

# Dartmouth College Athletics Compliance

## Permission to Contact Policy & Procedures

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*\* This policy is intended to guide current Dartmouth student-athletes who are interested in, or intend on, transferring to another NCAA institution.*

### DEFINITIONS

**Business Day:** A business day is any weekday that is not recognized as a national holiday, including any weekday during which Dartmouth College is closed for other reasons (e.g., holidays).

**Communication:** For purposes of Permission to Contact rules, communication is any form of contact, either direct or indirect, such as phone calls, in-person interactions, hand-written letters, and electronic correspondence (e.g., email, text messaging, social media, etc.).

**Four-Year Prospective Student-Athlete:** Any individual, regardless of participation in athletics who attends (or has attended within the last year) a four-year institution. This individual is considered a four-year prospective student-athlete (or recruit) to all NCAA institutions other than the one they are (or were) enrolled in.

**Student-Athlete:** In regards to this policy and the applicable rules therein, a student-athlete is any individual who is, or has been, a member of a varsity sports program at Dartmouth College and is enrolled at our institution, or has withdrawn from the institution within the last academic year.

### APPLICABLE NCAA RULES

*\*Please note that the following explanations are just a synopsis of each rule. For the full language of the cited bylaws, refer to the most current NCAA Division I Manual.*

#### **13.1.1.3 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athlete**

As a student-athlete at Dartmouth College (including those who are no longer active members of a varsity team) you are prohibited from communicating (see definition above) with athletics staff members (e.g., coaches, administrators, boosters, etc.) of other NCAA institutions, directly or indirectly, without first obtaining written permission from Dartmouth Athletics, regardless of who makes the initial contact.

Permission from Dartmouth Athletics can only come from the Director of Athletics & Recreation (AD), or the AD's official designee; the Director of Compliance. Permission is provided only after either an *informal inquiry regarding the transfer process* occurs, or a *formal request* is made, as outlined in the sections below.

If permission is granted, the student-athlete and athletics staff members of other NCAA institutions may communicate with one another provided all other NCAA recruiting rules are met.

If permission is not granted, the student-athlete will continue to be precluded from communicating with the athletics staff members of other NCAA institutions and those institutions will be prohibited from encouraging the transfer of that student-athlete to their institution and shall not provide athletically related financial assistance to that individual until they have attended their institution for one academic year. Furthermore, if Dartmouth Athletics denies a student-athlete's permission to contact request, a hearing opportunity will be made available for that individual as outlined below.

#### **13.1.1.3.2 Hearing Opportunity**

Upon denial of the permission to contact request, Dartmouth Athletics will inform the student-athlete in writing that he or she, upon request, shall be provided a hearing conducted by an institutional entity or committee outside the athletics department. Dartmouth will conduct the hearing and provide written results of the hearing to the student-athlete within 15 business days of receipt of the student-athlete's written request for a hearing.

The student-athlete shall be provided the opportunity to actively participate (e.g., in person, via telephone) in the hearing. If Dartmouth fails to conduct the hearing or provide the written results to the student-athlete within 15 business days, permission to contact the student-athlete shall be granted by default and Dartmouth shall provide written permission to the student-athlete.

### INFORMAL INQUIRY REGARDING THE TRANSFER PROCESS

#### **Step 1**

It is highly encouraged that the student-athlete first seek out guidance from their sport's head coach regarding either their interest or intent to transfer. It is understood that a conversation of that nature can be uncomfortable for the student-athlete, but the head coach is very much involved in the permission to contact process and Dartmouth Athletics will always seek the opinion of the coaching staff prior to granting such permission for a student-athlete.

In the event this discussion between the student-athlete and the head coach leads to the support of the head coach, either the head coach or the student-athlete is free to reach out to the Director of Compliance and inform him or her of the student-athlete's decision to receive permission to contact, which is then created and disseminated by the Director of Compliance.

### **Step 2**

If the student-athlete is uncomfortable making direct contact with the head coach first, he or she is more than welcome to reach out to the Director of Compliance in an effort to learn more about the permission to contact and transfer process, prior to meeting with the head coach.

If this is the student-athlete's preferred route, it should be understood that eventually, if not immediately after the meeting with the Director of Compliance, the head coach will be consulted on the matter.

## **FORMAL PERMISSION TO CONTACT REQUEST**

### **Step 3**

The student-athlete must send a written request (which may suffice via email) to the Director of Compliance stating their desire to receive permission to contact from Dartmouth Athletics in order to be able to speak with other NCAA institutions for purposes of transfer recruitment. Although it is encouraged that the student-athlete states specific institutions to whom permission would be granted for, it is not required.

Please note, that upon receiving the written request, the Director of Compliance will contact the student-athlete's head coach to determine if there are any objections from the coaching staff, hence why it is highly encouraged that the student-athlete has spoken with their head coach prior to submitting the formal request.

### **Step 4**

Upon receiving the written request from the student-athlete to permit other institutions to communicate with them, Dartmouth Athletics shall grant or deny the request within seven business days (see definition above) of receipt of the request. If Dartmouth Athletics fails to respond to the student-athlete's written request within seven business days, permission shall be granted by default and the Director of Compliance shall provide written permission to the student-athlete.

If permission is granted after receiving the formal request, the student-athlete and athletics staff members of the specified NCAA institutions outlined in the request may communicate with one another provided all other NCAA recruiting rules are met.

If permission is not granted after receiving the formal request, the student-athlete will continue to be precluded from communicating with the athletics staff members of other NCAA institutions and those institutions will be prohibited from encouraging the transfer of that student-athlete to their institution and shall not provide athletically related financial assistance to that individual until they have attended their institution for one academic year. Furthermore, if Dartmouth Athletics denies a student-athlete's permission to contact request, a hearing opportunity will be made available for that individual as outlined above.

## **EXPECTATIONS PRIOR TO, DURING AND AFTER PERMISSION TO CONTACT**

### **Apparel & Equipment**

If the permission to contact request leads to the removal of the student-athlete from a team, it is required that the individual returns all issued apparel and equipment prior to their departure as dictated by the coaching staff and the equipment room. The apparel and equipment issued to every student-athlete remains the property of Dartmouth College until awarded otherwise.

### **Team Participation and Services**

If the permission to contact request does not lead to the removal of the student-athlete from the team, it is expected that the individual will continue to excel in the classroom and time spent with the team will not be compromised as a result of their recruitment by other NCAA institutions. In the instance that the student-athlete remains on the team during their transfer recruitment, the individual may continue to receive all services available to the currently active student-athlete population.

If the permission to contact request leads to the removal of the student-athlete from the team, that individual will be restricted to services available to the general student body, as opposed to those received by currently active student-athletes. Services available only to currently active student-athletes include, but are not limited to; access to varsity athletic facilities, strength & conditioning coaching, integrative health and nutrition services, athletic career connections, and leadership/team-building activities. Exceptions to the forfeiture of student-athlete-specific services as a result of team removal may be granted on a case by case basis and decided upon by the Director of Athletics & Recreation. Please note, however, that access to the sports medicine staff is available to the general student body per Dartmouth College Health Service policies and procedures. Furthermore, if the individual's removal from a varsity team occurred as a result of their intent to transfer during an academic term, Dartmouth Athletics will continue to provide athletic academic resources for the remainder of that quarter in which separation occurred, provided it is at the request of the student-athlete and dependent on the availability by that department's staff members.