

NCAA Rule of the Month

February 2013

NLI SIGNEES

With the completion of signing day this past week, many of our incoming prospects in all sports have made their official commitment to their future as a CU Buffalo. Many recruiting restrictions are lifted once a prospect has signed a NLI, but don't forget—they are still considered prospects! Below are a few of the restrictions that change with the signing of a NLI.

- ✓ Coaches can now have unlimited off-campus contact with their signees. However, dead periods still do apply.
- ✓ All athletic department staff members can place unlimited telephone calls to NLI signees.
- ✓ Strength and conditioning staff members can send pre-enrollment information to NLI signees. This could include, but is not limited to, workouts or nutrition plans.
- ✓ Academics can send specific Herbst Academic Center information to NLI signees.
- ✓ On the day following the signing of a NLI, all CU staff members may send text messages to the NLI signee.

It is not until a NLI signee officially starts classes during the regular academic year, or starts preseason practice before CU can officially treat them as student-athletes. However, if a signee enrolls in summer school, CU can now treat them as student-athletes for all recruiting rules and the benefit rules, such as providing academic support.

Also, CU boosters need to remain mindful of the status of our NLI signees. Donors and boosters should not be having any contact with signees until they become a student-athlete. They should still not provide any gifts or congratulatory items to our signees, just like they should not provide any benefits to student-athletes.

If you have any questions regarding NLI Signees, please feel free to contact compliance.