



Proposal Number: RWG-13-3

Title: RECRUITING -- DEREGULATION OF MODES AND NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS ON COMMUNICATION

Intent: To eliminate restrictions governing modes and numerical limitations on recruiting communication.

A. Bylaws: Amend 13.1.3, as follows:

13.1.3 Telephone Calls.

13.1.3.1 Time Period for Telephone Calls -- General Rule. Telephone calls to an individual (or his or her relatives or legal guardians) may not be made before July 1 following the completion of his or her junior year in high school (subject to the exceptions below), or the opening day of classes of his or her senior year in high school (as designated by the high school), whichever is earlier; ~~thereafter, staff members shall not make such telephone calls more than once per week.~~ **Thereafter, an institution may make telephone calls to a prospective student-athlete at its discretion.**

~~13.1.3.1.1 Exception -- Baseball, Cross Country/Track and Field, Men's Lacrosse, Women's Lacrosse, Women's Sand Volleyball, Softball and Women's Volleyball. In baseball, cross country/track and field, men's lacrosse, women's lacrosse, women's sand volleyball, softball and women's volleyball, telephone calls to an individual (or his or her relatives or legal guardians) may not be made before July 1 following the completion of his or her junior year in high school, or the opening day of classes of his or her senior year in high school (as designated by the high school), whichever is earlier. Thereafter, such telephone calls shall be limited to once per week outside a contact period, but may be made at the institution's discretion during a contact period.~~

13.1.3.1.2¹ Exception -- Football. In football, one telephone call to an individual (or the individual's relatives or legal guardians) may be made from April 15 through May 31 of the individual's junior year in high school. Additional telephone calls to an individual (or the individual's relatives or legal guardians) may not be made before September 1 of the beginning of the individual's senior year in high school. Thereafter, such telephone contact ~~is limited to once per week outside a contact period, but~~ may be made at the institution's discretion ~~during a contact period.~~

[13.1.3.1.3 renumbered as 13.1.3.1.2, unchanged.] 13.1.3.1.3² Exception -- Women's Basketball. In women's basketball, telephone calls may be made to an individual (or the individual's relatives or legal guardians) as follows:

- (a) One telephone call during the month of April of the individual's junior year in high school on or after the Thursday after the conclusion of the NCAA Division I Women's Final Four.
- (b) One telephone call during the month of May of the individual's junior year in high school.
- (c) One telephone call on or after June 1 through June 20 of the individual's junior year in high school.
- (d) One telephone call on or after June 21 through June 30 of the individual's junior year in high school.
- (e) Three telephone calls during the month of July following the individual's junior year in high school, with not more than one telephone call per week [see Bylaw 13.1.6.2.1-(c)]. ~~If an individual attends an educational institution that uses a nontraditional academic calendar (e.g., Southern Hemisphere), the institution may begin to place one telephone call per week to the individual beginning on the opening day of classes of the individual's senior year in high school.~~
- (f) Thereafter, ~~one telephone call per week outside a contact period and~~ unlimited telephone calls ~~during a contact period.~~



13.1.3.1.~~43~~.1 Additional Restrictions -- Additional Communication with a Parent or Legal Guardian Who Serves on Staff of a Nonscholastic Team. ~~An~~ **Before August 1 following the completion of the prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school, an** institution may not have any additional communication with a parent or legal guardian of a prospective student-athlete who serves on the staff of his or her daughter's nonscholastic team unless the parent or legal guardian also serves as a head coach of his or her daughter's scholastic team and the additional communication is unrelated to recruitment of his or her daughter.

[13.1.3.1.4.2 renumbered as 13.1.3.1.3.2, unchanged.] 13.1.3.1.5 Exception -- Men's Ice Hockey. In men's ice hockey, an institution is permitted to make one telephone call per month to an individual (or the individual's relatives or legal guardians) on or after June 15 at the conclusion of the individual's sophomore year in high school through July 31 after the individual's junior year in high school. ~~An institution is permitted to make one telephone call per week to an individual (or the individual's relatives or legal guardians) beginning August 1 following completion of the individual's junior year in high school.~~ **Thereafter, an institution may make telephone calls to a prospective student-athlete at its discretion.**

13.1.3.1.~~54~~.1 Nontraditional Academic Calendars -- Men's Ice Hockey. In men's ice hockey, if an individual attends an educational institution that uses a nontraditional academic calendar (e.g., Southern Hemisphere), telephone calls to the individual (or his or her relatives or legal guardians) may not be made before the day after the conclusion of the individual's sophomore year in high school. ~~Thereafter, an institution may make telephone calls to an individual (or his or her relatives or legal guardians) as follows:~~

~~(a)~~ One telephone call per month **may be made** from the day after the conclusion of the individual's sophomore year in high school to the opening day of classes of individual's senior year in high school. **Thereafter, an institution may make telephone calls to a prospective student-athlete at its discretion.**

~~(b)~~ ~~One telephone call per week beginning on the opening day of classes of individual's senior year in high school.~~

13.1.3.1.~~65~~ Exception -- Women's Ice Hockey. In women's ice hockey, an institution is permitted to make one telephone call to an individual (or the individual's relatives or guardians) who is a resident of a foreign country on or after July 7 through July 31 following the completion of the individual's sophomore year in high school. An institution is permitted to make ~~one~~ telephone ~~call per week~~ **calls at its discretion** to an individual (or the individual's relatives or legal guardians) beginning July 7 following completion of the individual's junior year in high school, or the opening day of classes of his or her senior year in high school (as designated by the high school), whichever is earlier.

13.1.3.1.~~76~~ Application of Telephone Call Limitations. Once an institution reaches the applicable limit on telephone calls to a prospective student-athlete (or the prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardians) for a particular time period (e.g., one per month, ~~one per week, two per week~~), the institution may not initiate an additional telephone call during the same time period, even if no direct conversation occurs during the additional call (e.g., voicemail message).

13.1.3.1.~~87~~ Effect of Violations. Violations of Bylaw 13.1.3.1 and its subsections involving the first occasion when a staff member exceeds the permissible number of telephone calls ~~during a given week~~ (when it is otherwise permissible to call) shall be considered an institutional violation per Constitution 2.8.1 and shall not affect the prospective student-athlete's eligibility.

13.1.3.2 Additional Restrictions.

[13.1.3.2.1 through 13.1.3.2.2 unchanged.]

~~13.1.3.3 Exceptions.~~



~~13.1.3.3.1 Official Visit Exception. Institutional coaching staff members (see Bylaw 13.1.3.4.1) may make unlimited telephone calls to a prospective student athlete during the five days immediately preceding the prospective student athlete's official visit (per Bylaw 13.6) to that institution. If more than one call per week occurs under this exception and a scheduled official visit is canceled due to circumstances beyond the control of the prospective student athlete or the institution (e.g., trip is canceled by the prospective student athlete, inclement weather conditions), such calls shall not be considered institutional violations and shall not affect the prospective student athlete's eligibility. However, the institution shall submit a report to the conference office noting the cancellation of the official visit and the reasons for such cancellation.~~

~~13.1.3.3.1.1 Telephone Calls in Conjunction with Official Visit. Athletics department staff members may make unlimited telephone calls to a prospective student athlete or those individuals accompanying the prospective student athlete during the prospective student athlete's official visit transportation and during his or her official visit.~~

~~13.1.3.3.2 Letter of Intent Signing Date Exception. Institutional coaching staff members (see Bylaw 13.1.3.4.1) may make unlimited telephone calls to a prospective student athlete on the initial date for the signing of the National Letter of Intent and during the two days immediately following the initial signing date.~~

~~13.1.3.3.2.1 Football Exception. In football, institutional coaching staff members may make unlimited telephone calls to prospective student athletes during the period 48 hours before and 48 hours after 7 a.m. on the initial signing date for the National Letter of Intent.~~

~~13.1.3.3.3 Telephone Calls After Commitment. There shall be no limit on the number of telephone calls by the institution to a prospective student athlete (or the prospective student athlete's relatives or legal guardians) beginning the calendar day after one of the following events occurs:~~

~~(a) The prospective student athlete signs a National Letter of Intent (NLI) or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid; or~~

~~(b) The institution receives a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission.~~

~~13.1.3.3.4 Off-Campus Contact Exception. Institutional coaching staff members (see Bylaw 13.1.3.4.1) may make unlimited telephone calls to a prospective student athlete on the day a permissible, in-person, off-campus contact occurs with the prospective student athlete.~~

[13.1.3.4 through 13.1.3.7 renumbered as 13.1.3.3 through 13.1.3.6, unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 13.4, as follows:

13.4.1 Recruiting Materials. In sports other than men's basketball and men's ice hockey, an institution shall not provide recruiting materials, including general correspondence related to athletics, to an individual (or his or her parents or legal guardians) until September 1 at the beginning of his or her junior year in high school. In men's basketball and men's ice hockey, an institution shall not provide recruiting materials, including general correspondence related to athletics, to an individual (or his or her parents or legal guardians) until June 15 at the conclusion of his or her sophomore year in high school. In men's basketball, if an individual attends an educational institution that uses a nontraditional academic calendar (e.g., Southern Hemisphere) an institution shall not provide recruiting materials, including general correspondence related to athletics, to an individual (or his parents or legal guardians) until the day after the conclusion of the individual's sophomore year in high school. [D]

[13.4.1.1 unchanged.]



13.4.1.2 Electronic Transmissions. ~~Electronically transmitted correspondence that may be sent to a prospective student athlete (or the prospective student athlete's parents or legal guardians) is limited to electronic mail and facsimiles. (See Bylaw 13.1.6.2.) All other forms of electronically transmitted correspondence (e.g., Instant Messenger, text messaging) are prohibited. Color attachments may be included with electronic mail correspondence, provided the attachment only includes information that is not created for recruiting purposes, except for items that are specifically permitted as printed recruiting materials (e.g., questionnaires), a media guide and video and audio materials, as permitted in Bylaw 13.4.1.5. Attachments other than a media guide and permissible video and audio materials shall not include any animation, audio or video clips and there shall be no cost (e.g., subscription fee) associated with sending the item attached to the electronic mail correspondence. [D]~~

~~13.4.1.2.1 Exception — Men's Basketball.~~ Electronic correspondence (e.g., electronic mail, Instant Messenger, facsimiles, text messages) may be sent to a prospective student-athlete (or the prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians), provided the correspondence is sent directly to the prospective student-athlete (or his or her parents or legal guardians) and is private between only the sender and recipient (e.g., no use of chat rooms, message boards or posts to "walls"). (See Bylaws 13.1.6.2 and 13.10.2.) Color attachments may be included with electronic correspondence, provided the attachment only includes information that is not created for recruiting purposes, except for items that are specifically permitted as printed recruiting materials (e.g., questionnaires), a media guide and video and audio materials, as permitted in Bylaw 13.4.1.5. Attachments other than a media guide and permissible video and audio materials shall not include any animation, audio or video clips and there shall be no cost (e.g., subscription fee) associated with sending the item attached to the electronic correspondence. [D]

~~13.4.1.2.2 Exception -- Electronic Transmissions After Commitment. There shall be no limit on the forms of electronically transmitted correspondence sent to a prospective student athlete (or the prospective student athlete's relatives or legal guardians) beginning the calendar day after one of the following events occurs:~~

~~(a) The prospective student athlete signs a National Letter of Intent (NLI) or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid; or~~

~~(b) The institution receives a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission.~~

~~13.4.1.2.3 Exception -- Electronic Mail and Facsimiles Regarding Institutional Camp or Clinic Logistical Issues -- Sports Other Than Men's Basketball. Electronic mail and facsimiles to an individual (or his or her parents, legal guardians, relatives or coach) that relate solely to institutional camp or clinic logistical issues (e.g., missing registration information) are not subject to the restrictions on recruiting materials, provided the correspondence does not contain recruiting language and no solicitation of particular individuals to attend a camp or clinic occurs.~~

13.4.1.2.41 Exception -- Electronic Correspondence Regarding Institutional Camp or Clinic Logistical Issues — ~~Men's Basketball.~~ Electronic correspondence to an individual (or his or her parents, legal guardians, relatives or coach) that relates solely to institutional camp or clinic logistical issues (e.g., missing registration information) is not subject to the restrictions on recruiting materials, provided the correspondence does not contain recruiting language and no solicitation of particular individuals to attend a camp or clinic occurs.

[Remainder of 13.4.1 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Board of Directors (Working Group on Collegiate Model -- Rules)

Effective Date: July 1, 2013

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Recruiting



Rationale: As a result of the Presidential Retreat in August 2011, the Rules Working Group was formed and charged with reviewing current Division I rules with a view toward reducing the volume of unenforceable and inconsequential rules that fail to support the NCAA's enduring values and emphasizing the most strategically important matters. This proposal is part of a package recommended by the Rules Working Group designed to accomplish those objectives. The current regulations governing modes and restrictions on recruiting communication are cumbersome and present numerous enforcement challenges. Institutions and/or conferences, at their discretion, should be responsible for establishing policies and procedures governing the recruitment of prospective student-athletes by athletics department staff members.

Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s)

none

History

Aug 15, 2012: Submit; Submitted for consideration.

Jan 19, 2013: Board of Directors, Sponsored

Jan 19, 2013: Board Review, Adopted

Jan 20, 2013: Adopted, Override Period; Start of Override Period

Mar 20, 2013: Adopted, Override Period; End of Override Period