

Question: May a member of my basketball coaching staff coach any level of AAU basketball?

Answer: No, per NCAA bylaw 13.11.1.4. A member of an institution's coaching staff may not participate in coaching activities involving AAU basketball teams, regardless of the age or gender of the participants involved.

Question: May institutions allow high school teams to practice on their court in preparation for the state hs tourney? I believe this would be permissible if they opened up the offer to all participating high school teams correct? If the institution has a policy that they will not charge teams for their facility use during this time....is this permissible as well as long as it is applied consistently to each high school team?

Answer: Permissible per 13.11.3.2 (activities not involving institution's staff) - HS renting at regular rate (free) for practice activities not involving institution's staff.

Question: A coach at a local H.S. asked if we could send some of our current softball players to help them with evaluations during tryouts for the H.S players in areas like throwing, hitting, fielding etc. They said that if our players helped they would donate money to our charity fund. Is it legal for our players to do this with H.S. team?

Answer: This is a "no" as it would be considered an impermissible tryout since the SAs do represent the DIII institution. We say per 1/25/89 staff interp that student-athletes could not be involved when high school teams rent out facilities on campus, so by the same rationale, SAs could not have any involvement with same HS team off campus either especially when off-campus activities involve evaluating prospects and SAs should not be involved in off-campus recruiting situations even if its being presented as a "high school tryout."

Question: We had a student-athlete participate in an alumnae meet for indoor track (which was the first meet of the season) and has not since practiced or competed because she had mono. Do we need to file a Hardship Waiver so she would not use a season of participation for this year?

Answer: If the alumni contest occurred during the championship segment, then it needs to count for medical hardship purposes. A 9/27/91 interp provides some guidance on alumni contests. Also see DIII Bylaw 14.2.5(b)

Question: I have a recruit who has been accepted and says he's coming next year. He is a local guy and sent me his upcoming HS golf schedule. They are playing many of the courses we've played and on which I have my homemade yardage book/course notes for those courses. I'm wondering if it would be legal for me to give him those prior to him playing the courses for his tourneys? These are not yardage books for sale anywhere, I just make them for my teams.

Answer: The only way to get there legislatively is if this "homemade yardage book" was not home made; but rather an institutional recruiting material or publication that is either produced/published by school or made generally available to all students. A homemade yardage book does not meet the intent of 13.4.1. So I'd say "no" unless they published this yardage book as an official institution/sport document.

Question: USA hockey has asked our women's coach to help them out. Does it matter what age group he works with? I think they were looking at 15,16,17 yr. olds. He wouldn't be just an evaluator, but he would be a coach in one of the age groups.

Answer: Per 13.11.3.3, provided this training program is conducted by recognized state, national or international governing body, it would be ok for coach to work with prospects. No 50 mile radius rule on this one.

Question: I know that institutions may only conduct one exempt pre-season scrimmage. However, I am aware that jv and varsity teams can maintain separate schedules (see interp: Contest limitations apply separately to varsity and junior varsity teams). This relates to contests, not the designated season, which must be the same. Therefore the JV schedule could include one pre-season scrimmage and the varsity schedule another. A student-athlete could only play in one, but not both, of these scrimmages. Is this correct?

Answer: The assessment is correct. Playing season (weeks) must be the same for all teams/levels (JV, varsity, freshman team). Contest limits are separate in that JV can have their own schedule and varsity has their own--within the same weeks/season. The nontraditional segment is "one universal limit" that applies to all teams in same sport. Therefore varsity soccer and JV soccer are held to using the exact same 7 days including one date of competition (alumni contest) - not separate 16 days/one date.

Question: Basketball prospect visits college campus on day the prospect has a high school baseball contest later in the day. It would not be permissible for the collegiate basketball coach to have any interaction with the prospect on campus, correct?

Answer: Yes, until the prospect is released from the activity/locker-room by his or her coach on game days (13.1.4.1).

Question: A swimming SA would like to approach some businesses in the community, to see if they would be willing to assist him with some of the financial costs he will be incurring for this summers triathlon season. What he is anticipating receiving will not cover all of his expenses. Is this permissible?

Answer: The SA can receive expenses from an outside club team only (eg swimming club team)...so if businesses in the community want to help out, the only way they could permissibly help out is to donate to local sports clubs. These financial donations cannot be "earmarked" - that is donated with the specific directive to be given or benefiting a specific individual. The club team must have sole discretion as to how it spends any donated money. DIII Bylaw 12.1.1.1.4.3 is on target as it speaks to an outside team providing actual and necessary expenses to an individual and that "sponsoring" an individual is impermissible.

Question: An institution will most likely get a bid for their women's club team to go to nationals (not a MIAC sport). The institution will be sending chaperones with the team. The scenario is that many of the players on the club team are also women's soccer players at the institution. The women's soccer coach has volunteered to be a chaperone, but is concerned that this might violate NCAA out of season contact rules. Would this be a case where the coach would have to make sure she was performing chaperone duties and nothing more?

Answer: This is one of those situations where an ounce of prevention might be worth a pound of cure. For example, as soccer coach...while traveling...what is the likelihood that the coach and student-athletes start talking about their soccer season/strategy/next year's team/etc? I'd say fairly likely even though it seems innocuous to do so. The athletically related activities definition could easily be triggered on a trip like this let alone any actual on-field club related activities that the soccer coach might be involved in or overseeing. I'd recommend the coach not go to avoid these pitfalls.