NCAA Division III
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What defines a "representative of the institution's athletics interests?"

NCAA Bylaw 13.02.9 states that "A 'representative of the institution's athletics interests' is an individual who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to:

a. Have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics programs;
b. Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
c. Be assisting or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
d. Be assisting or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families; or
e. Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution's athletics program.

If I have ever met one of the requirements to be classified as a "representative of the institution's athletics interests," am I forever classified that way?

Yes, once an individual is identified in that manner, that identification remains for the rest of their life.

Can I speak with a "recruit" on the phone or in person?

Yes. According to NCAA Bylaw 13.1.3, you may speak to a prospective student-athlete "provided the call is only for the purpose of recruitment and is with the full knowledge of the athletics department." And furthermore Bylaw 13.1.4 allows for in-person "contact" with the same stipulations as phone calls along with more details rules on when you can have the actual "contact."

What is classified as an "extra benefit" to a student-athlete?

NCAA Bylaw 16.02.3 states that "An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a representative of the institution's athletics interests to provide a student-athlete or the student-athlete's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Receipt of a benefit by student-athletes or their relatives or friends is not a violation of NCAA legislation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the institution's students or their relatives or friends or to a particular segment of the student body determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability." Examples of "extra benefits" include but are not limited to, free clothing, transportation, discounts, automobiles, cosigning loans, automobile financing, etc.

What defines an "occasional meal?"

NCAA Bylaw 16.11.1.5 says that "a student-athlete or the entire team in a sport may receive an occasional meal from an institutional staff member or representative of the institution's athletics interests under the following conditions:

a. The occasional meal may be provided at any location in the locale of the institution;
b. Meals must be restricted to infrequent and special occasions; and
c. Institutional staff members and representatives of the institution's athletic interests may provide transportation to student-athletes to attend such meals.

ALWAYS ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!

We are committed to maintaining responsible, NCAA compliant programs. For more information regarding NCAA Division III rules and regulations, contact:

Adam Walsh
Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance
awalsh@centenary.edu
318-869-5091