

# National Letter of Intent & New Legislation

January 23, 2013



# What Is It?



## NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

- A binding agreement
- A PSA agrees to attend the institution full-time for one academic year
- Institution provides athletics financial aid for one academic year
- Basic penalty for not fulfilling the NLI agreement: A student-athlete has to serve one year in residence (full-time, two semesters or three quarters) at the next NLI member institution and lose one season of competition in all sports.

# When Can an NLI be Signed?



## SIGNING DATES

Sport	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Basketball (Early Period)	Nov 14, 2012	Nov 21, 2012
All Other Sports Not Listed (Early Period)	Nov 14, 2012	Nov 21, 2012
Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	Dec 19, 2012	Jan 15, 2013
Football (Regular Period)	Feb 6, 2012	April 1, 2013
Soccer, Track & Field, Cross Country	Feb 6, 2013	Aug 1, 2013
Basketball (Regular Period)	April 17, 2013	May 15, 2013
All Other Sports Not Listed (Regular Period)	April 17, 2013	Aug 1, 2013

# Who Can Sign An NLI?

- Prospective Student-Athletes who will be entering four year institutions for the first time as full-time students.
  - Those that aren't entering a four year institution for the first time can sign an Athletic Scholarship (GIA).
- 4-2-4 Transfers who are graduating from a two-year college



# Requirements Before Signing

Before providing a written offer of athletics aid, a PSA must:

- ✓ Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center
- ✓ Be on our NCAA EC Institutional Request List (IRL)
- ✓ Complete the Amateurism Questions with Eligibility Center
- ✓ ISU Compliance Policy: Current HST for evaluation



# Comments Before/After Signing

- No coach or staff member may comment on a prospect until after the signed NLI has been sent to the MVC
- Coaches & SIDs will be notified via email once this occurs
- Restrictions on the forms and frequency of communication between institutional administrators or coaching staff members and a PSA (or PSA's relatives or legal guardians) shall no longer apply beginning the calendar day after:
  - (1) the PSA signs a National Letter of Intent (NLI) or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid; or
  - (2) the institution receives a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission.



# NLI Status

## PSA MAY HAVE ONLY ONE VALID NLI

- If NLI is rendered invalid (e.g., NLI not filed within 21 days), may sign a second NLI in the same signing year.
- If NLI is rendered null and void (e.g., denied admissions, Non-Qualifer), permitted to sign another NLI the following signing year.
- If granted a complete release, may not sign another NLI during that same signing year.



# Reminders



- Parents/Legal Guardians must sign and date the NLI if student is under the age of 21
- Athletic Grant-In-Aids (GIAs) must be signed by parents if the student is under the age of 18
- It must be signed within 14 days of issuance, if not, we will issue another if need be
- Recommended to Fax or Email and always save a copy
  - **NLIs CANNOT be hand-delivered off campus by ANYONE**
- NLIs can be signed ON CAMPUS during official or unofficial visit, however, media may not be present for on-campus signing.
- No “mock” NLIs may be issued; an **Institutional Letter of Intent** may be issued to a walk-on and signed during signing period



# QUESTIONS



# NEW LEGISLATION

Effective August 1, 2013

▣ **Prop. 11-2:** Eliminates definition of recruiting coordination functions that must be performed by countable coaches; the proposal's main impact is that any institutional staff member will be able to make phone calls to prospects; this also allows noncoaching staff to (for example) review video of a prospect to identify them as a recruiting target. The proposal does not impact in-person recruiting (e.g., off-campus contacts and evaluations).

- *Prop. 11-3-B*: Extends the current scouting rule in basketball, football, and volleyball to all sports – basically, off-campus scouting of future opponents is prohibited except for teams participating in the same tournament/event at the same site

■ *Prop. 11-4*: Eliminates the baton rule – during appropriate recruiting periods, all certified countable coaches may engage in off-campus recruiting at the same time.

*Props. 12-1, 12-2, 12-3 and 12-5:* Defines “actual and necessary expenses” for amateurism purposes and allows for calculation of actual and necessary expenses on a calendar year basis (rather than event-by-event). In addition, a PSA or SA will be permitted to receive payment based on place finish in outside competition from an amateur team or event sponsor up to actual and necessary expenses (previously OK at some times but not others).



- *Prop. 12-4*: A PSA or SA will be permitted to receive earmarked actual and necessary expenses for athletics participation from someone outside of the institution (such as a neighbor or local business) other than a booster, agent, or professional team/organization. Previously, donations had to be made to the individual's team (if there was one) and could not be earmarked.

- *Prop. 13-1*: The main impact of this proposal is that an NLI signee will no longer be considered a prospect for recruiting purposes, with one important (and confusing) caveat – anything that would have been considered an offer or inducement under Bylaw 13.2.1 will still be subject to the extra benefit rule in Bylaw 16. Only applies to NLI signees – it does not apply to other written forms of commitment to attend an institution (e.g., financial aid agreement without an NLI, written offer of admission

■ **Prop. 13-3 (effective 7/1/13):**

- Phone Calls – Will eliminate restrictions on the frequency of phone calls after July 1 before the senior year (this date to be determined by Prop. 13-2). Note that 13-3 has no impact in basketball (MBB changed to June 15 after the sophomore year in 2012; the WBB phone call structure will be governed by their new recruiting model, with changes effective 8/1/13).
- Electronic Communication – Will eliminate restrictions on the types of electronic communication that can be sent to prospects except that the correspondence must still be private between the sender and recipient. Note again that 13-3 has no impact in basketball (MBB already has this rule; WBB will have it effective 8/1/13).

□ *Prop. 13-5 (effective 7/1/13)*: Will eliminate restrictions on the types of printed recruiting materials and audio/video materials that can be sent to prospects after the first permissible date.



■ *Prop. 13-7*: There will be no restrictions on publicity after the institution receives a prospect's signed NLI, signed written offer of aid, signed written offer of admission, or financial deposit in response to an offer of admission. This would include post-commitment press conferences and celebratory functions.

- *Prop. 13-8*: Senior prospects will be permitted to participate in institutional football camps; camp employment for student-athletes will be analyzed under the general employment rule rather than a separate rule; however, the rule still contains the caveat that a SA still cannot receive compensation just for lecturing/demonstrating;
- Institutional camp will be permitted to employ prospects that have committed to attend the institution (NLI signees, formal admission to ISU, financial deposits) and same SA employment rules.

- *Prop. 14-1*: Temporary practice certification period will increase to 45 days for all SA's, regardless of whether they are "recruited" or not;
- High School all-star game restrictions (the current 2-game limit) will no longer apply.

- *Prop. 16-6: Reasonable team entertainment will be permitted at any time in conjunction with practice or competition (not just during vacation periods and travel to away competition).*

- *Prop. 16-7*: Institution will be permitted to provide actual and necessary expenses for practice and for eligible student-athletes to represent the institution in competition.
- Practice locations no longer restricted to within the state, 100 miles of campus, or in conjunction with away competition
- Departure/return timing for regular season competition (no longer restricted to 48/36 hrs or 48/24 hrs in MBB) – Departmental policy/budget?

- New Women's Basketball Recruiting Model
  - On Campus Evaluations (tryouts)  
effective now.
  - Summer Access effective now
  - Recruiting Methods/Timing Changes  
(8/1/13)



# Questions?



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