Interp. of Interest

Bylaw Reference: 13.1.1.1

In sports other than basketball, off-campus, in-person contact may be made with a PSA beginning July 1 following completion of their junior year even if they will repeat the junior year.

However, once the PSA begins classes as a junior for the following academic year, no further contact may occur until July 1 following the academic year or the first day of classes of their senior year, whichever is earlier.

Wichita State waits on word from NCAA for baseball apparel violations


Last November, Wichita State reported violations of NCAA rules against extra benefits for baseball players and cooperated with the NCAA in its investigation. The saga, involving discounts for Under Armour apparel, hung over the program until the day of its opening game, when the NCAA notified WSU of its punishment.

Almost a year later, WSU is waiting on another step in the resolution of the investigation, although there is cautious optimism that the worst is behind the program. After the NCAA handed out penalties to athletes in February, the university and the NCAA continued to gather information to determine if institutional penalties, such as a reduction in scholarships, were warranted.

“We fully complied with everything we have been asked to comply with,” WSU athletic director Eric Sexton said. “We identified that mistakes were made. We took action. We held ourselves accountable.”

WSU is waiting on a hearing in front of a NCAA Division I infractions committee regarding the institutional penalties. Sexton said he does not know a timetable for that hearing. Baseball coach Todd Butler declined to comment.

WSU received a notice of allegations from the NCAA, signaling the end of the investigation part of the process. Sexton said the NCAA found that no person associated with WSU intentionally violated NCAA rules and no athletes were aware that their actions violated rules.

“Unintentional violations,” Sexton said.

Last November, Butler discovered that his players received discounts, as much as 50 percent, on Under Armour apparel, through an account administered by former baseball administrative assistant Shelley Wombacher. NCAA rules allow athletes to purchase items related to their sport. Under Armour supplies WSU’s baseball uniforms and other apparel. However, athletes purchased hunting gear and other non-baseball clothing. On Feb. 14, four hours before WSU’s opening game against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, the NCAA suspended eight players from three to nine games. Eight players who purchased less than $100 worth of clothing paid back the money.

The NCAA reduced WSU’s penalty in half because it self-reported the violations, Sexton said in February. The violations occurred from 2011-14.

Sexton said WSU was already in the process of changing how it managed apparel and equipment when the baseball violations were discovered. While coaches and athletes can still order clothing and gear by sport, the merchandise is recorded and distributed through WSU’s equipment personnel in Koch Arena, instead of going directly to the teams.

“We continue to be a department committed to operating within, and above, NCAA regulations,” Sexton said.
COMPLIANT ALL-STAR LINEUP OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following who were the October “All-Star Lineup of the Month!”

Alexi Kuska       Wyatt Allen       Nicole Moore       Mike Morris

These four have gone above and beyond to ensure that they are following NCAA and Ivy rules and maintaining a complaint atmosphere for their programs. Congrats to you all and keep up the great work everybody!!

SECONDARY INFRACTION OF THE MONTH – BYLAW 17.02.1

Facts of the Case
Head and assistant wrestling coaches called a one-hour practice for all team members following the conclusion of a match. The coaches stated they intended the practice to be voluntary; however, both coaches were present to conduct the practice. The violation was discovered by the compliance director that same day during a conversation with an athletic trainer.

Institutional Action
Both coaches received a letter of admonishment and were required to attend a rules education meeting. In addition, CARA was reduced for two hours (2-for-1 penalty) the following week and an additional day off was provided.

Enforcement Action
No further action

Legislative References
17.1.7.3.2.1
CARA Prohibited After Competition

Please note, this violation did not occur at Dartmouth College. This is for educational purposes only.
Reminder for Coaches

FRESHMEN ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION:

- 45-day Temporary Certification Period
  ◆ From their first participation date, a student-athlete may practice, BUT MAY NOT COMPETE, during the time in which their certification status is pending with the NCAA Eligibility Center for a period of 45 calendar days
- Requesting Final Amateurism
  ◆ A student-athlete’s eligibility certification is not complete until they request final amateurism in the Eligibility Center webpage. Failure to do so could result in practice/competition withholdings.

TRAVEL ROSTERS:

- Please remember to submit your team’s travel roster prior to leaving for the competition
  ◆ Always check compliance roster to see who is eligible for competition
  ◆ Refer to Ivy League manual to determine limits/exceptions

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