Secondary Violations could result in Suspension

Coaches beware. Men’s basketball and football coaching staffs will now face stricter penalties for intentional secondary recruiting violations, according to the NCAA.

In October, the NCAA passed a package of enhanced penalties including game suspensions for basketball coaches who intentionally violate Bylaw 13. The American Football Coaches Association followed suit proposing similar penalties. The NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions approved the football proposal which could hand coaches game suspensions for violating recruiting legislation including those bylaws limiting contact such as telephone calls and text messages to prospective student-athletes.

Secondary violations are often self-reported to the governing conference or the NCAA by an institution and do already carry penalties for coaches. However, typical reprimand did not previously include game suspension.

Punishment will depend on the nature and intent of the violation and the NCAA strongly encourages self-reporting. The new penalties are already in affect as Tom Izzo was recently suspended for MSU’s game against Prairie View for having employed an associate of a prospect as a speaker at a summer camp (a men’s basketball specific bylaw 13.12.2.2.2).

Those secondary violations that could carry game suspensions include:

- Commenting on a PSA prior to an NLI having been signed. Tennessee has self-reported Lane Kiffin twice.
- Posting comments on a PSA’s social media site such as Facebook. Virginia’s Mike London erroneously did so last spring.
- Recruiting visit violations such as game day simulations. In 2009 the University of Washington rented a fog machine introducing a PSA.
- Phone calls to a PSA over the NCAA limit.
- Text messages to a PSA.
- Contact with a recruit during a non-contact period.

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By The Numbers:

- **437** The number of student-athletes who earned a cumulative 3.0 or better GPA after fall 2010
- **100** The percentage of women’s golf student-athletes who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better after fall 2010 (followed by women’s tennis & men’s golf with 88% & 81%)
- **99** The number of community service hours performed by sophomore women’s soccer player, Lindsay Brown, during the fall semester
- **9** The number of Irish coaching staffs that are (Pro)actively using Jump-Forward’s cell phone recruiting contact application
As we embark on a new calendar year and most resolutions remain unbroken, the compliance staff has been busy assessing and upgrading processes in an attempt to better serve and educate student-athletes, coaches, the department and our constituents. We’re excited to announce our progress and invite you to make suggestions as we strive to rise above NCAA Division I Compliance status quo.

A New Web Site
nd.edu/~ncaacomp

The strongest weapon in our NCAA education arsenal is our comprehensive and ever-growing web site. Information pertinent to prospects, current student-athletes, parents, boosters, agents, coaches and staff includes education columns, legislation and forms. Visitors have the opportunity to click through topical resources and contact our staff directly with questions via an email link.

Online, Interactive Forms

Student-athletes and coaches will surely appreciate the ability to complete mandatory compliance forms online. For those who are unfamiliar with our current education process, all eligible student-athletes are required to complete an educational session each fall prior to competition. During each session, at least 14 NCAA data collection and authorization forms are completed including some information that is not widely known (we too do not know our license plate numbers offhand).

A partnership with JumpForward has provided us the opportunity to assign tasks to entire teams or particular student-athletes via email notice. Once a form is adequately completed by the student online, the information will populate into our Compliance database without delay or error so that audits may be run more quickly. Student-athletes will be provided this opportunity this summer in preparation for the fall education sessions.

Currently, our forms may be found on our web site, nd.edu/~ncaacomp, as we continue to work with JumpForward to complete this goal.

Proactive Recruiting Phone Logs

Nine coaching staffs are up and running using the new JumpForward Proactive Recruiting Application on their cellular device. Contacts to prospects are tracked, categorized and even flagged as potentially violating NCAA call legislation while coaches use their cell phones (and land lines) with little interruption. Compliance staff members can generate prospective student-athlete call log reports at their discretion alleviating coaches from submitting monthly contact logs. Coaches also have the ability to add, edit and monitor synchronized data related to each prospect online and/or on their cell phone.

Please contact our office to arrange a demonstration and begin using JumpForward.
Legislative Process Update

Thank you to the coaches and administrators who weighed in on the proposed NCAA legislation in the 2010-11 cycle. Notre Dame will be represented at The Big East Conference meetings scheduled on January 11-12 in San Antonio with preliminary voting taking place at the January 15 Board of Directors meeting. As legislation is passed (some could be effective immediately), our staff will disseminate information to those affected.

The NCAA News

- Six Ohio State football student-athletes will be required to sit out a portion of their 2011 season and to donate over $7,000 collectively to charity after receiving extra benefits during 2009 in the form of discounted services and the sale of athletic department issued apparel and post season awards. Mike Adams, Daniel Herron, Devier Posey, Terrelle Pryor and Solomon Thomas will miss 5 games (the standard 30% plus one additional game for not disclosing the violation after proper education took place). A sixth student-athlete, Jordan Whiting, must sit out the first game of the 2011 season for receiving discounted services based on his status as a student-athlete. A recent investigation of Pryor also centered around 3 alleged traffic citations issued while he was driving vehicles loaned from car dealerships while his automobile was being serviced. This was found to not be in violation of NCAA extra benefit legislation as it was customary for the dealerships to loan vehicles to customers during such service and the benefit was not offered based solely on athletics ability.

- University of Kentucky men’s basketball student-athlete Enes Kantor has been ruled permanently ineligible for collegiate competition after having accepted impermissible benefits in excess of $30,000 while playing club basketball in Turkey. Kantor entered Kentucky last fall after 3 seasons with a Turkish sport club. NCAA bylaws allow actual and necessary expenses related to practice and competition while athletes participate in permissible outside competition. Generally, travel, meals, lodging and health insurance fall under this category. Kantor remains at Kentucky and is allowed to practice but not travel or compete. The university is filing an appeal.

- The University of Michigan public infractions report was released in November and cited the football staff as having violated the number of allowable countable coaches, among other NCAA bylaws including the much publicized excess countable hours. NCAA rules allow 1 head coach, 9 assistant coaches, and 2 graduate assistants for FBS teams. Michigan football student-athletes cited confusion when asked to identify the 12 permissible members of the coaching staff as 5 additional quality control employees served in impermissible coaching capacities.

- Kansas men’s basketball student-athlete Josh Selby is to re-pay over $5,500 to a charity and to sit out 9 regular season games (30% of the season) after he and his family accepted impermissible benefits prior to him signing his grant-in-aid agreement.