

NCAA Rule of the Month

October 2009

Evaluations 101

An "evaluation" is any off-campus occurrence designed to assess the academic and/or athletics talent of a prospective student-athlete, including:

- Any visit to a prospect's educational institution (during which no contact occurs) or;
- The observation of a prospect actually participating in any practice or competition at ANY site.

Please note, in FOOTBALL, any evaluation that takes place during a *contact* period does NOT count as an evaluation, but rather a CONTACT!

Evaluations are sport-specific. Any number of evaluations made on the same day count as only ONE evaluation. Evaluations do not count during the summer time—only during the academic year.

EVALUATIONS OF TOURNAMENTS

Tournaments are a little different. A tournament can count as one evaluation if:

- The coach evaluates multiple contests
- Those multiple contests are for the same tournament, &
- The event occurs on consecutive days (typically at the same site)

It can also count as one evaluation if:

- The coach evaluates multiple contests in a single tier of the same tournament (e.g. basketball regional)
 - If the tier is separated into segments (e.g., different weekends) it still only counts as one evaluation

If the event is at a multiple day event (e.g. jamboree, showcase, etc.) then each day counts as an evaluation, unless it is in the form of a tournament and a winner is crowned.

EXAMPLE: In basketball, if a coach is evaluating the CHSAA State Basketball Championships, all contests evaluated for the opening round of the tournament would count as one evaluation. The contests take place at various locations around the state, on various different dates. When the next round commences, all evaluations conducted during the second round would also count as one evaluation. The entire CHSAA State Basketball Championships does NOT count as one evaluation because the tournament is not conducted on consecutive days.

In team sports, a coach uses an evaluation for each PSA participating in the practice/contest. In individual sports, the coach only uses an evaluation for those PSA's he/she is observing.

Any coaching staff member who observes an individual who is not of prospect age (ninth grade for all sports, except MBB which is seventh grade) can do so if the individual is observed during a permissible contact or evaluation period.

Sources: NCAA Bylaws 13.02.6, 13.1.8.7, 13.1.8.10, 13.1.8.13, 13.1.8.14, 13.1.8.15, 13.1.8.17, 13.1.8.19