WHY WOULD A STUDENT-ATHLETE WANT TO COMPETE UNATTACHED?

Whether the student-athlete is ineligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition (e.g., not enrolled in classes, academically ineligible, sitting a year due to transfer, etc.) or they want to supplement their playing season by participating in outside competition, there are important rules governing what constitutes competing unattached.

A STUDENT-ATHLETE COMPETING UNATTACHED IS PROHIBITED FROM THE FOLLOWING:

- Receiving competition-related expenses from the institution, or any outside team (e.g., meals, entry fee, transportation, lodging, etc.);
- Coaching or instruction from institutional coaches, or any outside team’s coaches (e.g., technique, comments related to performance, suggestions, strategies, etc.);
  - Note, coaching staff members may not direct participating student-athletes to engage in coaching or instructional activities with unattached student-athletes.
- Wearing the uniform of the institution, or any outside team;
- Participating in an intercollegiate competition that is not open to non-collegiate student-athletes;
  - Note, if an unattached student-athlete participates in a competition that is not open to non-collegiate student-athletes (e.g., dual meets between NCAA institutions), that student-athlete is deemed to participated in intercollegiate competition, thus utilizing a season of competition.
- Receiving athletics training support from the institution, or any outside team, prior to, during or after the competition;
  - Note, if athletic training support is provided to all participants of the competition (not just the institution’s team members), the student-athlete competing unattached may receive such services in the same manner that are available to all participants of the competition.
- Being identified or affiliated in any manner with the institution (e.g., written in a program, in results or statistics, by an announcer, etc.); and
- Accumulating points for a team competition (e.g., individual doubles tennis partners score points together for a larger overall team).

AS ALWAYS, BE SURE TO CHECK IN WITH COMPLIANCE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!