

# PAYDIRT PRESS



UTEP ATHLETICS COMPLIANCE NEWSLETTER

## COMPLIANCE HOT SHOT



**DREW THOMAS**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Drew does an outstanding job of bringing questions to the compliance department as it relates to athletic development. We would like to thank Drew for his involvement with and support of the compliance staff.

## AGENTS REMINDER

Any agreement with an agent, in writing or verbally to market his or her athletic skills will render a student-athlete ineligible for intercollegiate athletic competition. Additionally, any athletics department staff member that introduces an agent to a student-athlete is in violation of NCAA Bylaw 10.1.



## SPORTS WAGERING (GAMBLING)

The NCAA prohibits any athletics department staff members, staff members who have responsibilities within or over the athletics department, and student-athletes from wagering anything of tangible value on intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition.



# APRIL RECRUITING CALENDARS

QUIET
EVALUATION
CONTACT
DEAD

EVALUATION / QUIET

### TRACK/CC

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### SOFTBALL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### FOOTBALL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### SOCCER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### VOLLEYBALL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### OTHER SPORTS

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6*	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21**	22
23	24	25	26	27	28***	29
30						

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
 APRIL 6 | DEAD PERIOD ENDS AT NOON.  
 APRIL 6 | RECRUITING PERIOD NOON - 9.  
 APRIL 21-23; 28-30 (CERTIFIED EVENTS ONLY).

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
 APRIL 21-25 | EVALUATIONS AT NON-SCHOLASTIC EVENTS PERMISSIBLE APRIL 21-23 ONLY.  
 APRIL 28-30 | EVALUATION PERIOD FOR NON-SCHOLASTIC EVENTS ONLY.

# INSTITUTIONAL FINANCIAL AID AWARDS

## 15.3.5.1 REDUCTION, CANCELLATION OR NON-RENEWAL PERMITTED

Institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability may be reduced or canceled during the period of the award or reduced or not renewed for the following academic year or years of the student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility if the recipient:

- (a) Renders himself or herself ineligible for intercollegiate competition;
- (b) Fraudulently misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent or financial aid agreement (see Bylaw 15.3.5.1.2);
- (c) Engages in serious misconduct warranting substantial disciplinary penalty, as determined by the institution's regular student disciplinary authority;
- (d) Voluntarily (on his or her own initiative) withdraws from a sport at any time for personal reasons; however, the recipient's financial aid may not be awarded to another student-athlete in the academic term in which the aid was reduced or canceled. A student-athlete's request for written permission to contact another four-year collegiate institution regarding a possible transfer does not constitute a voluntary withdrawal; or
- (e) Violates a non-athletically related condition outlined in the financial aid agreement or violates a documented institutional rule or policy (e.g., academics policies or standards, athletics department or team rules or policies).

## 15.3.5.2 REDUCTION OR CANCELLATION NOT PERMITTED - DURING THE PERIOD OF THE AWARD

Institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability may not be reduced or canceled during the period of its award:

- (a) On the basis of a student-athlete's athletics ability, performance or contribution to a team's success;
- (b) Because of an injury, illness, or physical or mental medical condition (except as permitted pursuant to Bylaw 15.3.5.1); or
- (c) For any other athletics reason.

## 15.3.5.3 REDUCTION OR NON-RENEWAL NOT PERMITTED - AFTER THE PERIOD OF THE AWARD

If a student-athlete receives athletically related financial aid in the academic year of his or her initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, the following factors shall not be considered in the reduction or non-renewal of such aid for the following academic year or years of the student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility:

- (a) A student-athlete's athletics ability, performance or contribution to a team's success (e.g., financial aid contingent upon specified performance or playing a specific position);
- (b) An injury, illness, or physical or mental medical condition; or
- (c) Any other athletics reason.

## NLI SIGNING REMINDERS

### 13.1.5.8 LETTER-OF-INTENT SIGNING

Any in-person, off-campus contact made with a prospective student-athlete for the purpose of signing a letter of intent or other commitment to attend the institution or attendance at activities related to the signing of a letter of intent or other commitment to attend the institution shall be prohibited.

### 13.1.3.3.2 LETTER-OF-INTENT SIGNING-DATE EXCEPTION

Institutional coaching staff members may make unlimited telephone calls to a prospective student-athlete on the initial date for the signing of the National Letter of Intent and during the two days immediately following the initial signing date.

## NCAA INTERPRETATIONS OF INTEREST

### GAME DAY SIMULATIONS DURING A CAMP/CLINIC INVOLVING PROSPECTS [I] - MARCH 22, 2017

The committee determined that it is impermissible to perform game day simulations (e.g., running out of an inflatable tunnel to music, smoke machine, announcing names through public address system) during an institutional camp/clinic involving prospective student-athletes. Further, game day simulations remain impermissible at camps/clinics involving prospects even if similar game day activities occur at other institutional camps (e.g., non-prospective student-athlete aged camp, women's football clinic).

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 13.6.7.9 (activities during official visit), 13.7.3 (activities during unofficial visit) and 13.12.1.5 (recruiting calendar exceptions)]

### INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATED WITH A PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE - MEN'S BASKETBALL COUNTABLE COACH REASSIGNMENT [I] - MARCH 08, 2017

The committee determined that an individual associated with a prospect must be a countable coach at the institution for at least the previous two full seasons to apply the reassignment exception. Further, a season is defined as the time between the institution's start of on-court preseason practice and the institution's last regular-season contest.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 11.4.2 (individual associated with a prospective student-athlete - men's basketball), 11.4.2.1 (application), 11.4.2.2 (exception - reassignment), 13.8.3.2.2 (exception - reassignment), 17.3.1 (length of playing season), 17.3.2 (preseason practice -on-court practice), 17.3.2.1 (men's basketball) and 17.3.4 (end of playing season)]

# IN THE NEWS / MISSISSIPPI VALLEY FAILED TO MONITOR ITS CERTIFICATION PROCESS

By Emily James, NCAA.org  
March 24, 2017

Mississippi Valley did not monitor its certification process when it improperly certified the eligibility of 28 student-athletes in seven sports, according to a Division I Committee on Infractions panel. A former head cross country coach also acted unethically when she directed three student-athletes to compete under the names of eligible student-athletes before the university completed its certification process for them.

This case was resolved through the summary disposition process, a cooperative effort where the involved parties collectively submit the case to the Committee on Infractions in written form. The NCAA enforcement staff, university and participating parties must agree to the facts and overall level of the case to use this process instead of a formal hearing.

The certification violations were discovered by the university through an NCAA Academic Performance Program audit. The panel found the university misapplied eligibility rules, did not certify the academic credentials of its student-athletes and did not verify the amateurism certification of student-athletes. The violations resulted from staff turnover and the inability to replace individuals in compliance, academic services and the registrar's office. Inadequate education and training on the certification process also contributed to the violations.

The panel also found the former head cross country coach acted unethically when she knew three student-athletes' eligibility was still pending, but allowed them to compete because she thought the university would ultimately certify

them for competition. Ultimately, two of the student-athletes did not meet certain eligibility requirements and the third withdrew from the university.

The panel used the Division I membership-approved infractions penalty guidelines to prescribe the following measures:

- Public reprimand and censure for the university.

- Two years of probation from March 24, 2017, through March 23, 2019.

- A one-year show-cause period for the former cross country coach from March 24, 2017, through March 23, 2018. During that period, the former coach's current school or any NCAA member employing her must provide monthly one-on-one rules education. Her current employer or any other NCAA member school that employs her during the period should continue to conduct compliance initiatives with her and she must attend one of the 2017 NCAA Regional Rules seminars.

- A vacation of records in which improperly certified student-athletes participated while ineligible. The university will identify the games impacted following the release of the public report.

- A \$5,000 fine.

Members of the Committee on Infractions are drawn from NCAA membership and members of the public. The members of the panel who reviewed this case are Britton Banowsky, chief hearing officer for the panel and executive director of the College Football Playoff Foundation; Melissa Conboy, deputy director of athletics at Notre Dame; and Vincent Nicastro, deputy commissioner and chief operating officer for the Big East Conference.

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