

Sycamore Sentinel

November 2012

Compliance Newsletter

The National Letter of Intent

The NCAA Eligibility Center manages the daily operations of the NLI program while the Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) provides governance oversight of the program. Started in 1964 with seven conferences and eight independent institutions, the program now includes more than 600 Division I and Division II participating institutions.

The NLI is a voluntary program with regard to both institutions and student-athletes. No prospective student-athlete or parent is required to sign the National Letter of Intent, and no institution is required to join the program.

By signing a National Letter of Intent, a prospective student-athlete agrees to attend the designated college or university for one academic year. Pursuant to the terms of the National Letter of Intent program, participating institutions agree to provide athletics financial aid for one academic year to the student-athlete, provided he/she is admitted to the institution and is eligible for financial aid under NCAA rules.

An important provision of the National Letter of Intent program is a recruiting prohibition applied after a prospective student-athlete signs a Letter of Intent. This prohibition requires participating institutions to cease recruitment of a prospective student-athlete once a National Letter of Intent is signed with another institution.

The National Letter of Intent has many advantages to both prospective student-athletes and participating educational institutions:

- Once a National Letter of Intent is signed, prospective student-athletes are no longer subject to further recruiting contacts and calls. Student-athletes are assured of an athletics scholarship for one full academic year.

By emphasizing a commitment to an educational institution, not particular coaches or teams, the program focuses on a prospective student-athlete's educational objectives.

When Can An NLI Be Signed?

Sport	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Basketball (Early Period)	November 14, 2012	November 21, 2012
Basketball (Regular Period)	April 17, 2013	May 15, 2013
Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	December 19, 2012	January 15, 2013
Football (Regular Period)	February 6, 2012	April 1, 2013
Soccer, Track/Field, Cross Country	February 6, 2012	August 1, 2013
All Other Sports (Early Period)	November 14, 2012	November 21, 2012
All Other Sports (Regular Period)	April 17, 2013	August 1, 2013



Monthly Compliance Rules Education for Coaches and Staff

November 14th at 10am in HMSU 407
December 12th at 10am in HMSU 407
January 9th at 10am in HMSU 407
February 13th at 10am in HMSU 407

Dead Period Reminders

November 12th -15th: Volleyball,
Basketball, Baseball, Softball, and Golf
November 17th: Track and Cross Country



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Student-Athlete Performing Field or Facility Preparation or Maintenance

Field or facility maintenance that is performed by a student-athlete, related to practice or competition and required, supervised, or monitored by a coaching staff member is NOT a countable athletically related activity. This interpretation replaces a previous interpretation which required field and facility preparation and maintenance to be included in the daily and weekly hour limitations (12/21/11 Official Interpretation).

Student-Athlete Employment

Thinking about getting a job? Don't forget you must fill out the employment form and submit it to the compliance office prior to working. You may be paid the going rate for work actually performed.

Outside Competition

If you are planning on competing over the Thanksgiving break (vacation period), don't forget to fill out the outside competition form and submit to the compliance office for approval before you leave for break.

Student Host Reminders:

Student-athlete hosts are given \$30 a day to host a prospective student-athlete. Host money may be used to purchase snacks or movie tickets for the recruit and host. Host money MAY NOT be used to purchase personal items for the host or any gifts for the recruit (i.e. ISU gear of any kind, t-shirts, lanyards, hats). Student-athletes may not take the recruit more than 30 miles away from campus for food or entertainment. All host money must be accounted for following the visit. All receipts must be included in the post visit paperwork.

Transportation Over The Holiday

Remember: student-athletes may not be provided transportation by staff members. The SGA has set up campus buses to assist students with traveling arrangements, please take advantage of that, as it is open to all students.

CARA Log Signatures

SAAC Representatives: make sure to stop by Tonya's office to sign off on your monthly Countable Athletically related activities logs each month. You should be keeping your own logs as well to compare.

Book Return

Student-athletes, are you on an athletic book scholarship? If so, please make sure to turn in all books to Katie Gaal in the athletic department by the end of finals week, which is Friday, December 14th at 4:30pm.

Compliance: A Shared Responsibility

Operating within NCAA rules is a shared responsibility that extends further than simply the compliance department within an institution. Everyone associated with the athletic department is responsible for maintaining the accountability of the school: the president, chancellors of the university, the athletic director, senior level administrators, the developmental staff, coaches, and the student-athletes. It is important that we each understand our own individual role and hold ourselves responsible in contributing towards an efficient compliance system.

It is important that education stems to and from each member of the department, as it is through these efforts that we help each other understand the NCAA rules and how to apply them in real life situations. Each member of the athletic department must ensure our coworkers understand their compliance related responsibilities, know the appropriate channels to ask questions, and what action to take when they witness something that may not seem right. Through these efforts, compliance can create an atmosphere of understanding within each member of the department.

Compliance has the responsibility of educating and monitoring our coaching staffs. Gone are the days when a head coach can claim ignorance of a specific NCAA rule – you are responsible for your program and are held accountable if something goes wrong. However, as far as student-athletes are concerned, we cannot expect them to know the Manual inside-and-out; therefore, we need to provide them with information that applies directly to them. They must feel comfortable to ask questions to anyone in the athletic department, making their contributions towards the compliance system. Go Sycamores!

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