



COYOTE CHAMPION



The University of South Dakota Intercollegiate Athletics Compliance News

November 2009 Volume 1 Issue 1

NCAA Division I Recruiting Calendar November 2009

Men's Basketball Women's Basketball

Nov. 1-8 Evaluation Period
Nov. 9-12 Dead Period
Nov. 13-30 Evaluation Period

Football

Nov. 1-28 Evaluation Period
Nov. 29-30 Contact Period

Softball

Nov. 1-8 Contact Period
Nov. 9-12 Dead Period
Nov. 13-25 Contact Period
Nov. 26-30 Quiet Period

Track/Cross Country

Nov. 1-22 Contact Period
Nov. 23 Dead Period
Nov. 24-30 Contact Period

Soccer

Nov. 1-30 Contact period

Other Sports

Nov. 1-8 Contact Period
Nov. 9-12 Dead Period
Nov. 13-30 Contact Period

NOT SURE WHAT TO DO? CONTACT:

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USD COMPLIANCE

National Letter of Intent

The National Letter of intent early signing period for 2009-10 is November 11-18. Keep in mind that a prospective student-athlete remains a prospect following the signing of a National Letter of Intent. Thus, NLI signees should continue to be treated as prospects unless an exception applies.

NLI SIGNING RULES:

- Before submitting a NLI to a high school or junior college prospect they must be registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center. New NLI regulations require an Eligibility Center ID number as part of a valid NLI.
- When a prospect signs an NLI off campus a coach may **not** be present.
- Once a National Letter of Intent is signed, coaches may make unlimited contacts and phone calls to the signee beginning the day after the prospect signs the NLI. However, dead period restrictions continue to apply.

NLI PUBLICITY REGULATIONS:

- Before signing a prospect to an NLI, offer of financial aid, or offer of admission, you may comment publicly only to the extent of confirming recruitment of that prospect. You may not comment about the prospect's ability, the contribution that the prospect may make on the team, or the likelihood of the prospect's signing with the program.
- Publicity released by the University of South Dakota may only occur after a prospect has signed a valid NLI, and the NLI is received and approved by the athletic compliance office.
- Media may not be present during any recruiting contact made by an institution's coaching staff member.

DEAD PERIOD REMINDER:

- It is **impermissible** to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits. Recruiting phone calls may be made and recruiting correspondence may be sent during a dead period.

Rules of Importance

13.10.6 Introduction of Prospective Student-Athlete. An institution may not introduce a visiting prospective student-athlete at a function (e.g., the institution's sports award banquet or an intercollegiate athletics contest) that is attended by media representatives or open to the general public. Violations of this bylaw do not affect a prospective student-athlete's eligibility and are considered institutional violations per Constitution 2.8.1 (revised 1/14/97)

13.9.2.2 Offer of Aid before Signing Date. An institution may indicate in writing to a prospective student-athlete that an athletically related grant-in-aid will be offered by the institution; however, the institution may not permit the prospective student-athlete to sign a form indicating his or her acceptance of such an award before the initial signing date in that sport in the National Letter of Intent program.

Knowledgeable Coyotes

Q: A prospective student athlete is on their official visit at USD. Upon arrival they tell their hosts that they wish to attend a free concert in Sioux City. Is this action permissible?

A: NO. An institution may provide entertainment, which may not be excessive, on the official visit only for a prospective student-athlete and their parents or spouse. However, the entertainment must be within a 30-mile radius of the institution's main campus. *13.6.7.1 Entertainment/Tickets on Official Visit: General Restrictions.*

Q: What requirements must be met before a USD can provide an official visit to a high school or preparatory school prospective student-athlete?

A: The prospective student-athlete must present the institution with a score from a PSAT, SAT, PLAN or ACT, along with their high school academic transcript. The student-athlete must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and must be placed on the institution's IRL. *13.6.3 Requirements for Official Visit.*

Coyote Opportunity

A program designed to encourage females to explore careers in college athletics will be held in conjunction with the 2009 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship in Tampa.

The Winning Careers in Athletics program will be December 17 at the St. Pete Times Forum, site of the championship. [Registration](#) is limited to 35 participants and is currently open to female students and student-athletes from any division and sport.

The program will include speakers, a panel discussion on the range of careers in athletics and a tour of the Forum. In addition, participants will be invited to attend the national semifinal games as a guest of the NCAA.

The NCAA will provide meals on the day of the event and one night's lodging on November 17 for attendees living outside of the Tampa Bay area. Participants will be responsible for their travel and any additional nights of accommodation. NCAA member schools are encouraged to consult with their compliance offices about permissible contributions to attendees' expenses.



Congratulations Coyotes!

Mallory Mork and Kristen Krittenbrink named Great West Conference Volleyball Players for the week of October 27!

Rob Gregoire and Ramsey Fitzsimmons were named Great West Conference Runners for the week of October 14th and October 7th, respectively.

NCAA Infraction Appeals Update

NCAA Division I Infractions Appeals Committee Upholds Penalties for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

INDIANAPOLIS – The NCAA Division I Infractions Appeals Committee has upheld the appealed penalties for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The university appealed the scholarship reductions in women’s volleyball and men’s tennis, as well as a postseason ban for men’s tennis.

In March 2009, the NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions issued an infractions report that included findings of major violations in the women’s volleyball, men’s tennis and men’s basketball programs. The case included findings of ineligible participation, receipt of recruiting inducements, impermissible recruiting phone calls, failure to report NCAA violations, lack of institutional control, as well as findings of unethical conduct against the former athletics director and former compliance director.

Penalties in the case included four years probation, postseason bans, scholarship reductions, recruiting restrictions and vacation of records.

In its written appeal, the university asserted that the scholarship reductions and postseason ban for men’s tennis imposed by the Committee on Infractions should be overturned.

Under NCAA bylaws, for a penalty to be set aside, the penalty must be excessive such that it constitutes an abuse of discretion. The Infractions Appeals Committee has determined that an abuse of discretion in the imposition of a penalty occurs if the penalty: (1) was not based on a correct legal standard or was based on a misapprehension of the underlying substantive legal principles; (2) was based on a clearly erroneous factual finding; (3) failed to consider and weigh material factors; (4) was based on a clear error of judgment, such that the imposition was arbitrary, capricious, or irrational; or (5) was based in significant part on one or more irrelevant or improper factors.

The Infractions Appeals Committee affirmed the penalties and noted that it found “no basis” to conclude that any of the necessary criteria were met.

In considering the university’s appeal, the Infractions Appeals Committee reviewed the notice of appeal; the transcript of the university’s Committee on Infractions hearing; and the submissions by the university and the Committee on Infractions.

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