

NCAA Rule of the Month

February 2010

Post-National Letter of Intent issues

While CU's newest recruits are signed and have formally pledged to be Buffs, they are still considered prospective student-athletes. They retain that status until one of the following happens:

- The recruit officially registers and enrolls as a full-time student at CU. To satisfy this requirement, the student needs to begin school...not simply sign-up for classes
- The recruit participates in a regular practice or competition that occurs before the beginning of any term. For example, when football, soccer, volleyball, or cross country begins their season prior to the start of school, their incoming student-athletes become full-fledged Buffs at the point they start "training camp" rather than when school starts.
- The recruit officially registers and enrolls and attends classes during the summer prior to enrolling full-time at CU

What DOES change when someone signs a National Letter of Intent? First and foremost, it takes a PSA "off the market" since the National Letter of Intent prohibits the further recruitment of someone who has signed the document.

Contacts and Evaluations

There are no limits to the number of phone calls CU can make to its signees after he/she signs an NLI with the Buffs. These unlimited calls can start the **calendar day after he/she signs the NLI with us.** Up until that point, phone calls must follow normal rules. This includes ALL CU STAFF...not just coaches. Herbst Academic Center, Sports Medicine, Sports Information, etc. can all call a PSA once he/she signs with CU with no restriction.

Electronic correspondence (e.g. texting, Facebook) can be sent to signed PSAs on the calendar day after signing with CU.

In sports besides FB, MBB, in-person contacts can occur without limit. The following restrictions are still in place, however:

- No in-person, on- or off-campus contact may be made during a "dead period;"
- No on- or off-campus contact (including correspondence and telephone calls) may be made by a representative of the institution's athletics interests
- Contact at the site of a prospective student-athlete's competition must meet the same guidelines as any regular permissible contact

In Men's Basketball, contacts are restricted to only CONTACT PERIODS and cannot exceed one per week. Also, communication with NLI signee's is prohibited during the time they are participating in certified summer basketball events.

In Football, contacts can occur without limit. However, the "unlimited contact rule" is trumped by the "two evaluations per school" rule during the Spring Evaluation period. This is done to prevent abuse of the rule and upholding the ability to only visit a signee at the school during the permissible times to evaluate other PSA's.

Please do remember, however, that going to see a CU NLI signee still counts as recruiting activity. For sports that utilize recruiting person days, you must count a recruiting person day every time you go see a signee. You are still subject to recruiting calendars, so you are unable to contact a signee in person during an evaluation, or host the signee on CU's campus during a dead period, etc.

Bylaws we are referencing: 13.02.11, 13.1.3.4.1.2, 13.1.3.4.1.1, 13.1.6.8, 13.1.6.8.1, 13.1.6.8.2