

# Athletics Compliance Office



University of Notre Dame

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## In This Issue

Failure to follow NCAA bylaws and University compliance procedures has serious consequences. Not only can it expose an institution to penalties and fines, but it can have a lasting impact on a university's reputation.

In this issue, we have provided an overview of the most recent major infractions investigated by the NCAA. As always, we strongly encourage the continued use of our office as a primary resource in understanding NCAA rules.

## Baylor Basketball Woes

Baylor is on 3 years probation following a phone call probe that unearthed 738 impermissible text messages and 528 impermissible phone calls made to prospects by the men's and women's basketball coaches. Also mentioned in the report to the NCAA were several instances in which Head Women's Basketball Coach, Kim Mulkey, engaged in impermissible recruiting contact with a prospect (identified later as Brittney Griner) and her family during a 2007 basketball camp and during AAU games when Griner played on the same team as Mulkey's daughter. Mulkey admitted she spoke with Griner's father during competitions discussing the Baylor experience.

Assistant Men's Basketball Coach, Mark Morefield, committed a major violation when he asked two AAU coaches not to disclose a series of text messages to the NCAA.

The Bears have now signed on with JumpForward for proactive phone call monitoring.

### By The Numbers:

- **19** The number of student-athletes who earned a perfect 4.0 GPA during fall 2011
- **196** The number of student-athletes who earned a 3.5 or higher term GPA following fall 2011
- **452** The number of student-athletes who earned a 3.0 or higher term GPA after fall 2011
- **3.64** The fall 2011 term GPA boasted by the Women's Golf team, the highest term GPA for any team

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## Recent NCAA Major Infractions

| Date              | Institution                               | Sport                                | Bylaws   | Violations  | Penalties  |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| March 12, 2012    | University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill | Football                             | <p>10 Ethical Conduct</p> <p>11 Personnel</p> <p>12 Amateurism</p> <p>14 Eligibility</p> <p>16 Awards and Benefits</p> | Academic tutor provided gifts and services to student-athletes; student-athletes accepted services from sports agents (trips, entertainment); assistant coach accepted a loan of money from a sport agent.  | Public reprimand, 3 years probation, vacation of records, reductions of grants-in-aid by 15 for 3 years, 1 year postseason ban, show-cause order on former assistant coach for 3 years, self-imposed financial penalty, annual reporting required.   |
| February 24, 2012 | Radford University                        | Men's Basketball, Men's Tennis       | <p>10 Ethical Conduct</p> <p>11 Personnel</p> <p>13 Recruiting</p> <p>16 Awards and Benefits</p>                       | Violations regarding impermissible extra benefits & recruiting inducements (transportation, food, lodging) to SAs & 1 PSA; unethical conduct and failure to promote an atmosphere for compliance as coaches (led by Head Coach Brad Greenberg) misled investigations & asked a SA to lie. | 2 years probation, vacation of records, financial penalty of \$2,000, probation from recruiting international prospective SAs for 2 years, show-cause order on former head basketball coach for 5 years, show-cause order on former assistant coaches for 2 years, show-cause order on former director of operations for 2 years, annual reporting required. |
| February 1, 2012  | University of Nebraska, Lincoln           | Multiple                             | <p>2 Athletics Conduct</p> <p>15 Financial Aid</p> <p>16 Awards and Benefits</p>                                       | Student-athletes received "recommended" textbooks. NCAA rules permit scholarships for "required" textbooks.   | Public reprimand, annual compliance reports. Self-imposed penalties by institution included 2 years probation, \$38,000 fine donated to local charities.   |
| January 19, 2012  | Morrisville State College                 | Men's Ice Hockey                     | <p>15 Financial Aid</p>  | Financial aid packages were awarded to student-athletes in manner that varied from the general pattern of other financial aid for all students during 2-year period.  | Public reprimand and censure; 2 years probation.   |
| January 19, 2012  | Neumann University                        | Men's Ice Hockey, Women's Ice Hockey | <p>15 Financial Aid</p>  | Financial aid packages were awarded to student-athletes in manner that varied from the general pattern of other financial aid for all students during 4-year period.  | Public reprimand and censure; 2 years probation. Specific teams ended seasons with last regular season contest, and not eligible to participate in postseason, including tournaments/championships.  |
| December 20, 2011 | The Ohio State University                 | Football                             | <p>10 Ethical Conduct</p> <p>12 Amateurism</p> <p>14 Eligibility</p> <p>16 Awards and Benefits</p>                     | Student-athletes received impermissible extra benefits and traded institutional items (awards, gear) for money and services. The head coach had knowledge of allegations and did not disclose potential violations to compliance or the NCAA.   | 3 years probation, limit total grants-in-aid in football to 82 for 3 academic years, postseason ban, vacation of records, show-cause order placed on the former head football coach for 5 years, annual reporting required.  |

## Recent NCAA Major Infractions *(cont.)*

| Date               | Institution                                     | Sport  | Bylaws   | Violations   | Penalties  |
|--------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| December 16, 2011  | California State Polytechnic University, Pomona | Women's Basketball   | <p>10 Ethical Conduct</p> <p>13 Recruiting</p> <p>14 Eligibility</p> <p>17 Playing and Practice Seasons</p>                                    | One PSA received money, another meals, lodging and entertainment during an unofficial visit; student managers practiced with the women's basketball team; both basketball programs conducted PSA tryouts.  | Public reprimand and censure; 2 years of probation; no official paid visits in women's basketball; publication of period of probation to all prospective student-athletes and displayed on the institution's athletics website, media guides and recruiting materials; annual reporting required.  |
| November 10, 2011  | University of Oklahoma                          | Men's Basketball   | <p>10 Ethical Conduct</p> <p>11 Personnel</p> <p>12 Amateurism</p> <p>14 Eligibility</p> <p>16 Awards and Benefits</p>                         | SA accepted a \$3,000 loan from a financial advisor to pay his high school tuition debt; played 30 games while ineligible & lied to investigators.   | Public reprimand/censure; 3 years probation; vacation of SA's record, record of former head coach, reporting of vacated records in publications reporting records; \$14,000 penalty, reduction in scholarships by 1 for 1 year; reduction in official visits by 2 for 1 year; show-cause for former assistant coach.   |
| September 29, 2011 | University of Cincinnati                        | Football<br>Women's Basketball   | <p>13 Recruiting</p>   | Women's basketball staff made 200 impermissible calls to PSAs (176 by 1 asst coach); football reported 20 impermissible calls to PSAs.   | Public reprimand and censure, 2 years probation, and a show-cause order for the former assistant women's basketball coach for 1 year.  |
| September 13, 2011 | Boise State University                          | Football<br>Men's Cross Country<br>Men's Tennis<br>Men's Track<br>Women's Tennis<br>Women's Cross Country<br>Women's Track | <p>10 Ethical Conduct</p> <p>11 Personnel</p> <p>13 Recruiting</p> <p>14 Eligibility</p> <p>15 Financial Aid</p> <p>16 Awards and Benefits</p> | Prearranged summer housing and transportation was provided to 63 football PSAs arriving on-campus early over a 4 year period; women's tennis coach provided PSAs with cash, entertainment, lodging, transportation; allowed SA to compete 1 year while ineligible; misled investigation and encouraged others to do the same; assistant track coach personally financed PSA's unofficial visit & misled investigation. | Public reprimand and censure; 3 years probation; postseason ban for 1 year for women's tennis; added 2 additional years of limiting grants-in-aid (to 82) in football; vacation of records for all wins for student-athlete who competed while ineligible, including the record of the former head women's tennis coach; annual reporting required during the period of probation. |



## In the Pipeline

### The NCAA News—Some Major Infractions in Further Detail

- **University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.** The violations in this case fell into three categories: 1) a former tutor committing academic fraud with student-athletes and providing benefits to student-athletes; 2) benefits provided to SAs by sports agents and their associates; and 3) unethical conduct by the former assistant coach.

The former tutor wrote papers, revised drafts, researched and edited content, and inserted citations for three football SAs. All of the assignments were handed in by the SAs for academic credit. The former tutor also provided benefits to 11 football SAs after she had graduated and was no longer working as a tutor. She bought an airline ticket for one SA, and paid the \$1,789 balance owed on his campus parking tickets. She also provided free tutoring services for 11 football SAs, even though she was no longer working for the institution and had been told not to tutor or help the SAs. In addition, seven football SAs had received lodging, meals, transportation, athletic training, club admissions, jewelry and other items of value from agents or their runners, with a total value worth over \$27,000. Finally, a former assistant coach was working with a sports agency and marketing firm (as vice president) dedicated to representing professional athletes.

- **The Ohio State University.** Football student-athletes received cash payments or reduced cost/free tattoos from the owner of a Columbus, Ohio tattoo parlor. One of these SAs also received a loan and a discount on an automobile. These benefits were provided by the tattoo parlor owner in exchange for football awards, apparel and equipment issued to the student-athletes by Ohio State. Because the tattoo parlor owner was not considered a representative of the institution's athletics interests (booster) his provision of cash, tattoos and other items constituted "preferential treatment" rather than extra benefits. The former head coach became aware of these violations and decided not to report the violations to institutional officials, the Big Ten Conference or the NCAA.
- **California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.** The majority of the violations in this case were in the women's basketball program. The former head coach and a former assistant coach provided prospective SAs meals, transportation, lodging and cash. The former head coach also offered to pay another prospective SA for the cost of an online math course the SA needed to pass to enroll at the institution. The women's basketball coaching staff also held impermissible tryouts, and allowed student managers to participate as practice players. The men's basketball program also held impermissible tryouts.
- **Radford University.** This case centered on recruiting and extra-benefit violations committed by one current and four former coaches, who provided transportation, lodging and meals to SAs. Most violations occurred in the men's basketball program, but some also included the men's tennis program. The violations were made worse by the efforts of the men's basketball staff to hide some of the violations from the institution and the NCAA.

This case is one of many recent cases in which there has been either a concerted effort to cover up violations, or there was a deliberate failure to report violations. In this case, not only were institutional staff members providing false and misleading information to the institution and to enforcement staff, but they were also encouraging SAs to do the same.