

# New Faculty/TA Orientation

## NCAA Rules: Academic Issues



# INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL



## 2.1.1 Responsibility for Control

It is the responsibility of each member institution to control its intercollegiate athletics program in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Association. The institution's president or chancellor is responsible for the administration of all aspects of the athletic program, including approval of the budget and audit of all expenditures.

## NCAA Constitution 6.01.1 Institutional Control

The control and responsibility for the conduct of intercollegiate athletics shall be exercised by the institution itself and by the conference(s), if any, of which it is a member. Administrative control or faculty control, or a combination of the two, shall constitute institutional control.

# NCAA Bylaw 10.1- Unethical Conduct



- (a) Refusal to furnish information relevant to an investigation of a possible violation of an NCAA regulation when requested to do so by the NCAA or the individual's institution;
- (b) **Knowing involvement in offering or providing a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete an improper inducement or extra benefit or improper financial aid;**
- (c) Knowingly furnishing or knowingly influencing others to furnish the NCAA or the individual's institution false or misleading information concerning an individual's involvement in or knowledge of matters relevant to a possible violation of an NCAA regulation;
- (d) Receipt of benefits by an institutional staff member for facilitating or arranging a meeting between a student-athlete and an agent, financial advisor or a representative of an agent or advisor (e.g., "runner");
- (e) Knowing involvement in providing a banned substance or impermissible supplement to student-athletes, or knowingly providing medications to student-athletes contrary to medical licensure, commonly accepted standards of care in sports medicine practice, or state and federal law. This provision shall not apply to banned substances for which the student-athlete has received a medical exception per Bylaw 31.2.3.5; however, the substance must be provided in accordance with medical licensure, commonly accepted standards of care and state or federal law;
- (f) Engaging in any athletics competition under an assumed name or with intent to otherwise deceive;  
or
- (g) Failure to provide complete and accurate information to the NCAA, the NCAA Eligibility Center or the institution's athletics department regarding an individual's amateur status.

# Extra Benefits



- Any special arrangement by an institutional employee or representative of the institution's athletic 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 (e.g., international students, minority students) determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability.

# Academics and Student-Athletes



- **DO**

- Provide student-athletes the same assistance you are permitted to provide the other students in the course
- Encourage student-athletes to use the resources that are available to them

- **DO NOT**

- Edit/Proofread/Write/Type any papers
- Provide student-athletes with answers or hints to exam questions
- Exchange phone numbers/socialize with student-athletes
- Discuss student-athletes' grades with the media, family, friends, or other students
- Allow student-athletes to miss class unless all students are given the same opportunity

# University of North Carolina



- **Athletic Department Tutor**
  - Also employed as a nanny by Head Football Coach Butch Davis
  - Wrote papers for football players
    - ✦ Provided outlines that contained thesis statements
  - Made grammatical changes to assignments
  - Typed citations and works cited pages for student-athletes
- Agent provided extra benefits to football student-athletes for travel and lodging expenses
- NCAA sanctions: postseason ban; loss of fifteen (15) scholarships; three (3) years probation



# University of North Carolina



- Over the course of eighteen (18) years, over 1500 student-athletes were funneled into “no-show” courses that required only one research paper which received a high grade regardless of content.
  - Intended to help ensure eligibility for student-athletes who otherwise would have become ineligible



# University of Norte Dame



- A former University of Notre Dame student athletic trainer violated NCAA ethical conduct rules when she committed academic misconduct for two football student-athletes and provided six other football student-athletes with impermissible academic extra benefits.

# University of Notre Dame



- Specifically, the former trainer completed academic coursework and numerous academic assignments for football student-athletes in numerous courses.
- NCAA Sanctions: Level II violation, 1 year probation, a show-cause penalty, and a vacation of records.

# Other Previous Major Infraction Cases



- **Syracuse**

- Basketball program worked with academic staff to alter grades for SAs to ensure they remained eligible for competition.
- Coach Boeheim suspended for nine (9) games, team forced to vacate 108 victories and lost twelve (12) scholarships over four (4) seasons



- **Southern Mississippi**

- Staff members worked with athletics to arrange fraudulent academic credit for several prospective-student-athletes.
- Three years probation, two-year postseason ban, reductions in scholarships and recruiting opportunities



# Other Potential Level I-III Violations



- **Relevant Examples:**

- Academic tutor provided journal articles written by former students to student-athletes to turn in as their own work.
- Student-athlete and academic tutor engaged in a romantic relationship, and student-athlete received assistance on papers and exams.
- An academic tutor provided impermissible typing services for student-athletes.



# AGENTS & FINANCIAL PLANNERS



- A student-athlete will be rendered ineligible if he/she verbally or in writing agree to be represented by a sports agent or financial planner.
- A faculty member may not serve as an agent to a student-athlete or have contact with an agent on behalf of a student-athlete.
- All contact should be directed to the Athletics Compliance Department.
- **5.3.1 REQUIRED ATHLETE AGENT DISCLOSURE (OU Staff Handbook)**
  - (1) Current University Parties who are Agents (as defined by the Oklahoma Uniform Athlete Agents Act, 70 §821.81) or affiliated in any way with an Agent (including field agents, i.e., runners) must immediately notify, in writing, the Athletics Compliance Department of his/her status as an Agent.
  - (2) Future University Parties must notify the Athletics Compliance Department of his/her status as an Agent (as defined by the Oklahoma Uniform Athlete Agents Act, 70 §821.81) or affiliated in any way with an Agent (including field agents, i.e., runners) at the time of acceptance of an offer of employment, or initial full or part-time employment.
  - (3) If a University Party decides to become an Agent, he/she must notify the Athletics Compliance Department within twenty-four (24) hours of certification, licensure, or registration as an Agent by the state, professional sports organization, or other entity.
  - (4) If a University Party is involved in forming a business or company (whatever its legal form) for the purpose of marketing an athlete's athletic skill or reputation, he/she must provide notification to the Athletics Compliance Department within twenty-four (24) hours of formation or filing paperwork with the state (or other governmental body) concerning such business entity.

# Attendance Policy



- **Regents Policy 6.3.7(A)(2):**

- “No team schedule or individual schedule will be approved if it provides that the team or individual will miss more than the equivalent of ten (10) full class days in any semester.” *Exceptions may be permitted by the Athletics Director in conjunction with the Faculty Athletics Representative for good cause with justification.*
- Student-athletes should not be penalized for missing class days if their absence is in conjunction with approved away from home athletics competition(s).

- **Athletics Department Policy:**

- It is the responsibility of student-athletes to provide at least two (2) days’ notice to all applicable parties of any OU-approved activities, such as team travel due to competition. Per OU Regents Policy (6.3.7), students are responsible for arranging to make up any missed course work with instructors, including exams.
- The OU Faculty Handbook (Section 4.9) directs faculty members and instructors to “make every effort to find a reasonable accommodation” for course work missed due to Provost approved activities, Director of Athletics approved athletic events and legally required activities.

# Athletics Academic Services



- **Bylaw 16.3.1.1 Academic Counseling/Support Services**
  - Member institutions shall make general academic counseling and tutoring services available to all student-athletes. Such counseling and tutoring services may be provided by the department of athletics or the institution's nonathletics student support services. In addition, an institution may finance other academic and support services at the institution, at its discretion, determines to be appropriate and necessary for the academic success of its student-athletes.
    - ✦ Writing Lab; Math Lab; Foreign Language Lab
    - ✦ Tutoring and Learning Specialist
    - ✦ Computer Lab and Laptops on retrieval basis
    - ✦ Class attendance monitoring
    - ✦ Mandatory study hall
    - ✦ Academic advising

# REPORTING A VIOLATION



- You have an obligation to report all potential violations per NCAA Bylaw 10.1
- Athletics Compliance Office: Oklahoma Memorial Stadium (OMS), 3rd floor, Suite 3695
- Telephone: Athletics Compliance @ 325-7004
- Email: [athleticscompliance@ou.edu](mailto:athleticscompliance@ou.edu)
- Anonymous Email: Link on soonersports.com under Compliance tab

# Questions?

