

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Title: Athletics Policy relating to Representatives of Athletics Interests
Policy Number: 03.90.11
Effective Date: January 10, 2007
Issuing Authority: Office of the President

Background and Purpose

Each member institution of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (“NCAA”) has the responsibility to control its intercollegiate athletics program in compliance with NCAA regulations, including responsibility for the actions of any individual or organization engaged in activities promoting the athletics interests of the institution.

Representatives of athletics interests are prohibited from providing any financial aid or benefits to student-athletes, except as expressly permitted by NCAA regulations. Contact between representatives of athletics interests and student-athletes is permitted under NCAA guidelines, but the extent of that contact should be appropriately governed by institutional policies and procedures. All representatives of athletics interests are obligated to adhere to the policies and procedures governing their involvement with the institution in order to protect the interests of the student-athletes, teams and the institution.

Policies and procedures governing interaction and involvement of representatives of athletics interests serve as mechanisms to eliminate unnecessary violations of NCAA bylaws, including regulations relating to recruiting, financial aid and extra benefits. NCAA Bylaw 16.01.1 states, for example, that a student-athlete shall not receive any extra benefit. Receipt by a student-athlete of an award, benefit or expense allowance not authorized by NCAA legislation renders the student-athlete ineligible for athletics competition. This penalty for a student-athlete receiving unauthorized benefits is severe. Accordingly, the education of all parties who potentially might provide such a benefit in error is crucial. In addition, the implementation of procedures designed to prevent such violations is also critical.

This policy establishes Temple University regulations governing the interactions between representatives of athletics interests and the athletics program. Any questions regarding its applicability to a particular circumstance should be directed to the Director of Athletics or the Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance.

Definition of a Representative of Athletics Interests

Under NCAA Bylaw 13.02.13, a representative of athletics interests is an individual, independent agency, corporate entity (e.g., apparel or equipment manufacturer) or other organization 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 program;
- 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 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.

It should be noted that NCAA Bylaw 13.02.13.1 states that once an individual, independent agency, corporate entity or other organization is identified as such a representative, the person, independent agency, corporate entity or other organization retains that identity indefinitely.

This definition of "representative of athletics interests" includes, but is not limited to, donors, friends of the program, Board of Trustees members, and all individuals external to the University who have had ties to the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. It generally does not include a parent or legal guardian of a student athlete with respect to that student-athlete.

Contact with Recruits

NCAA Bylaw 13.01.4 states that representatives of athletics interests are prohibited from initiating in-person, on- or off-campus recruiting contacts, or written or telephonic communications with a prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardians. Thus, boosters, donors, Owl Club members, or any other individuals falling under the definition of a "representative of athletics interests," shall not have in-person contact or initiate telephone or written communications with a prospective student-athlete or a member of a prospective student-athlete's family for purposes of recruitment to the athletics program. A representative of athletics interests may receive a telephone call initiated by a prospective student-athlete, but not for recruiting purposes, and only with the prior approval of the Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance.

Provision of Meals and Other Benefits

A representative of athletics interests may not provide meals, gifts, cash, expenses or any item of value of any sort to a student-athlete or a prospective student-athlete. An occasional meal (NCAA Bylaw 16.11.1.5) may be provided to an enrolled student-athlete under specific conditions, and must be approved in advance by the Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance.

Obtaining Tickets for an Athletics Event

Representatives of athletic interests may contact the Ticket Office or the Office of Athletics Development to inquire about obtaining complimentary tickets for an event; requests for tickets should not be made through any other athletics staff member. In no event may a representative of athletics interests contact or approach a student-athlete directly about obtaining complimentary admissions from the student-athlete.

Benefit Requests by Trustees, Officers, Senior Administrators, and Deans

Requests from members of the University Board of Trustees, officers of the University, senior administrators, or deans for any benefit (complimentary admissions, all-access passes, team travel, etc.) not included in their Owl Club donor-level benefits must be approved by the Director of Athletics.

Access during Athletics Events

Any all-access passes for home or away athletics events for representatives of athletics interests may be granted only by the Director of Athletics.

Traveling with an Athletics Team

Travel opportunities for representatives of athletics interests who are donors are established by Owl Club donor benefit levels. Any travel requested by a representative of athletics interests that is above the representative of athletics interests' donor benefit level must be approved by the Director of Athletics and coordinated by the Office of Athletics Development. Except for organized Owl Club or Athletics Department events or trips, representatives of athletic interests are expected to make their own travel arrangements. In no event shall a representative of athletics interests contact a coach or any other athletics staff member other than the Director of Athletics or the Associate Athletics Director for Development about the arrangement of travel.

Notes

1. Dates of official enactment and amendments:

Approved by the President on January 10, 2007.

2. History:

None

3. Cross References:

None