Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference

Compliance Newsletter

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Compliance Calendar Reminders
1. Begin certifying for practice and/or competition spring sport student-athletes and mid-year enrollees. (End of December)
2. Certify six-hour rule for the student-athletes competing in the spring. (By end of December)
3. Collect roster changes and update squad lists. (Continual)
4. Review NLI signing dates/dead period. (Beginning of December)
5. Monitor full-time enrollment. (Continual)
6. Monitor official and unofficial visits. (Continual)
7. Monitor contacts and evaluations (Weekly or monthly)
8. Monitor countable athletically related activities. (Weekly or monthly)
9. Submit Academic Performance Data (APC)

NSIC Monthly Reminders
1. Submit Academic Performance Data (APC). Due 12 weeks after 1st day of class in fall semester.
2. National Letter of Intent that were signed in the early signing period, please send them to the office ASAP, to make sure the date requirements are met.
3. Violations are due to be submitted into the NCAA. Please make sure you copy me on what you submit to the NCAA.
4. If you have things you would like to see in the compliance newsletter please send me those ideas.

2009 Regional Rules Seminars.
May 11-15, 2009 - Atlanta, Georgia
June 1-5, 2009 - Anaheim, California

Look for several enhancements at the 2009 Regional Rules Seminars!
Enhancements include:
• Earlier registration. Registration will open at the beginning of February.
• Enhanced registration system.
• Identified Division II track and offerings.
• NCAA Green Initiative - Bring your laptop!! Presentation materials will be available prior to the seminars via ncaa.org. More information coming in the January update.

Watch the NCAA Regional Rules Web page for additional information coming soon!
NSIC COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS FROM MONTH OF NOVEMBER

(Q) UNIVERSITY A DOESN’T HAVE CLASSES IN SESSION ON 11/26/08-11/28/08 DUE TO THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY. THIS PERIOD OF TIME IS OUR INSTITUTION’S VACATION PERIOD NCAA LEGISLATION. REGARDING COUNTABLE HOURS. OBVIOUSLY IF A SPORT IS OUT OF SEASON, A STUDENT ATHLETE CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN COUNTABLE ACTIVITIES ON THOSE DAYS. HOWEVER, IS SATURDAY 11/29/08 AND SUNDAY 11/30/08 CONSIDERED PART OF THE INSTITUTIONAL VACATION PERIOD AS WELL AND THEREFORE NO COUNTABLE ACTIVITIES SHOULD TAKE PLACE FOR THOSE SPORTS THAT ARE OUT OF SEASON?

BYLAW 17.1.6.2.3 AND 17.1.6.3.6

(A) PER TALKING WITH THE NCAA, COUNTABLE HOURS WOULD BE PROHIBITED IF THE INSTITUTION CONSIDERS IT A VACATION PERIOD. THIS INFORMATION WOULD BE GATHERED FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT. IF THE UNIVERSITY DOES NOT CONSIDER IT A VACATION PERIOD THEN DOCUMENTATION FROM THE PRESIDENT STATING THAT 11/29 AND 11/30 IS NOT CONSIDERED A VACATION PERIOD IS REQUIRED.

(Q) A GIRL GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL—ENROLLED AT NW MISSOURI STATE (DII), AND SAT THE WHOLE YEAR BUT WAS ON THE SQUAD LIST. THEN SHE TRANSFERRED, USING HER ONE TIME TRANSFER EXCEPTION TO SE MISSOURI STATE (DI) AND AGAIN—SAT AND DIDN’T PLAY IN ANY GAMES BUT WAS ON THE SQUAD LIST. IF SHE CAME HERE ARE THERE ANY EXCEPTIONS TO GET AROUND THE ONE TIME TRANSFER EXCEPTION?

(A) THIS STUDENT ATHLETE MUST SIT A YEAR OF RESIDENCY NO EXCEPTION TO THE RULE. SHE ALREADY USED HER ONE TIME TRANSFER EXCEPTION.

(Q) WE HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY AN ACADEMIC ADVISOR FROM ONE OF THE LOCAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE AREA. SHE WORKS WITH AT RISK KIDS AND GETTING THEM INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES. ONE OF THE IDEAS THEIR GROUP WOULD LIKE TO DO IS TO GET KIDS ON CAMPUS TO EXPOSE THEM TO DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF CAMPUS LIFE. ONE OF THE IDEAS THEY HAD WAS TO GET THEM TO SOME ATHLETIC EVENTS. MOST OF THE KIDS WILL BE IN JUNIOR HIGH STILL SO GETTING THEM IN FREE ADMISSION TO AN EVENT WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM. HOWEVER, THEY ALSO WORK WITH THE HIGH SCHOOLS AND THEY WOULD LIKE TO DO THE SAME EVENT FOR AT RISK KIDS IN THE HIGH SCHOOL. IS THIS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

(A) PER TALKING WITH THE NCAA, THIS WOULD BE CONSIDERED A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY PER BYLAW 13.02.1 IF YOU GET PERMISSION AND SIGNATURE FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT. THE PRESIDENT AND ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MUST DOCUMENT THAT THEY CONSIDER THIS ACTIVITY ‘ENHANCEMENT’ FOR THE COMMUNITY. FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT (PSA’S) IF THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT SIGN OFF ON THE ACTIVITY THEN YOU MUST CHARGE THEM THE GOING RATE OF YOUR GROUP RATES.

(Q) DOES A JUNIOR COLLEGE RECRUIT NEED TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE INITIAL ELIGIBILITY CENTER TO COME ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT?

(A) AS OF RIGHT NOW THE NCAA DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT A JC RECRUIT NEEDS TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE INITIAL ELIGIBILITY CENTER TO COME ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT. REMINDER, THAT YOUR INSTITUTION MIGHT HAVE A POLICY FOR JUNIOR COLLEGE RECRUITS COMING ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT.

(Q) IS THERE A LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF MALE PRACTICE PLAYERS THAT WE MAY HAVE ON THE ROSTER?

(A) THERE IS NO LIMIT ON HOW MANY PRACTICE PLAYERS YOU CAN HAVE ON THE ROSTER AT THIS TIME. AND THERE IS NO LIMIT ON HOW MAY YOU CAN HAVE INVOLVED IN PRACTICES DURING THE PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASON.

(Q) IF AN INSTITUTION HAS MULTIPLE EVENS ON A WEEKEND, MAY WE GIVE COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS FOR ALL EVENTS TO PSA ON A VISIT?

(A) LEGISLATION FOR TICKETS IN BOTH THE OFFICIAL VISIT AREA (13.6.6.1) AND UNOFFICIAL AREA (13.7.2.1) SAYS YOU CAN GIVE THREE COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS TO A “CAMPUS ATHLETICS EVENT” I AM COMFORTABLE WITH THEM GIVING A PROSPECT TICKETS TO MORE THAN ONE EVENT. YES, YOU CAN GIVE 3 COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS TO CAMPUS ATHLETIC EVENTS. YOU CAN GIVE THEM FOR MORE THAN ONE EVENT.
**RECENTLY ADOPTED LEGISLATION**
**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS WERE APPROVED BY THE NCAA DII MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AT THE OCTOBER 20-21 MEETING AND ARE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!

- Modification of Wording.pdf
- Incorporations.pdf
- Noncontentious.pdf

**INTERPRETATIONS AND EDUCATION COLUMNS**

*Please review interpretations and educational columns, very important with new information*

**Date Issued:** November 7, 2008  
**Type:** Official Interpretation  
**Item Ref:** 1

**Title:** Organized Competition or Training Prior to Initial Collegiate Enrollment -- Expected Date of Graduation -- CEGEP (II)

The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee determined that for purposes of identifying the expected date of high school graduation pursuant to the organized competition or training prior to initial collegiate enrollment legislation, the *College d'Enseignement General et Professional* (CEGEP) is a two-year program that a prospective student-athlete from Quebec, Canada, may complete after earning a *Diplome d'Études Secondaires* (DES). Enrollment in the CEGEP will not constitute a delay of enrollment, provided the student-athlete enrolls in the CEGEP immediately after earning a DES and he or she earns a *Diplome d'Études Collegiales* (DEC) at the conclusion of the consecutive two-year program.

[Reference: NCAA Bylaw 14.2.4.2 (participation in organized competition or training prior to initial collegiate enrollment)]

**Title:** Educational Column -- Recruiting -- Electronic Transmissions -- Social Networking Web Sites (II)  
**Type:** Educational Column  
**Item Ref:** 1
NCAA Division II institutions should note that pursuant to NCAA Bylaws 13.4.1 and 13.4.5 an institution may send electronically transmitted correspondence to a prospective student-athlete beginning September 1 at the beginning of the prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school. Further, electronically transmitted correspondence that may be sent to a prospective student-athlete is limited to electronic mail (e-mail) and facsimiles until after the calendar day on which a prospective student-athlete signs a National Letter of Intent. All other forms of electronically transmitted correspondence (e.g., Instant Messenger, text messaging) are prohibited.

Institutions should note that e-mail is not limited to a traditional e-mail service provided by an institution, Web site or Internet service provider. Therefore, it is permissible for an athletics department staff member to send electronically transmitted correspondence to a prospective student-athlete using a social networking Web site's (e.g., MySpace, Facebook) e-mail feature. All other electronically transmitted correspondence including, but not limited to, text messaging, Instant Messenger, chat rooms or message boards (e.g., a user's wall) within a social networking Web site or through other services or applications remain impermissible.

For example, a coaching staff member with a MySpace or Facebook account may send electronically transmitted correspondence to a prospective student-athlete's MySpace or Facebook account using the e-mail inbox feature located on that user's profile page. However, a coaching staff member may not send electronic correspondence to a prospective student-athlete via the comments feature on MySpace or the wall-to-wall feature on Facebook.

Institutions should also note that in accordance with Bylaw 13.10.2, before the signing of a prospective student-athlete to a National Letter of Intent or an institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, a member institution may comment publicly only to the extent of confirming its recruitment of the prospective student-athlete. The institution may not comment generally about the prospective student-athlete's ability or the contribution that the prospective student-athlete might make to the institution's team; further, the institution is precluded from commenting in any manner as to the likelihood of the prospective student-athlete's signing with that institution.

Accordingly, it is permissible for a prospective student-athlete's name and/or picture to appear on an athletics department staff member's profile page of a social networking Web site to identify the prospective student-athlete as a "friend" of the athletics department staff member. Institutions should note that the identification of the prospective student-athlete as a "friend" on an athletics staff members profile page confirms only the institution's potential recruitment of that individual. However, institutions are reminded they may not make any public comments about the prospective student-athlete's ability, the contribution that the prospective student-athlete might make to the institution's team or the likelihood of the prospective student-athlete's signing with that institution.

[References: Bylaws 13.4.1 (printed recruiting materials) 13.4.5 (electronic transmissions), 13.4.5.1 (electronic transmissions following National Letter of Intent signing or other written commitment) and 13.10.2 (comments before signing)]

Title: Educational Column -- Financial Aid to Midyear Enrollee Who Has Been Awarded Athletically Related Financial Aid for Following Academic Year (II)

Type: Educational Column
Educational Column:

NCAA Division II institutions should note that awarding athletics aid to an individual for any term in the regular academic year preceding the academic year for which the prospective student-athlete has been awarded athletically related financial aid would constitute an impermissible award of an athletics grant-in-aid for a period in excess of one academic year. For example, if an individual signs a National Letter of Intent (NLI) and/or institutional financial aid agreement in November 2008 for the following academic year (2009-10) and then graduates from high school at midyear and enrolls at the institution for the 2009 spring term, the institution may not award athletics aid to that prospective student-athlete for the 2009 spring term.

The following scenarios and corresponding questions and answers may assist member institutions in identifying potential options available to an institution considering providing athletics aid to midyear enrollees, including individuals who have signed an NLI during an early NLI signing period, individuals who participate in a sport that does not have an early NLI signing period and individuals who have not signed an NLI.

Scenario 1: A prospective student-athlete signs the NLI and accompanying financial aid agreement during the early signing period, graduates from high school midyear and enrolls in the institution's spring term.

Question: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the spring term?

Answer: No, this would constitute an impermissible award of an athletics grant-in-aid for a period in excess of one academic year.

Question: May the student-athlete receive nonathletics aid for the spring term?

Answer: The student-athlete may receive permissible nonathletics aid in accordance with normal institutional financial aid policies and procedures and applicable NCAA legislation.

Question: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the summer term?

Answer: Yes. Summer financial aid may be awarded to attend the institution's summer term, summer school or summer-orientation program, in accordance with institutional policy. In order to award summer financial aid, the institution must offer a separate award because the summer award is outside the permissible period of one academic year.

Question: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the next academic year?

Answer: Yes, in accordance with the agreement signed during the early signing period.

Question: If the prospective student-athlete wishes to receive athletics aid for the spring term what options exist?

Answer: The prospective student-athlete may initiate a request for a complete release from the NLI prior to receipt of any athletics aid. If a complete release is granted, the prospective student-athlete
may receive athletics aid for the spring term. However, athletics aid for the following academic year would be subject to the renewal/nonrenewal process in accordance with NCAA legislation.

Question: What is the penalty or violation if the student-athlete receives athletics aid for the spring term and does not receive a complete release from the NLI?

Answer: A violation of NCAA Bylaw 15.3.3.1 would occur and it would have to be reported to the NCAA enforcement staff. However, according to NCAA Bylaw 15.3.3.1.3, it would be an institutional violation per Constitution 2.8.1; but it shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility. The NLI would still be valid and the student-athlete would still be bound by its provisions.

**Scenario 2:** A prospective student-athlete does not sign an NLI during the early signing period (or is a participant in a sport that does not have an early signing period), graduates from high school at midyear and enrolls in the institution's spring term.

Question: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the spring term?

Answer: Yes. The student-athlete may receive athletics aid for the spring term. A prospective student-athlete may sign an institutional or conference letter of intent or financial aid agreement for the spring term at any time during or after the signing period applicable to the academic year of enrollment. For example, the regular signing period for football expired April 1, 2008, for the 2008-09 academic year. Therefore, a prospective student-athlete who will enroll spring 2009 of the 2008-09 academic year (and did not sign a 2008-09 NLI or 2009-10 NLI) may sign an institutional or conference letter of intent or financial aid agreement for the 2009 spring term any time during the signing period or after April 1, 2008. Similarly, the regular signing period for volleyball expired August 1, 2008, for the 2008-09 academic year. Therefore, a prospective student-athlete who will enroll spring 2009 of the 2008-09 academic year (and did not sign a 2008-09 NLI or a 2009-2010 NLI) may sign an institutional or conference letter of intent or financial aid agreement for the 2009 spring term any time during the signing period or after August 1, 2008.

Question: May the student-athlete receive nonathletics aid for the spring term?

Answer: The student-athlete may receive permissible nonathletics aid in accordance with normal institutional financial aid policies and procedures and applicable NCAA legislation.

Question: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the summer term?

Answer: Yes. Summer financial aid may be awarded to attend the institution's summer term, summer school or summer-orientation program, in accordance with institutional policy. In order to award summer financial aid, the institution must offer a separate award because the summer award is outside the permissible period of one academic year.

Question: May the student-athlete receive athletics aid for the next academic year?

Answer: Yes, the student-athlete's athletics aid may be renewed for the next academic year, pursuant to applicable NCAA legislation.

[References: Bylaws 13.9.2 (letter of intent restriction), 13.9.2.2 (offer of aid before signing date), 15.02.6 (period of award), 15.1 (maximum limitation on financial aid -- individual), 15.2.7 (summer financial aid), 15.3.3.2.1 (summer term as additional award), 15.3.3.1 (one-year limit), 15.3.3.1.3...]

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Educational Column -- Organized Competition or Training Prior to Initial Collegiate Enrollment -- Expected Date of Graduation -- CEGEP (II)

Educational Column:

NCAA Division II institutions should note that pursuant to NCAA Bylaw 14.2.4.2, a prospective student-athlete from Quebec, Canada, who is enrolled in a two-year College d'Enseignement General et Professional (CEGEP) program may be subject to the organized competition or training prior to initial collegiate enrollment legislation if there is a delay in initial collegiate enrollment. The following circumstances will constitute a delay of initial collegiate enrollment:

- If a prospective student-athlete does not immediately enroll in a CEGEP at his or her first opportunity on earning a Diplome d'Etudes Secondaires (DES), then the prospective student-athlete is not following the prescribed path of secondary education in Quebec, and any year(s) after completion of the DES constitute a delay of initial collegiate enrollment.
- When a prospective student-athlete does not complete the CEGEP within a two-year period by earning a Diplome d'Etudes Collegiales (DEC), any additional year(s) beyond the two-year period required to earn the DEC constitute a delay of initial collegiate enrollment.
- If a prospective student-athlete never earns a DEC after being enrolled in a CEGEP, the year(s) while enrolled in a CEGEP constitute a delay of initial collegiate enrollment.
- If a prospective student-athlete completes the requirements for high school graduation in a province other than Quebec, Canada (e.g., British Columbia, Ontario), and thereafter enrolls in a CEGEP, the year(s) while enrolled in a CEGEP constitute a delay of initial collegiate enrollment.

The following circumstances will not constitute a delay of initial collegiate enrollment:

- When a prospective student-athlete enrolls in a CEGEP immediately after earning a DES, and he or she achieves a DEC, the two-year period required to complete the CEGEP is a continuation of secondary school.
- When a prospective student-athlete enrolls in a CEGEP immediately after earning a DES, and he or she completes the first year of the CEGEP by successfully completing 14 courses.

[References: Bylaw 14.2.4.2 (participation in organized competition or training prior to initial collegiate enrollment) and an official interpretation (11/7/08, Item No. 1)]
A new, upgraded version of LSDBi is now available. To access LSDBi, go to www.ncaa.org. Click on “legislation and governance” and then “LSDBi”.

Outlined below are some highlights of the enhanced features and tips for getting the most out of LSDBi. Additional highlights and more detailed tips will be included future updates! Also, a hands-on training session is available at the 2009 Regional Rules Seminars.

LSDBi is evolving to become the entry point and system that will be used to research, locate, submit and track on all issues related to the regulatory and compliance world of the NCAA. In the future, institutions will submit interpretation requests, waivers and report violations through LSDBi.

- **Logging In:** To log-in to LSDBi enter your conference or institutional id and password. This is the same id and password used for the membership database and other NCAA systems.
  - Don’t know your id or password? Click on “forgot password” and identify your conference or institution. You will be asked to identify which authorized individual at your conference or institution should receive the user name and password in an email.

- **Announcements:** The announcement feature through LSDBi provides quick reference point for timely notifications and updates on issues relating to NCAA compliance such as recently published official or staff interpretations, legislative relief blanket waivers or released major infraction reports.
  - Announcements are presented in a categorized format. The categories are: Legislative, Case Management/Waivers, Academic Performance Program, Student-Athlete Reinstatement, Infractions and Enforcement Programs, and Eligibility Center.
- User Defined Display of Announcements. After logging in, click on the “announcements” hyperlink on the left menu bar. Select what division and categories of announcements you would like displayed each time you log in to LSDBi.

- RSS and E-Mail Feeds of Announcements. You may sign up to receive RSS feeds or e-mail notifications when announcements are posted to LSDBi. You are able to define what information you would like to receive notification about. Individuals that have compliance responsibilities are encouraged to sign up for either the RSS feed or email notification feature.

- Tool-tip: LSDBi now displays additional pop-up boxes and roll-over text to help a user navigate the system. You can control if those pop-up and roll-over text appear! On the left menu bar, click on “tooltip on” or “tooltip off”.

Identify what announcements you would like displayed.

Click to sign up for RSS feed or email feed.

Click to turn the tooltip on or off.
Enhanced Searching Capabilities: On the top menu bar, select what area you would like to search. Options include proposals by division, legislation (then you can select the division), interpretations, educational columns, case precedent in the areas of initial eligibility, progress toward degree, legislative relief, student-athlete reinstatement, secondary and major infractions.

- Once on a search screen, to establish “default” search parameters such as division, in the key word search contains option “use of one of the words” vs. “all of the words”, click on the hand icon. That will set the search defaults.

- Coming Soon! Enhanced search capabilities that will allow you to search multiple sides of LSDBi at one time. For example, want to search proposals, legislation, and interpretations for the use of the keywords “recruiting” and “materials”? This soon-to-be-available enhancement will allow you to do that! Want to search interpretations, educational columns and legislative relief waivers for any cross references of Bylaw 16.1.2? As the user, you will decide what you sides of the database you execute your search!
Resources Page: Have trouble finding compliance related information on ncaa.org? Click on “Resources” on the top menu bar. This page provides one-click access to commonly used pages on ncaa.org relating to NCAA compliance.

Staff Contact: Lynn Holzman (lholzman@ncaa.org)
NCAA DII Coaches Certification Test

Effective immediately, the new primary contact for the NCAA Division II coaches certification test is Jenn Fraser, assistant director of membership services. If you have any questions about the test, you may contact Jenn at jfraser@ncaa.org or 317/917-6222. If you encounter technical difficulties with the online test program, you may also contact Julie Powers, administrative assistant for membership services, at japowers@ncaa.org or 317/917-6222.

NCAA Student-Athlete Reinstatement

The NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff has undergone some staffing changes over the course of the past several months. As a means of increasing communication between member institutions and our staff, the student-athlete reinstatement staff believes it is beneficial for our update in this month’s Division II Commissioners Update to focus on educating the membership on our new staff members. In addition, the staff is hopeful that providing this information will assist in guiding institutions to the appropriate individuals in student-athlete reinstatement when help is needed, whether it be for basic questions or in situations when institutions experience an urgent student-athlete reinstatement situation and must notify our staff that a case is forthcoming.

Please feel free to contact our staff at 317/917-6222 and continue to fax student-athlete reinstatement requests to 317/917-6736.
Seasons Greetings! I hope that everyone gets the chance to take a well deserved break. May the New Year bring you joy and happiness. I am planning on having a compliance conference call for the month of February. Please let me know if you have any items that you would like to see on the agenda and what time of day works best for you.

The National office will be closed beginning Wednesday December 24, 2009 through Friday January 2, 2009. If you have an emergency during that time that needs immediate assistance. Please contact me on my cell (651) 792-6423 and I will take the proper steps to help you resolve your emergency. I will be checking my email on a daily basis and be available to take phone calls on my cell phone during the holiday break. I will be out of the office for the Holiday break starting Tuesday December 23, 2008 and returning to the office on January 5, 2009. Again, I will be available by email and cell phone during that period of time.

The next NSIC Compliance Newsletter that will come out will be February. If you have anything that you would like to see published in the next newsletter please contact me. I look forward to the New Year and continuing working with everyone!

Happy Holidays!

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