

Compliance Newsletter

University of Wyoming
May, 2009

Oklahoma issues policy for athletes' use of social networking

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — After getting in trouble for breaking the NCAA's rules about recruiting phone calls, Oklahoma is trying to make sure there aren't more problems lurking on the Internet.

Among safeguards put in place following NCAA sanctions against the men's basketball program, the university has created a policy with recommendations for athletes' usage of social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace.

The policy was among documents sent to the NCAA as part of the university's annual compliance report and released Monday to The Associated Press after an open records request.

Oklahoma also reported that it continues to add rules education programs and software designed to monitor compliance with NCAA rules following major violations by the men's basketball and football programs.

The school is on probation until May 2010.

In the social networking policy, athletes are warned that their postings must comply with a code of conduct and can be punishable with education, counseling, suspension or expulsion and with the reduction or cancellation of financial aid. It warns athletes not to post pictures that would portray them negatively nor post contact information that agents or their runners could use to put the athletes' eligibility in jeopardy.

"'Partying,' 'drinking,' and 'getting wasted' do not qualify as real hobbies or interests," the policy warns.

The annual compliance reports are required as part of Oklahoma's NCAA sanctions for former coach Kelvin Sampson's hundreds of impermissible recruiting phone calls and an employment scandal that involved former quarterback Rhett Bomar and offensive lineman J.D. Quinn getting paid for work at a car dealership that they did not perform.

The latest report outlines a new software system that centralizes documents, such as phone bills and records of athletes' employment, and a program that can detect when the university's computers have been used to access improper websites, including ones that allow gambling or promote academic fraud.

According to the compliance report, Oklahoma's secondary violations of NCAA rules have increased "consistently" since 2002. "However, this trend should not be interpreted as negative, but rather reflects more effective and thorough monitoring," according to the April 1 report written by vice president and general counsel Anil Gollahalli. The report lists 11 total secondary violations for the 2002-03 and 2003-04 school years, but at least 30 for every year since and a high point of 46 in 2005-06.

Included in documents related to the AP were records of single secondary violations by the baseball, wrestling, women's basketball, softball, men's tennis and rowing programs and six by the football team.

The football violations included:

- coach Bob Stoops and two assistants inadvertently visiting a recruit's basketball game that had been rescheduled because of an ice storm;
- Stoops mentioning at a news conference the name of a walk-on player who was technically still a prospect;
- Stoops sending an impermissible text to a recruit when he thought he was sending an e-mail from his BlackBerry device

Inside this issue:

Ed. Column & Interp	2
Miss. St. violation	2
???	3
Recruiting Calendar	4

ED COLUMN & INTERP OF INTEREST

Calls Regarding Institutional Camp and Clinic Logistical Issues (I)

The committee determined that a telephone call to an individual (or his or her parents, guardians, relatives or coach) that relates solely to institutional camp and clinic logistical issues (e.g., missing registration information) is not subject to the restrictions on telephone calls, provided no recruiting conversation or solicitation of particular individuals to attend a camp or clinic occurs.

Recruiting Advertisements at Athletics Competitions Involving Prospective Student-Athletes (I)

NCAA Division I institutions should note that in accordance with NCAA Bylaw 13.4.4.1, an institution may not arrange for advertisements, including athletics camp and clinic advertisements, in facilities or publications related to any competition in which prospective student-athletes participate. Accordingly, it is not permissible to place a banner promoting the institution's athletics camp or clinic at a high school competition.

The prohibition against advertising in conjunction with prospective student-athletes' competition includes not only the purchase of advertising for recruiting purposes, but also the arrangement of advertising for athletics recruiting purposes. Therefore, it is not permissible for an institution to make athletics camp or clinic brochures available at high school athletics competitions even if the institution does not pay a fee for the opportunity to place its materials in the venue.

Mississippi State reports visits by Sherrill as NCAA violation

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Mississippi State has reported what school officials consider a secondary NCAA violation to the Southeastern Conference, stemming from former coach Jackie Sherrill's participation in an April 10 football practice.

Athletic department spokesman Joe Galbraith confirmed Tuesday that the school had reported the rule violation to the SEC.

Sherrill, who was Mississippi State's coach from 1991 to 2003, was invited to practice by new head coach Dan Mullen. Sherrill said he was there to consult the coaching staff, but was seen interacting with players during the workout.

NCAA rules allow for the use of consultants to train the coaching staff, but consultants are not allowed to interact with players unless counted as coaches. And there is a limit on the number of coaches allowed at practices.

Galbraith said the school has taken appropriate action, including reminding the coaching staff of the limits of using outside consultants. He also said the university will no longer invite Sherrill to football practices and Mullen will be disciplined.

"There will be a letter of admonishment regarding his (Mullen's) responsibilities and the NCAA legislation," Galbraith said.

A letter to Southeastern Conference commissioner Mike Slive acknowledged that Sherrill worked with Mullen and the team's kickers on April 10 and the activity violated an NCAA bylaw.

In 2004, the school's football program was placed on four years probation, stripped of eight scholarships over two seasons and banned from postseason play because of infractions that occurred while Sherrill was the head coach.

In his post-practice meeting with reporters on April 10, Mullen denied Sherrill's participation was an NCAA rules violation.

"No, because he was coaching me," Mullen told reporters. "I don't think there's any limitation of coaches that can coach your coaches."

Mullen came to MSU from Florida, where he was offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for both of the Gators' national championships under Urban Meyer.



RECRUITING CALENDAR

Sport	Contact/ Evaluation Period	Contact Period	Evaluation Period	Quiet Period	Dead Period
Men's Basketball				Apr 1-July 5	May 21-30
Women's Basketball				Apr 22-July 5	
Football			Apr 15-May 31(4 week designation)	Apr 15-May 31(for weeks not designated); June 1-July 31	
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		Jan. 3-July 31			June 10-14
Volleyball		Jan. 1-July 31		May 1-22	
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 Compliance Office staff for further information or for answers to NCAA related questions.

Matt Whisenant

Sr. Assoc. A. D. Internal Operations

307-766-5551

Phil Wille

Asst. A. D. for Compliance

307-766-2391

Jessica Kumke

Compliance Assistant

307-766-4960