### UNOFFICIAL VISITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>A visit made to ASU’s campus at the prospect’s own expense.</th>
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<td><strong>NEW RULE:</strong> Time period for unofficial visits</td>
<td>New rule: A prospect in all sports except basketball and football may not take an unofficial visit until September 1 of his or her junior year in high school as long as it is not during a dead period.</td>
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| Application of the new rule | • The NCAA has released a document [here](#) that provides guidance on how to apply the new unofficial visit rule.  
• Please see the Compliance Office with any questions relating to this new unofficial visit rule and how it is applied. |
| Quantity | There are no limits on the number of unofficial visits a prospect may take. |
| Expenses | An unofficial visit must be entirely funded by the prospect, so SDA may not pay any expenses (e.g., meals, lodging) or provide any entertainment, with one exception: three complimentary admissions to regular season, home events. |
| Meals | • A prospect may eat with coaches, other prospects, or student-athletes on ASU’s campus during an unofficial visit as long as he or she pays for his or her own meal (prospect should be on a separate bill).  
• In addition, coaches, staff, and student-athletes may have off-campus contacts with a prospect on an unofficial visit within a one-mile radius of campus (see list of one-mile radius restaurants [here](#)). |
| Transportation | SDA may only provide transportation on the Tempe campus, to view practice or competition sites, and directly to another ASU campus (e.g., downtown). |
| NLI signee restriction | Many NCAA recruiting restrictions are lifted after a prospect signs an NLI. Note: Beginning August 1, 2018, an NLI signee may observe off-court or off-field activities (e.g., meetings, film reviews) closed to the general public. |
Sacramento State was recently penalized by the Committee on Infractions for multiple violations over the course of five years in its men's and women's tennis programs relating to recruiting, eligibility, financial aid, coaching limitations, practice hours, and impermissible benefits. Most of the violations occurred at an off-campus tennis facility owned by the university’s director of tennis. The entire case started after a student-athlete contacted the athletics administration with concerns over practice-hour issues. In addition to numerous practice-hour violations, the institution and the enforcement staff uncovered several NCAA violations including:

- Impermissible benefits provided to prospects in yet “another example of the increased risk of violations when prospects move near campus before enrollment;”
- Impermissible housing arrangements provided by the coaches and staff in yet “another example in which staff members impermissibly arranged housing for incoming student-athletes, despite the fact that the membership has been on notice for years that such conduct violates NCAA legislation;”
- Impermissible coaching by the director of tennis who provided technical and tactical instruction to student-athletes on multiple occasions;
- Impermissible financial aid assistance (e.g., tuition payments) provided to student-athletes by a booster; and
- Impermissible benefits such as meals, movie admissions, and cell-phone bill payments provided to student-athletes by another booster.

**KEY TAKEAWAYS:**

1. “This case again demonstrates that institutions and head coaches must be diligent in ensuring that there is a strict separation of duties and responsibilities between coaching staff members and noncoaching staff to ensure that noncoaching staff members do not engage in activity assigned only to coaches.”

2. Coaches and staff are reminded they may not arrange housing for prospects. This includes coaches and staff facilitating “the exchange of contact information between an incoming student-athlete and an enrolled student-athlete.”

3. “Institutions must be diligent in preventing boosters from providing impermissible benefits to prospects and student-athletes, both by monitoring booster interaction with student-athletes and through targeted booster education.”

4. CARA and RARA limitations are necessary “to ensure that student-athletes devote the necessary time to academic and other activities, and to safeguard their health and welfare.”

**Commission Recommendations for Men’s Basketball**

On April 25, the Commission on College Basketball announced its findings and recommendations after spending the last seven months assessing the current state of men's basketball. The four main areas of reform include (1) creating a realistic pathway for student-athlete success; (2) establishing an independent investigative and adjudicative body to handle serious infractions; (3) mitigating nonscholastic basketball’s harmful influence on college basketball; and (4) adding public members to the NCAA’s Board of Directors. A statement from the NCAA can be found [here](#). And the entire 60-page document can be found [here](#). The NCAA is now tasked with drafting legislation and plans to implement the recommendations by August 2018.
One week before the start of the second summer school session, an incoming University of Argon football prospect showed up at the football offices. He told the head coach he wanted to get to campus early so he could move into his dorm and get his affairs in order before the start of classes. Knowing a prospect could not move into the dorm before the beginning of classes, the head coach informed him of the rule and told the young man he would see him next week. Without a place to stay, the prospect sent a text to his future teammates asking if they would open their doors to him for the week. A teammate obliged, and the prospect stayed at the teammate's apartment for free until moving into his dorm.

In April, the NCAA council adopted several new proposals, including the following:

**New rule:** Coaches and staff may create recruiting-specific videos as long as they are not personalized.
**What this means:** Previously, the only videos that could be shown or provided to prospects were ones not created for a recruiting purpose (e.g., fan videos). Beginning August 1, coaches and staff may create and show prospects videos (including GIFs) that are related to recruiting.
**Effective date:** August 1, 2018

**New rule:** In sports other than football, student-athletes may participate in skill-instruction sessions outside the declared playing season for up to four hours each week.
**What this means:** Coaches may provide skill instruction to their student-athletes for up to two more hours (four total) each week when a sport is out of season. CARAs are still limited to a total of 8 hours each week.
**Effective Date:** August 1, 2018

**New rule:** Student-athletes may publicly comment on prospects as long as no coaches/staff members direct them to do so.
**What this means:** Student-athletes may interact with prospects on social media (e.g., Instagram, Twitter) and those interactions can be for recruiting purposes as long as no coaches/staff members direct the student-athletes to do so.
**Effective Date:** Immediate

**New rule:** A coach whose team competes in three or more contests during a declared week does not have to provide student-athletes with an off day that week as long as the student-athletes are provided two days off either during the preceding or succeeding week.
**What this means:** A coach will have more flexibility in providing student-athletes with an off day during a week in which multiple competitions occur.
**Effective Date:** August 1, 2018

The teammate provided an impermissible benefit (cost-free lodging) to the prospect when he allowed the prospect to stay with him before moving into the dorm. The Argon coach would likely be considered to have failed to properly monitor the prospect’s living situation because he knew the prospect could not move into the dorms but did not inquire into what, if any, alternate arrangements were available. The NCAA could charge the coach with failure to monitor. To help avoid this type of issue, SDA coaches should make sure all their prospects fill out the Pre-Enrollment Information form in ACS.
Please note this table has dates that run until May 31. Many of the periods run past May 31. Visit the NCAA Recruiting Calendars website for full recruiting calendars.