

Question: What are the restrictions on coaches communicating with underclassmen in HS in person?

Answer: The restriction on contacts with those that have not completed their junior year in high school is limited to off-campus contacts. If the contact occurs on-campus, the coach could meet with them.

Question: Is it permissible for a coach or athletic department representative to pick up a current athlete at the Airport?
Example: If head coach has a baseball player that is a senior and he flies home for Christmas break, can I as a coach pick him up from the airport when he flies back to the cities?

Answer: Bylaw 16.9.1.8. You can provide reasonable local transportation, which is generally defined as a 30 mile radius around campus.

Question: Can you give me an interpretation on bylaw 13.11.2.3. What if a men's soccer coach has prospects on his club team within 50 miles and one of the prospects deposits/enrolls at the coaches college institution?

Answer: It is permissible for a member of the club team to enroll at the coach's institution. The key is that the coach only wears his "club coach" hat while coaching the club team and does not engage in recruiting activities. The prospect is still a prospect until s/he enrolls and attends the first day of classes. Therefore, the coach would not be permitted to engage in any discussions about his/her collegiate program with the prospect while performing his club coaching duties.

Question: May a diving coach be shared by two institutions and practice together? Would this be considered outside competition each time they practice together with a student-athlete from another institution?

Answer: Pursuant to bylaws 14.02.6(a) and 17.02.8(a), this arrangement would constitute intercollegiate competition and would have to count towards each team's maximum allowable competitions. The institutions will need to file and ARS waiver in order to allow for such an arrangement.

Question: A member institution has a SA who's mother is very ill. The institution/team would like to do a fundraiser to raise money for the SA to purchase a plane ticket home. Is this permissible? Can the institution, coach or anyone associated with the institution donate money for this?

Answer: Yes per 16.11.1.12 an institution may provide or arrange for fund-raisers for SA's provided extreme circumstances exist (detailed in legislation). In addition bylaw 16.6 permits the institution to provide travel expenses in these circumstances

Question: May a coach call a prospect on their cell phone who is participating in a consecutive day tournament? Going deeper into this, can a coach sitting in the stands of this tournament, call the prospect on their cell phone and talk?

Answer: Division III regulations do not regulate the frequency of recruiting calls or other restrictions as to dates/times you are permitted to call a prospect. There are, however, restrictions on contacts at practice or competition sites. Therefore, if a coach calls a prospect under the circumstances you described, that coach must be mindful not to then trigger the restrictions in the bylaw below as a result of that call. See 13.1.4.2 Practice or Competition Site

Question (MIAC RULE): Are the seven non-traditional season practices individually counted or are they as a team? In essence, what happens if the team is split into two groups that practice on different days but each has a sum total of seven practices?

Answer: The wording specifies that there are seven team practice opportunities. If a student-athlete can not make one of these seven, it may not be made up on a different day (or even split the team on different days). It could however be made up during a different time on that same date.

Question: Lets say a basketball SA studies overseas in the fall and returns to campus in the middle of January. There is confirmation that the SA initially enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits in the fall, but do to lack of communication overseas, no reports are received throughout the semester that the SA continued to be enrolled in at least 12 credits and by the middle of February no grades have been received from the overseas institution. How should the institution go about determining the SA's eligibility? Should the institution assume the SA is eligible until they hear otherwise or should the institution hold out the SA until they receive grade and credit confirmation?

Answer: In Division III, issues related to good standing and satisfactory-progress requirements are determined by each institution per 14.02.5 and 14.4.1. Therefore, the institution would have to determine the student-athlete's academic standing as they would a non-student-athlete. If a student generally would still be in good academic standing pending the arrival of the grades, then, if the institution's policy permits, so would a student-athlete.

Question: One of our male basketball student-athletes is no longer able to play because of injury ... we will be putting in a medical hardship waiver form on him in the next few days. The documentation suggests that he will receive the hardship. That said, he is planning on taking less than a full-time load this semester (classes start today) ... given this status, what is your take on his involvement with the team? Because of the injury he can't practice and can't compete (hasn't done so since the first game) ... but can he sit with the team on the bench? Can he travel with them?

Answer: This student-athlete would not be permitted to travel with the team pursuant to Bylaw 16.8.1.2. Only student-athletes eligible to represent the institution in competition are permitted to receive expenses for practice or competition. The student-athlete would be permitted to sit on the bench at home games - there is no legislation related to that issue. As far as his part-time status, the only other issue to be mindful of would be the impact of the smaller courseload on his academic good standing for fall 06 per institutional policy.