Jim Harbaugh continues to make a mockery of the NCAA's unwritten rules (and it's so much fun)

University of Michigan football coach Jim Harbaugh has taken a look at the NCAA, at its silly unwritten rules and its hypocrisy, and he’s decided to make a mockery of the whole thing. It’s the best show in college football right now.

The latest incident came this week when Georgia coach Kirby Smart met with Bulldogs fans and questioned Harbaugh’s decision to leave Ann Arbor and host part of his spring practice at the IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida.

Here’s what Smart said, via DawgNation:

“There’s a lot of factors that people don’t think about in that deal. You’ve gotta think about recruiting rules, how are they going to handle those, is it an advantage, disadvantage? Are they gonna let other coaches come to it, are they gonna hold open practices? Do we all come in there and watch them and scout them? If they’re all open practices why don’t we go and watch them. It’s a Pandora’s Box of what it’s going to get into, obviously.”

Smart is doing the old trick of not actually outright accusing Harbaugh of cheating. He’s just asking questions.

Harbaugh, as he loves to do, fired back on Twitter.

“If the Georgia coach is implying any intent on our part to break rules, he is barking up the wrong tree.”

It’s another example of Harbaugh doing what Harbaugh does best - taking the NCAA’s unwritten rules and showing them for the sham they are. Nothing prohibits him from taking his spring practice on the road to an elite prep school in a part of the country far from Michigan. So he’s doing it, and most hilariously, he’s doing it publicly and proudly, right in the open.

This is hilarious that coaches were expected to follow unwritten rules when so many were secretly violating the rules that are written down. Harbaugh realized how hilarious this was, saw the hypocrisy, and started hosting Michigan satellite camps all over the country. When coaches freaked out, he signed on Twitter and invited them all to join him.

That’s what is so great about Harbaugh. Instead of pretending that recruiting is some genteel practice about finding “the right program for the young man,” he knows the whole thing is a cesspool process that exploits the egos of talented 18-year-olds. So he does just that. He doesn’t pretend it’s anything other than what it is. NCAA says he call a recruit at midnight? He calls at 12:01. NCAA says he can visit a recruit’s house? He has a sleepover.

He hosted a Signing Day event with celebrity guests like Tom Brady, Derek Jeter, and Brad Keselowski. He realized the entire thing was a marketing event, a dog and pony show, and if it’s going to be a dog and pony show, might as well be a great one, right?

February 25, 2016, by Nate Scott (FTW.usatoday.com)
**COMPLIANT ALL-STAR LINEUP OF THE MONTH**

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

These 4 coaches and The Notorious CEP have consistently checked in with compliance on various topics and asked before acting on activities that they wanted to do, but were unsure about their permissibility.

If you haven’t figured out already, asking before acting is a key to compliant success. Everyone else, keep up the great work!

**Violation of the Month - Participation Awards**

**Facts of the Case**

The Softball team was preparing to leave for a spring break trip and the coaching staff distributed the meal allowance (per diem) to the student-athletes for the entire week, all at once, covering all meals that won’t be provided by the coaching staff. Throughout the course of the week, it was discovered that an administrative error occurred on the part of the coach, and per diem was distributed for a dinner that was supplied by boosters. In turn, providing meal money for a meal that the student-athletes received from another source (e.g., coach or booster) resulted in the student-athletes receiving an extra benefit of the value of that meal money.

**Institutional Action**

- Student-athletes were required to pay the money they received, back.
- Rules education was required to the entire staff.

**Legislative References**

16.8 Expenses Provided by the Institution for Practice and Competition

Please note, this violation did not occur at Dartmouth College. This is for educational purposes only.
RECRUITING REMINDERS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

ALL SPORTS (including Non-NCAA sports) - IVY MORATORIUM:

March 29 (5:00pm) - April 1 (8:00am)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Contact Period</th>
<th>Dead Period</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Entire month of March</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Basketball</td>
<td>March 1-30</td>
<td>March 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Basketball</td>
<td>Entire month of March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Country/Track &amp; Field</td>
<td>March 1-10; 13-31</td>
<td>March 11-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Quiet period</td>
<td>Entire month of March</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Lacrosse</td>
<td>Contact period</td>
<td>Entire month of March</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Lacrosse</td>
<td>Contact period</td>
<td>Entire month of March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Contact period</td>
<td>Entire month of March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Contact period</td>
<td>Entire month of March</td>
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Reminders for Coaches

IVY MORATORIUM:

- **Current Applicants:**
  - Notification of official admission and the awarding of financial aid may be made ONLY by our institution’s Admission and Financial Aid Office.
  - No coach, alum, booster, faculty member, etc., may properly notify any candidate of his/her admission or financial aid, even if privy to advance notice.
  - During the moratorium, all communication/contact is prohibited during the specified time to ALL CURRENT APPLICANTS.

- **You MAY:**
  - Continue to communicate/interact with PSAs that do not currently have active applications in (e.g., Early decision admits, and underclassmen), provided all other NCAA recruiting rules are observed.
  - Respond to missed calls from applicants starting at 5pm on March 31st, assuming they called to notify you of the admission decision.

- **You may NOT:**
  - Contact any current applicant in any form (e.g., electronically or in-person).
  - Arrange any unofficial/official visits with current applicants.

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

dartmouthsports.com/compliance

For up-to-date forms and policies for all Dartmouth Athletics stakeholders

Follow us

@DartmouthRules