Electronic Correspondence, Social Media and Recruiting

Student-athletes are permitted to connect and communicate with recruits via social media platforms at any time and publicly communicate with recruits as long as it is not done at the direction of a coach or another athletics department staff member.

The communication cannot be in relation to the recruitment of the prospect (e.g. cannot comment on visits to campus, cannot comment on verbal commitments, etc.).

Vacation Period Reminders

A reminder if you will be remaining on campus during the Thanksgiving break to complete a Recess Housing application. Applications must be submitted via MyInvolvement.

For those student-athletes remaining on campus for the Thanksgiving break it is permissible for staff, coaches or boosters to host you at their homes for Thanksgiving dinner. Additionally transportation to and from campus may be provided.

Spot the Violation

The University at Albany’s field hockey team has 3 prospects visiting campus on Halloween for official visits. Several of the student-athletes on the team attended a Halloween party, so the recruits went with them. Everyone was supposed to wear a costume, so the student hosts took the recruits to the campus bookstore and bought them t-shirts with the student host money.

Was this impermissible or permissible use of host money?

Two Week Dead Period

A reminder for all student-athletes competing in fall sports once your season concludes, the entire team must have a 14-day dead period. During this time no countable activities may occur. Although, it is permitted to have an end of season one on one meeting with your coaches, as well as, any voluntary activities you choose to take part in.
Medical-Hardship Waivers

As injuries are unfortunately part of competing in athletics, it is possible to regain a season of eligibility through the medical-hardship waiver process or more commonly known as a medical redshirt. In order to qualify for a medical-hardship waiver the following criteria must be met:

- The incapacitating injury/illness occurs during the season at a 2/4yr school or after the 1st day of class in a student-athletes senior year of high school;
- The injury/illness occurs prior to the start of the second half of the season & results in incapacity to compete for the remainder of that playing season;
- The student-athlete has not participated in more than 3 contests or dates of competition or 30% (whichever is greater) of the scheduled or completed contests in their sport;
- It is not necessary for the incapacitating injury/illness to be the direct result of the student’s participation in organized practice or competition; and
- Contemporaneous or other appropriate medical documentation, from a physician who administered care at the time of the injury/illness shall be submitted with the hardship-waiver request.

Important Dates

- November 5th – Daylight Savings Time ends, roll back clocks 1hr.
- November 6th – Last day to drop semester length course with a “W” assigned.
- November 10th – Last day for students to make up an incomplete from Spring or Summer 2017.
- November 22-26 – Classes suspended, Thanksgiving Break.
- November 27th – Classes resume .

Spot the Violation Answer:

Impermissible. NCAA Bylaw 13.6.7.5 (a) states that the entertainment allowance may not be used for the purchase of souvenirs, such as t-shirts or other institutional mementos.