Bowl Game Reminders

As the football team prepares for the Capital One Bowl game, it is important to note that NCAA legislation continues to apply to student-athletes during vacation periods. Please keep the following extra benefit legislation in mind regarding the upcoming bowl game.

Complimentary Admissions
NCAA legislation allows current student-athletes to receive complimentary admissions from MSU in conjunction with their participation in a bowl game. Student-athletes may not sell their tickets for any amount or exchange them for any item of value. In addition, prospective student-athletes and their coaches (e.g., high school, preparatory, two-year college, club) or any other individual responsible for teaching or directing an activity in which a prospect is involved (e.g., Athletics Director) may not receive complimentary admissions to any postseason competition. Tickets must be purchased in the same manner as any other member of the general public.

Housing/Meals/Transportation
During the holiday break, student-athletes and their families may not receive any extra benefits from boosters including free or reduced-cost housing, meals and transportation. This prohibition applies to the time when the athletes are on campus as well as when the athletes and their families travel to and from the bowl game.

Entertainment
MSU may provide entertainment expenses to student-athletes in conjunction with the holiday break and their bowl appearance. It is not permissible for boosters to provide student-athletes or their families with entertainment expenses during the holiday break. This includes events surrounding the bowl game (e.g., free admission into amusement parks and alumni association events, etc.).

Social Networking Websites
As social networking websites continue to gain in popularity, it is important to note that recruiting restrictions do apply to prospective student-athletes and their interaction with boosters. Specifically, boosters may not have any written or telephonic communication with prospects via chat rooms, message boards, text message, Instant message, e-mail and social networking websites such as MySpace, Facebook and Twitter. Impermissible contact between a booster and prospect is a violation of NCAA legislation and does effect the eligibility of the involved prospective student-athlete.
**Holiday Reminders**

NCAA legislation continues to apply to student-athletes during vacation periods. Please keep the following in mind during the upcoming holiday break.

- It is permissible for a student-athlete to work during a vacation period, provided the athlete is paid for work actually performed and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in the area for similar services.
- Boosters may not provide current or prospective student-athletes with gifts during the holidays.
- Boosters may not provide current or prospective student-athletes with meals, housing, transportation or entertainment during the holiday break.
- Boosters may not send prospective student-athletes holiday greeting cards.
- Boosters may not provide student-athletes’ parents with expenses (e.g., meals, lodging, transportation) to attend postseason competition. It is permissible for parents to attend events associated with the postseason competition (i.e., alumni pep rally), provided the parents pay for any cost associated with attending the event.

**Find the Infraction**

**Facts:** Over the holiday break, the men’s basketball team competes in a tournament in Florida. Some of the athletes’ parents had difficulty arranging transportation from the airport to the hotel due to the late arrival of their flight. Members of the local alumni chapter decide to pick up the athletes’ parents and take them to the hotel. The next day the alumni chapter hosts a dinner at the team hotel for the athletes’ friends and family.

**Infractions:** Boosters may not provide extra benefits to student-athletes or their friends and family. Therefore, it is not permissible to provide transportation to the athletes’ parents or to provide them with a free meal.

**Compliance A to Z**

**H - Honesty and Sportsmanship**

MSU must act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times to uphold the integrity of our athletics program. This includes an obligation to report any potential violations to the NCAA.

**I - Institutional Control**

It is the responsibility of each institution to control its intercollegiate athletics program in compliance with the rules and regulations of the NCAA. The institution is responsible for the actions of its staff members and boosters.

**J - Jobs**

Student-athletes are permitted to work at any time, provided they are compensated at the going rate for work actually performed, they do not receive any benefits that are not available to all other employees in a similar position, and they register the job with the Office of Compliance Services.
Division I Committee on Infractions Penalizes Indiana University.

Indiana University was penalized for major violations in its men's basketball program. This case involved multiple violations of telephone recruiting rules, unethical conduct by two coaches and a failure to monitor by the former head coach and the university. In addition, the case involved violations that arose out of the failure of the institution to adhere to penalties set forth by the committee in the previous University of Oklahoma case that were adopted by Indiana University after hiring the former head coach.

As far as the telephone calls were concerned, the committee found the university's monitoring of the former head coach and the men's basketball program was not ready and operational at the time the former head coach was hired. In addition, the committee found the university's compliance effort was inadequate in fulfilling the requirement of heightened scrutiny given the former head coach's existing penalties imposed on him for similar violations in a prior case.

The committee found that the former head coach failed to conduct himself in accordance with the generally recognized high standards of honesty by providing false or misleading information during the investigation and when he knowingly violated committee penalties. The committee also found that the former head coach failed to monitor the men's basketball program and promote rules compliance within it. As far as the former assistant coach is concerned, the committee found that he violated ethical conduct rules by knowingly violating committee penalties and failing to conduct himself in accordance with the generally recognized high standards of honesty by providing false or misleading information during the investigation.

The penalties, some of which were self-imposed by the institution and adopted by the committee, are as follows: public reprimand and censure; three years of probation ending November 2011; five-year show cause order, which includes significant recruiting restrictions, for the former head coach (ending November 2013); three-year show cause order, which also includes significant recruiting restrictions, for the former assistant coach (ending November 2011); a reduction of one men's basketball athletic scholarship, the number of available July 2008 off-campus recruiting days was reduced by two; the number of recruiting opportunities available to the men's basketball staff for one of the prospects was reduced from seven to six during both his junior and senior years in high school and the number of available off-campus contacts during his senior year was reduced from three to two; former head coach was limited to four off-campus recruiting contact days during the fall 2007 contact period; from September 2007 through July 2008 the number of men's basketball coaches involved in off-campus recruiting was reduced by one; the number of 2007-08 official visits available to men's basketball was reduced from 12 to eight; from the conclusion of the fall contact period, the head coach was limited to 20 off-campus recruiting days; and from September 2007 through the end of the regular National Letter of Intent signing period on May 21, 2008, the number of phone calls that could be made to prospects on or after August 1 of their senior year in high school was reduced from two to one call weekly. [NCAA News 11/25/08]