

## University of Southern Indiana



### Booster Brochure

This brochure is presented as a quick reference to the many NCAA rules which apply to "athletics representatives." Since it does not include all applicable situations, please call the University of Southern Indiana Athletics Department if you have any questions before having any contact with a prospective or enrolled student-athlete. We appreciate your interest and support, but remind you that an inappropriate contact or an inadvertent action on your part can jeopardize the eligibility of student-athletes and prospects.

The University of Southern Indiana is proud to have the loyal support and continued interest in our athletic programs by our alumni and friends. As we strive for excellence, we must always seek the highest standard of ethical conduct. With your cooperation, we believe we can accomplish both goals.

#### **Am I a "Representative of Athletics Interests?"**

##### **Yes, if you have ever:**

- Been a member of the University's "booster" organization.
- Made a donation to any of the University of Southern Indiana's athletic programs.
- Have assisted, or been asked to assist in the recruitment of a prospect.
- Been involved in any way with the University of Southern Indiana Athletics programs.

**The NCAA stipulates that once you have become an athletic representative you retain that identification forever, even if you no longer contribute to the athletics program.**

#### **Four Important Rules You Should Know**

**Rule #1** Only coaches and athletics department staff members can be involved in the recruiting process. All "athletic representatives" who are not employed by the school are prohibited from contacting a prospect or members of the prospect's family by telephone, letter or in person on or off campus for the purpose of encouraging participation in the University of Southern Indiana athletic programs.

**Rule #2** University of Southern Indiana representatives cannot provide an "extra benefit" or special arrangement to a prospect OR an enrolled student-athlete. Specific applications as they apply to the NCAA extra benefit rule to prospects and enrolled student-athletes, their relatives or friends state that:

##### **You May Not:**

- Give them cash or loans (or co-sign for a loan) in any amount.
- Employ relatives or friends of a prospect as an inducement for the enrollment of the prospect at the University of Southern Indiana.
- Give them gifts of any kind (i.e. birthday, Christmas, Valentines Day) or free services (i.e. clothing, airline tickets, laundry, car repair, haircuts, meals in restaurants).
- Provide special discounts for goods or services.
- Provide them hospitality in your home other than on an occasional basis.
- Entertain or contact a prospect or prospect's family on or off campus.
- Provide rent free or reduced rent housing.
- Provide a benefit connected with on or off campus housing (i.e. individual television sets or stereo equipment, specialized recreational facilities, etc.)



- Provide promise of financial aid for post-graduate education
- Provide promise to a prospect of employment after college graduation.

**Rule #3** Please assist the coaching staff in the recruiting process by notifying them of any student you think would be a strong addition to the University of Southern Indiana Athletic program. The coach can then make the appropriate contact with the prospect.

**Rule# 4** As an athletic representative, you are not precluded from continuing friendship with families who have prospective or enrolled student-athletes (i.e. backyard barbecues, picnic, etc.). You simply cannot encourage a prospect's participation in the University of Southern Indiana's athletic programs or provide benefits to the student-athlete that you were not providing before he or she became a prospect or enrolled student-athlete.

### **Who is a Prospective Student-Athlete?**

A prospective student-athlete is a person who has begun classes for the ninth grade. However, it is possible for a younger student to be a prospect, so it is prudent to treat ALL athletes as prospects.

### **NCAA Rules Regarding Contacts with High School and Community College Student-Athletes (Prospects)**

#### **YOU MAY:**

- Attend high school and community college athletic events. You simply cannot have any contact with the prospective student-athletes or relatives. Should you find yourself seated next to parents of a prospect, DO NOT initiate conversation with the relatives. If conversation is initiated with you, respond in a civil manner but DO NOT discuss University of Southern Indiana's athletic program with them. If they raise questions about the program, remind them that the NCAA prohibits you from discussing the program with them. Direct their questions to the University of Southern Indiana athletic department.
- Attend a public event (i.e. high school awards banquet or dinner) at which prospects are in attendance. No attempt should be made to recruit the prospect.
- Offer assistance to members of the University of Southern Indiana coaching staff who are recruiting in your community.
- Review Rules # 3 & #4, as they also apply to this column.

#### **YOU MAY NOT:**

- Become directly or indirectly involved in making arrangements for a prospect, the prospect's family or friends to receive money or financial aid of any kind.
- Provide anything to or for a prospect, relatives of friends, without first checking with the Athletics Department administration.
- Pay for or arranging for payment of transportation costs for a prospect, relatives or friends to visit campus or elsewhere. While it is permissible for a friend or neighbor to transport a high school or community college student who is NOT an athlete to the campus, NCAA regulations prohibit that activity for a prospective student-athlete.
- Provide room and/or board, transportation of any kind or any other benefit to a recruited student-athlete during the summer prior to enrollment for fall classes at the University of Southern Indiana.
- Contact an enrolled student-athlete at another institution for the purpose of encouraging transfer to the University of Southern Indiana to participate in the athletic programs.
- Pay or offer to pay the registration fees for summer sports camps for a prospect.



- Contact the prospects coach, principal or counselor for the purpose of evaluating the prospect. You are not permitted to pick up films or transcripts from the prospect's educational institution.

### **NCAA Rules Regarding Contacts with Currently Enrolled Student-Athletes**

#### **PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INVITE:**

- A student-athlete or an entire team to your home for an occasional family home meal. This meal may be catered but must take place in your home. You may provide reasonable local transportation to student-athletes to attend.

#### **HOWEVER, YOU MAY NOT:**

- Provide a student-athlete any benefit or special arrangement. The NCAA considers these as an "extra-benefit" and they are expressly prohibited.
- Provide room and/or board or any type of transportation during the summer for a student-athlete with remaining eligibility.
- Provide room, board or transportation costs incurred by friends or family of an enrolled student-athlete to visit campus or attend any away contest.
- Expend any funds to entertain student-athletes or their relatives. You are not even permitted to buy a soft drink or coffee for them.
- Use the name or picture of an enrolled student-athlete to directly advertise, recommend or promote sales or use of a commercial product or service of any kind. The SALE of a picture of an enrolled student-athlete may jeopardize eligibility.
- Allow a student-athlete, their friends or relatives to use your phone, cell phone, or phone card to make long distance calls.

#### **PLEASE HELP:**

**If you have knowledge of improprieties, intentional or otherwise, please notify the Athletics Department immediately so that we may take the necessary corrective actions.**

#### **WHOM DO I CONTACT?**

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