COMPLIANCE  
 COWBOYS  
 COWGIRLS

ELIGIBILITY  
 PER DIEM  
 QUIET PERIOD  
 RECRUITS  
 THANKSGIVING  
 WINTER BREAK

## ANSWERS TO COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS

### Answer 1:

Student-athletes participation can be required in weight training, conditioning and skill-related instruction. For football specifically, from the last day of competition to Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> activities are limited to weight training, conditioning and viewing of film. All sports are limited to eight hours per week of out of playing season activities.

### Answer 2:

Prepaid college tuition plans are considered financial aid from someone upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent, as long as a family member purchased the plan.



## RECRUITING CALENDAR

### December 2011

Sport	Contact/ Evaluation Period	Contact Period	Evaluation Period	Quiet Period	Dead Period
Men's Basketball			Oct 6 – Mar 28		Dec 24-26
Women's Basketball			Oct 7 – Feb 29		Dec 24-26
Football		Nov 27-Jan 28		Dec 18; Jan 4-8 (JC); Jan 8	Dec 19-22 (JC); Dec 19-Jan 3; Jan 9-12
Men's Golf	Aug 1-July 31				
Women's Golf	Aug 1-July 31				
Women's Soccer	Aug 1-July 31				
Women's Tennis	Aug 1-July 31				
Swimming & Diving	Aug 1-July 31				
Track & Field/Cross Country		Aug 14-Dec 11; Jan 3-July 31		Dec 12-Jan 2	Dec 12-16
Volleyball		August 1 – Dec 4; Jan 1-July 31		Dec 5-13; Jan 1-13	Dec 14-31
Wrestling	Aug 1-July 31				

#### Recruiting Period Definitions

**Contact Period:** Permissible to make in-person, off-campus, recruiting contacts and evaluations.

**Evaluation Period:** Permissible to be involved in off-campus activities designed to assess the academic qualifications and playing ability of prospects. NO in-person, off-campus contacts may be made during evaluation periods.

**Quiet Period:** Permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts ONLY on the UW campus.

**Dead Period:** NOT permissible to make in-person contacts or evaluations on- or off-campus or to permit official or unofficial visits.

#### HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Athletics Department staff for further information or for answers to NCAA related questions.

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