

RALPHIE'S HOT TOPIC



October 2011

Unofficial Visits

PROTECT
YOUR  TEAM

Unofficial Visits

- ⊙ Unofficial visits have been a very hot topic around the NCAA recently.
- ⊙ The main issue is PSAs being provided unofficial visits by individuals other than their parents or legal guardians – often these visits are being indirectly orchestrated by the institution.
- ⊙ Currently, we do not feel as though this is an issue at CU, but want to be sure everyone knows the NCAA is very aware of these issues.

Unofficial Visits

- ⊙ An unofficial visit is a visit to an institution wholly funded by the prospect and/or their parents/legal guardians.
- ⊙ One item that CU may provide during an unofficial visit is three complimentary admissions to a regular-season, home event.
- ⊙ CU may also provide transportation to view an off-campus athletics facility in the PSAs sport (i.e. Colorado National Golf Club).

Unofficial Visits

- ⊙ It seems as though some institutions may be trying to establish a 'loophole' to unofficial visit legislation by finding an outside source/individual to fund a prospect's visit.
- ⊙ These institutions seem to believe having a source/individual outside of the institution (and yet, not a booster) paying for the trip averts the legislation.
- ⊙ However, if an institution is involved in the facilitation of the trip being paid for, that source/individual, then becomes a booster and it IS a NCAA violation.

Unofficial Visits

- ⊙ So, in light of the higher scrutiny of unofficial visits, we have updated the unofficial visit forms to be completed for each prospect's visit.
- ⊙ We now ask who is paying for the trip (transportation, lodging, etc.) and their relationship to the prospect.
- ⊙ This will help to protect our programs should questions arise regarding a prospects unofficial visit to campus.

References

- ▣ Bylaw:13.7 - UNOFFICIAL (NONPAID) VISIT
- ▣ **Bylaw:13.7.2.1 - General Restrictions.** During an unofficial visit, the institution may not pay any expenses or provide any entertainment except a maximum of three complimentary admissions (issued only through a pass list) to a home athletics event at any facility within a 30-mile radius of a member institution's main campus in which the institution's intercollegiate team practices or competes.
- ▣ Bylaw13.5.3 - Transportation on Unofficial Visit. During any unofficial recruiting visit, the institution may provide the prospective student-athlete with transportation to view practice and competition sites in the prospective student-athlete's sport and other institutional facilities and to attend a home athletics contest at any local facility. An institutional staff member must accompany the prospective student-athlete during such a trip. Payment of any other transportation expenses, shall be considered a violation.

References

- ▣ **Bylaw:6.4.2 - Representatives of Athletics Interests.** An institution's "responsibility" for the conduct of its intercollegiate athletics program shall include responsibility for the acts of individuals, a corporate entity (e.g., apparel or equipment manufacturer) or other organization when a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration or an athletics department staff member has knowledge or should have knowledge that such an individual, corporate entity or other organization: *(Revised: 2/16/00)*
- ▣ (a) Has participated in or is a member of an agency or organization as described in Constitution 6.4.1;
- ▣ (b) Has made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
- ▣ (c) Has been requested by the athletics department staff to assist in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes or is assisting in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
- ▣ (d) Has assisted or is assisting in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes; or
- ▣ (e) Is otherwise involved in promoting the institution's athletics program.