

NCAA Rule of the Month

September 2012
Staff Members

Other than head and assistant coaches, many teams have additional personnel to help their programs succeed. From undergraduate student-assistant coaches and volunteer coaches to operation staff members, each additional person is an integral part of the staff, but must abide by NCAA rules specific to their position. While all involved in the success of teams are not listed here, those listed below have particular rules regarding their role with teams.

Undergraduate Student-Assistant Coaches: If a student-athlete has exhausted their eligibility or become injured to the point that they can no longer compete, they can be an undergraduate student-assistant coach. This student would need to have time remaining on their 5 year clock and also be enrolled full-time to be able to serve in this position. An undergraduate student-assistant coach can participate in coaching activities with the current team, but should not participate in off-campus recruiting of prospects.

Volunteer Coaches: Sports other than football and men's and women's basketball can employ volunteer coaches. Volunteer coaches cannot be paid in any way by CU athletics, but they can receive compensation for working at CU camps or clinics. Volunteer coaches can obviously participate in coaching activities, but cannot be involved in the off-campus recruiting of prospects. Volunteer coaches can be involved in the on-campus recruitment of prospects, but cannot place telephone calls to prospects.

Graduate Assistant Coaches: Graduate assistant coaches are only allowed in the sport of football at CU. GAs must be fully admitted and enrolled part-time in a graduate degree program at CU. They can participate in coaching student-athletes and on-campus recruiting of prospects. A GA can serve in that position for 2 years, with the potential to be a GA for a 3rd year, if they have progressed in their graduate degree. A football program can employ a maximum of 4 GAs and they can call prospects if they have passed the NCAA Recruiting Exam.

Operation Staff Members: Operations staff members cannot participate in coaching or off-campus recruiting activities. They can be involved in the on-campus recruiting of prospects and meetings with the coaching staff regarding competition, but must refrain from interacting with student-athletes in a coaching manner. Operation staff members can email prospects of permissible age, but cannot place phone calls until they sign a NLI.

Managers: Managers must be full-time undergraduate or graduate students and must also serve in the traditional role of a manager in dealing with equipment, laundry or hydration. While a manager cannot instruct student-athletes or participate in CARA, they can participate in limited on-court/field activities with student-athletes, such as rebounding, warm-up activities or shagging balls.

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