March NCAA Compliance Calendar

Reminders

1. Collect roster changes and update squad lists. (Continual)
2. Monitor full-time enrollment. (Continual)
3. Monitor contacts and evaluations. (Weekly or monthly)
4. Monitor countable athletically related activities. (Weekly or monthly)

Monthly Rules Education Session:

Transfer Regulations/Continuing Eligibility

NSIC Reminder

Violation Reports are DUE to me and Chris Strobel at the NCAA by March 27th, 2009

**If you do not have any violations to report please send me an email letting me know you don't have any violations**

THANK YOU
Recently Adopted Legislation

Recently Adopted Legislation by the NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council.

The following proposals were approved by the Management Council at the January 14 meeting and the administrative regulations were also approved by the Presidents Council at the January 15 meeting. All of the proposals are effective immediately. If you need additional information please contact Jenn Fraser (jfraser@ncaa.org) or Maritza Jones (msjones@ncaa.org).

Administrative Regulations.pdf
Noncontroversial Legislation.pdf

Interpretations and Educational Columns

Title: Baseball and Softball are Separate Sports for Purposes of Amateurism and Outside Competition Legislation (II)
Date Issued: January 14, 2009
Date Published: February 3, 2009
Type: Official Interpretation
Item Ref: 4-b-(2)-(f)

The NCAA Division II Management Council determined that baseball and softball are considered separate sports for purposes of amateurism and outside competition legislation.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 12.1.2 (amateur status), 12.1.3 (amateur status if professional in another sport), 14.7.1 (outside competition -- sports other than basketball), official interpretations (3/11/96, Item No. 2) and staff interpretation (1/26/94, item a), which have been archived.]

Legislative References

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<td>II</td>
<td>12.1.2 Amateur Status.</td>
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<td>II</td>
<td>12.1.3 Amateur Status if Professional in Another Sport.</td>
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<td>II</td>
<td>14.7.1 Outside Competition, Sports Other Than Basketball.</td>
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Other

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<th>Interpretrations: 2</th>
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Title: Intramural Team Competing Against Outside Team. (I/II/III)

Date Issued: February 4, 2009

Date Published: February 6, 2009

Type: Staff Interpretation

Item Ref: b

The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that competition involving an institution's intramural team against an outside team (including competition against another institution's intramural team) is considered outside competition. [References: Division I Bylaws 14.3.2.3 (outside competition -- nonqualifier), 14.7.1 (outside competition -- sports other than basketball), 14.7.2 (outside competition -- basketball), and 17.02.9 (outside competition); Division II Bylaws 14.3.2.4 (outside competition -- partial qualifier and nonqualifier), 14.7.1 (outside competition, sports other than basketball), 14.7.2 (outside competition, basketball), and 17.02.10 (outside competition); Division III Bylaws 14.02.7 (outside competition), 14.7.1 (outside competition) and 17.02.9 (outside competition) and a 3/8/89 staff interpretation, Item Ref. K, which has been archived]

Legislative References

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<td>Outside Competition, Basketball.</td>
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<td>II 17.02.10</td>
<td>Outside Competition.</td>
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Title: Currently Enrolled Student-Athletes' Participation in Maccabiah Games (I/II/III)

Item Ref: 1

Date Issued: February 4, 2009

Date Published: February 5, 2009

Member institutions should note that Divisions I and III Bylaws 14.7.3.1-(f) and Division II Bylaw 14.7.5.1-(f) permit student-athletes to participate in officially recognized state and national multisport events at any time. The academic and membership affairs staff recently reviewed issues surrounding the Maccabiah Games and how participation in this event may affect eligibility. The Maccabiah Games are only open to Israeli citizens (both Jewish and non-Jewish) and Jewish individuals from other countries. The Maccabiah Games are an officially recognized national multisport event, which is an exception to the outside competition regulations. Therefore, it is permissible for student-athletes who have qualified for the Maccabiah Games to compete in the event at any time.

However, it is important to note that pursuant to Division I, Division II and Division III Bylaw 16.8.1.3 an institution may not provide actual and necessary expenses for a student-athlete to participate in the Maccabiah Games or any tryouts for the Maccabiah Games. Below is information related to NCAA legislation governing participation in tryouts for the Maccabiah Games.
Tryouts Not Involving Competition

A student-athlete may participate in a tryout that only involves practice for the Maccabiah Games at any time but he or she may receive actual and necessary expenses from an outside team only if the tryout is conducted in a continuous time period preceding the games.

Tryouts Involving Competition -- Competing as an Individual

In all three divisions, a student-athlete may participate in a tryout involving competition for the Maccabiah Games at any time provided the student-athlete only represents himself or herself in the competition and does not engage in competition as a member of or receive expenses from an outside team.

Tryouts Involving Competition -- Competing as a Member of a Team

In Division I, in sports other than basketball, a student-athlete may participate in a tryout involving competition for the Maccabiah Games while representing an outside amateur team provided the tryout occurs outside the institution's playing and practice season and during an official vacation period published in the institution's catalog. In Division II, in sports other than basketball and in all sports in Division III, a student-athlete may participate in a tryout involving competition for the Maccabiah Games while representing an outside amateur team provided the tryout occurs outside of the institution's intercollegiate playing season in the sport. Pursuant to Division I and Division II Bylaw 12.1.2.1.4.3 and Division III Bylaw 12.1.1.1.4.3, a student-athlete also may receive actual and necessary expenses from the outside amateur sports team for participation in the tryout. In Divisions I and II, in the sport of basketball, a student-athlete may not participate in a tryout involving competition for the Maccabiah Games while representing an outside amateur team, regardless of whether he or she receives actual and necessary expenses from an outside amateur team for participation in the tryout.

[References: Division I Bylaws 12.1.2.1.4.3 (expenses from outside team or organization), 14.7.1.1 (outside competition -- sports other than basketball exception), 14.7.1.4 (competition as an individual/not representing institution), 14.7.3 (exceptions to outside competition regulations), 16.8.1.3 (other competition) 16.10.1.4 (outside sports teams), 16.10.1.4.1 (practice in conjunction with competition); Division II Bylaws 12.1.2.1.4.3 (expenses from outside team or organization), 14.7.1 (outside competition), 14.7.3.4 (competition as individual/not representing institution), 14.7.5.1(exceptions to outside competition regulations), 16.8.1.3 (other competition), 16.10.1.3.1 (practice in conjunction with competition) and Division III Bylaws 12.1.1.1.4.3 (expenses from outside team or organization), 14.7.1 (outside competition), 14.7.2.5 (competition as individual/not representing institution), 14.7.3.1 (exceptions to outside competition regulations), 16.8.1.3 (other competition), 16.10.1.4 (outside sports teams), 16.10.1.4.1 (practice in conjunction with competition); and a staff interpretation (10/1/08, Item No. 1)]

**Legislative References**

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<td>II</td>
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**Other**

References

Educational Columns: 1
Title: Recruiting -- Electronic Transmissions -- Social Networking Web Sites  
(II)

Item Ref: 1

Date Issued: November 18, 2008

Date Published: November 19, 2008

NCAA Division II institutions should note that pursuant to 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
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)]

**Regional Rules Seminar**

**Registration is now OPEN!!**

Divisions II and III
2009 Regi...

**Please let me know which Regional Rules you registered for and when you plan on arriving**

- I am working on getting us a meeting room, for those going to Anaheim. This will be an informal meeting, just a time for us to get together-
Q. What is a repayment plan as it relates to student-athlete reinstatement?

A. If a student-athlete is involved in a violation that requires repayment in order to satisfy a condition of reinstatement and the student-athlete is financially unable to make immediate repayment in order to be reinstated, an institution may choose to enter into a repayment plan with the student-athlete. The repayment plan must be approved by the NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff and will be overseen by the institution.

Q. What does it mean to default on a repayment plan?

A. If a student-athlete competes while not current with an approved repayment plan, the institution is in violation of NCAA rules and must report that violation to the student-athlete reinstatement staff and NCAA secondary enforcement staff. Failure by a student-athlete to satisfy or meet the terms of an approved repayment plan, or defaulting on a repayment plan, after competing under the plan may result in the staff not entering into repayment plans with that institution for a four-year period. Default occurs on a repayment plan if, at the conclusion of the plan, all payments have not been received.

Q. Our institution would like to have one of our student-athlete’s enter into a repayment plan. What are some things that we need to know or that need to be included in our repayment plan?

A. Repayment can be made throughout the duration of the student-athlete’s intercollegiate eligibility. Repayment can be made in as many or as few installments as the institution or student-athlete chooses. Verification of all repayments should be kept on file at the institution. The institution should provide a repayment schedule describing the dates each payment will be made and the amount of each payment. The repayment plan must be signed and dated by both the student-athlete and an institutional representative.

Once the final payment has been made by the student-athlete, the institution should notify the student-athlete reinstatement staff by forwarding all documentation of repayment to the staff and noting that the student-athlete was not in default of the repayment plan. Once the student-athlete reinstatement staff receives this documentation, a final letter will be sent to the institution as verification that the original agreed-on plan has been satisfied.

For a repayment plan template, please visit the student-athlete reinstatement Web site at the following location http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?ContentID=402
NCAA Compliance Forms Update

The NCAA academic and membership affairs staff is embarking on a new project regarding the required NCAA compliance forms. In an effort to help ease bureaucracy and to enhance the green initiative, the project has been initiated to generate ideas and suggestions to help simplify the eligibility certification process of student-athletes and to explore the use of technology to allow the membership to provide the required compliance forms electronically to their student-athletes.

Working groups have been created in each division to solicit membership participation and ideas. If you have a suggestion for the new online initiative please contact Jen Daniels (jdaniels@ncaa.org). If you have general questions, comments or edits to the current compliance forms please contact Stephanie Bacan (sbacan@ncaa.org).

NCAA Division II 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.

Information on Bus Safety

The current economic downturn has forced many institutions to seek alternatives to commercial air for transporting teams to athletic competitions. As such, member colleges and universities are reminded to fully research charter bus carrier safety before contracting team travel. Information on charter bus carriers is available at these web sites:

1. Safety data on charter bus carriers through the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA): Passenger Carrier Safety
   http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Passenger/find_carrier.asp
   SafeStat

2. Resources for selecting and hiring charter bus companies:
   FMCSA Safety Initiative
In addition, the NCAA teamed with the American Council on Education (ACE) and United Educators to publish a booklet called Safety in Student Transportation. This is a 60+ page resource guide that colleges and universities can use to minimize the risk involved with transporting students. The booklet can be found under the Handbooks and Resources section at: http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?ContentID=1446.

Agent, Gambling and Amateurism

NCAA Agent, Gambling and Amateurism Newsletter.

Attached is a copy of the most recent NCAA agent, gambling and amateurism newsletter.

NCAA Eligibility Center

NCAA Eligibility Center Update Administrators Newsletter.

Member Institution Best Practices from Convention

At the 2009 NCAA Convention, the NCAA Eligibility Center held a lunch and learn. During the lunch and learn, the Eligibility Center asked member institution personnel to provide it with a few items they saw as best practices on campus. The compiled list is below. Your school may find something in this list that will be helpful, while others may be items you are already using on your campus.

1. Require transcripts from your coaches on every prospective student-athlete they are recruiting [refer to adopted NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2009-7 (Nos. 2-3)].

2. Require regular updates from coaches on prospective student-athletes they are actively recruiting and prospective student-athletes they have stopped recruiting. Circulate reports to coaches early to make sure they are accurate.

3. Make sure the Eligibility Center has every transcript and test score that you have for your prospective student-athletes.
4. Prepare an official visit checklist for prospective student-athletes and have coaches submit a transcript and test scores for each prospective student-athlete prior to the official visit (refer to Bylaw 13.6.2).

5. Perform a preliminary evaluation on campus prior to an official visit. Also, work with admissions to see if the prospective student-athlete is admissible to the member institution.

6. Work with walk-ons as a group to ensure they are registered and/or help them get registered.

7. Hold meetings once a month with your coaches to discuss legislation and also to provide eligibility updates.

8. Participate in on-campus camps/clinics and educate prospective student-athletes on initial-eligibility requirements.

And...the Eligibility Center would like to add a couple more best practices to this list:

9. Take ownership of your main recruiting area. Work with high schools to make sure they understand the initial-eligibility requirements and their responsibilities in the process. Contact the Eligibility Center if you would like its help in these efforts.

10. Have coaches push their prospective student-athletes to submit information to the Eligibility Center at two key times as they near graduation:

   a. In April, direct prospective student-athletes back to the Eligibility Center to request final amateurism certification and make sure their test scores are on file.

   b. In May and June, direct prospective student-athletes back to their guidance counselors to make sure their final transcripts are sent and the core-course list is up to date.

Reminders for February

1. Reminder Regarding Amateurism Certification Staff Analysis of Bylaw 14.2.4.2. When certifying a prospective student-athlete under the current Participation in Organized Competition or Training Prior to Initial Collegiate Enrollment legislation (Bylaw 14.2.4.2), please note that whether a particular prospective student-athlete is an "amateur" or competed on an "amateur" team is not relevant to the staff's ultimate certification decision when analyzing a prospective student-athlete under Bylaws 14.2.4.2.3 (b) and (c). Rather, as the legislation indicates, compensation (including actual and necessary expenses) provided to the prospective student-athlete or any teammate or common event participant during the prospective student-athlete's delay period is what the amateurism certification staff seeks to certify. Institutions analyzing a possible recruit under Bylaw 14.2.4.2 should, therefore, focus on the type of compensation provided by the team in question (such as whether transportation and/or lodging and/or meals expenses are generally provided in relation to competition or training) rather than what the team labels itself when making recruiting
decisions. Please direct any amateurism-related questions to the amateurism certification staff at the Eligibility Center.

2. Preliminary Certification Requests. If you have a prospective student-athlete who has signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI), please make sure to have him or her get the Eligibility Center a transcript and test scores as soon as possible. If an NLI has been signed, the account will be prioritized. If you have other prospective student-athletes who you need a preliminary certification for, please call us.

3. Spring Enrollees. If you have a fall 2008 or winter/spring 2009 enrollee whose Eligibility Center account is complete but has not received an academic certification, please call.

Happy March!!

I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well! It is a busy time here in the Conference Office. Basketball Conference Tournaments are just around the corner, Indoor Track and Field Conference Tournament is this weekend, along with the Regional Wrestling. Winter season has really gone by fast and the NSIC has been very competitive.

I have enjoyed working with all of you. Please remember that I am here to serve you. I enjoy my job every day and have learned a lot in the compliance world! Thank you for being patient with me when interpretations do not get answered right away. I work closely with our NCAA Contact Maritza Jones on each interpretation and so therefore sometimes it may take a little time.

Just to give everyone a little heads up, the month of April is extremely busy for me here in the office. I will do my very best in answering interpretations and anything else that may come up, but please be patient if it takes longer than normal. Also, I am getting married in July and will be taking a couple weeks off for my wedding and honeymoon. I will check my email during that time periodically but probably will not respond right away if it is not a pressing issue. During the time I am out of the office if you cannot get a hold of me, please contact Associate Erin Lind (651-288-4016). I apologize in advance for any hassle this causes you.

Thank you very much for helping me learn compliance! Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Also, remember if you would like to see anything published in the monthly compliance newsletters please let me know.

Thank you and have a great March!!

- Melissa Braaten, NSIC Assistant Commissioner for Compliance