Dear Spartan Booster:

With the fall 2011 sports season well underway, this seems an appropriate time to remind supporters of the San Jose State University (SJSU) Athletic Department of the collective effort required to ensure compliance with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and Western Athletic Conference (WAC) rules and regulations. As a supporter of SJSU, you are a "representative of the University's athletic interests," more commonly known as a "booster," and your actions are thereby governed by the same NCAA rules and regulations as the Athletic Department overall. It is essential; therefore, that you recognize the role you play in maintaining the integrity of our program.

You become a booster if: (1) You have ever been a member of any organization promoting SJSU Athletics; (2) You have made any type of donation to the Spartan Foundation, Quarterback Club or any other SJSU booster organization; (3) You have assisted in evaluating or recruiting prospects; (4) You have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families; or (5) You have promoted SJSU Athletics in any other manner. NCAA rules mandate that once you become a booster, you retain that identity indefinitely and SJSU is responsible for your actions.

The NCAA prohibits boosters of SJSU Athletics from providing extra benefits to prospects and current student-athletes. An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a booster to provide a prospect or student-athlete or the prospect or student-athlete’s relatives or friends a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Examples of extra benefits include loans or cosigning a loan, transportation, housing, free or reduced-cost services, gifts, use of a car, complimentary tickets and other forms of entertainment. Receipt of an extra benefit can cause a prospect or student-athlete to be declared ineligible for intercollegiate athletics.

As a booster of SJSU Athletics, you MAY provide currently enrolled student-athletes (but NOT prospects) with an occasional meal, provided the meal takes place at your home or on campus, but NOT at a local restaurant establishment. The meal may be catered and must be restricted to infrequent or special occasions. All such occasional meals provided to student-athletes must be approved by the Compliance Office via an Occasional Meal Request Form BEFORE the meal takes place. The Occasional Meal Request Form is available on our website at sjuspartans.com/Inside Athletics/Compliance/Forms under Bylaw 16.

Other than the aforementioned approved occasional meal provided to current student-athletes, SJSU Athletics policy prohibits booster contact with current student-athletes off-campus without an SJSU Athletic Department staff member present. Contact between boosters and a prospect is expressly prohibited by NCAA rules.

SJSU Athletics is proud and grateful to have your loyal support and continued interest in our programs, but you should be aware that even the most inadvertent and well-intentioned activity on your part has the potential to violate NCAA rules and jeopardize the eligibility of current and prospective Spartan student-athletes. As we strive for excellence, we must always seek the highest standard of NCAA rules compliance. If you are unsure, please do not hesitate to ask us. With your assistance and cooperation, we can accomplish our goals. Thank you for your continued support and GO SPARTANS!

Respectfully,

Lynn Meade
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