

Compliance Guidelines for Fans

The University of Nebraska Athletic Department takes great pride in abiding by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the Big 12 Conference rules and guidelines that govern Division I competition. For the benefit of the many alumni, fans and booster club members who are so active in supporting and assisting the Huskers throughout the year, we would like to remind everyone of a few definitions and rules that apply to all athletic representatives and boosters.

NCAA PRINCIPLES

Institutional Control

It is the responsibility of the University of Nebraska to control its intercollegiate athletic program in compliance with the rules and regulations of the NCAA.

Responsibility

The University of Nebraska's responsibility for the conduct of its program includes responsibility for the actions of its staff members and for the actions of any other individual, booster or organization engaged in activities promoting the athletic interests of the institution.

Compliance

The University of Nebraska must monitor its program to assure compliance and to identify and report to the NCAA instances in which compliance has not been achieved. An institution found to have violated NCAA rules is subject to disciplinary and corrective actions as determined by the NCAA.

QUESTION AND ANSWERS FOR FANS, BOOSTERS, ALUMNI AND REPRESENTATIVES OF ATHLETICS INTERESTS

DEFINITIONS

Q: What is a booster?

A: You are a booster if you belong to a University of Nebraska athletic booster club; have promoted or made financial donations to the athletic department or to a specific Husker team; assists in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes; and/or employ, give benefits to or provide services for a student-athlete, a prospective student-athlete or the relative/friends of either. Once an individual is identified as an athletic representative, that person retains that identity indefinitely.

Q: What is a Prospective Student-Athlete?

A: A prospective student-athlete is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade or above, including students in prep schools and junior colleges as well as students who have officially withdrawn from a four-year institution and plan to transfer to another institution. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if the institution or a Nebraska booster provides the individual or the individual's relatives or friends with any financial assistance or benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students in general. A good rule of thumb is to treat ALL STUDENTS as prospects.

Q: What is a Student-Athlete?

A: A student-athlete is a student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the Nebraska athletic staff or other representative of athletic interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletic program.

Q: What is a contact?

A: Contact is ANY face-to-face encounter between a prospect, or the prospect's parent or legal guardian, and a Nebraska staff member or athletic representative during which any dialogue occurs.

Q: What is recruiting?

A: Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospect or a prospect's family member (or guardian) by an institutional staff member or by athletic representative of the institution, for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment and ultimate participation in Nebraska's intercollegiate athletic program.

GUIDELINES

Q: What constitutes impermissible contact by a booster?

A: Phone calls to prospects (9-12th grade) and their relatives placed for recruiting purposes (questions about the athletic program at UNL must be directed to the coach); writing, paging, text messages or instant messages to a prospect to encourage UNL attendance; contact with a prospect at a high school or club contest; contact with a prospect or his/her coach, principal, or counselor to evaluate the prospect; visiting the prospect's educational institution to pick up videotape or transcripts for evaluation purposes; contacting a prospect to congratulate him/her for signing a National Letter of Intent to attend UNL; giving anything of value to a prospect to induce him/her to attend UNL; contact of any kind while the prospect is on the UNL campus for an official or unofficial visit.

Q: Can I give anything to a prospective student-athlete?

A: A booster cannot expend funds to entertain or provide transportation for a prospective student-athlete, the prospect's family members or friends; and/or become directly or indirectly involved in making arrangements for a prospect, or the prospect's relative or friends to receive money or financial aid of any kind.

Q: As a Husker booster, how can I stay involved?

A: There are several ways a booster may stay involved. You may discuss summer employment opportunities with a prospect after he/she has signed a National Letter of Intent with the University of Nebraska; attend high school athletic events WITHOUT contacting prospective student-athletes; continue existing friendships with families and friends of prospective student-athletes; and/or send recommendation letters, newspaper clippings or similar information about prospective student-athletes to Husker coaches.

Q: What are non-permissible extra benefits?

A: An extra benefit is any special arrangement by a Nebraska employee or an athletic representative to provide a student-athlete or the student-athlete's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Only benefits that are authorized by NCAA legislation can be provided to and accepted by a student-athlete. It is not permissible for a student-athlete to receive a benefit that is the result of a "special" arrangement by an institutional employee, booster, employer or fan.

Non-permissible benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Free or reduced-fee housing/rent, including use of vacation/seasonal homes;
- Free or reduced-fee meals;
- Loans or cash advances in pay or salary;
- Tuition costs or school supply expenses;
- Gifts or presents of any type regardless of the occasion or purpose;
- Use of telephone or telephone cards for long distance and use of cell phones;
- Free use of any motor vehicle, boat or recreational vehicle;
- Free use of services i.e., automobile repair, hair care, laundry, copying, faxing, etc.; and
- Free or reduced-fee memberships at golf courses, health clubs, etc.

Q: As a booster, how may I help student-athletes?

A: Boosters can help current student-athletes in several ways. Feel free to invite a student-athlete to participate in non-profit, charitable or educational events; invite a student-athlete into your home for an occasional meal; and make sure to pay a student-athlete the commensurate rate for actual and legitimate employment. If you choose to assist in any of the ways described above, you must contact the compliance office to receive PRIOR approval.

For further information regarding NCAA Guidelines for Athletic Representatives, please contact the athletic compliance office at (402) 472-2042 or 1-(800) 927-7220. Inquiries may also be mailed to: Athletic Compliance Office, One Memorial Stadium, P.O. Box 880219, Lincoln, NE, 68588-0219. Questions can also be faxed to (402) 472-4609 or e-mailed to compliance@huskers.com.

THE DEVANEY SOCIETY

Achieving greatness in both the classroom and on the playing field has long been a goal of the University of Nebraska. Our nation-leading 259 academic All-Americans and 23 team national titles reflect the manner in which we strive to achieve to the highest level.

Rising costs have made funding these athletic scholarships increasingly difficult. To help offset the expenses, the University of Nebraska established an athletic scholarship endowment fund to honor Hall of Fame Football Coach Bob Devaney.

Follow in the footsteps of Coach Devaney and commit to the long-term success of Nebraska Athletics. We are sincerely grateful to those who committed to our future stability and established a Devaney Society Scholarship for male and female student-athletes.

The following scholarships have been established through the Devaney Society: Bill and Betty Cook Jr. Scholarship (football), Given by Bill and Betty Cook, Beatrice, Neb.; Harley and Marcia Bergmeyer Scholarship (football), Given by Harley and Marcia Bergmeyer, DeWitt, Neb.; Russell and Elouise Brehm Scholarship (football), Given by Russell and Elouise Brehm, Lincoln, Neb.; Donald Swanson Scholarship (football), Given by Donald Swanson, Lincoln, Neb.; Brook Berringer Memorial Scholarship (football), given by friends and family of Brook Berringer; Jake Young Memorial Scholarship (football), given by friends and family of Jake Young; Dennis and Connie Dailey Scholarship (football), Given by Dennis and Connie Dailey, North Platte, Neb.; Robert and Dorothy Metcalf Scholarship (football), Given by Robert and Dorothy Metcalf, Lincoln, Neb.; Lance and Betsy deStwolinski Scholarship (football), Given by Lance and Betsy deStwolinski, Omaha, Neb.; Richard and Peggy Herman Scholarship (football), Given by Richard and Peggy Herman, Omaha, Neb.; Jon J. and Marianne R. Rhine Scholarship (football), Given by Jon J. and Marianne R. Rhine, Freeland, Wash.; Jon J. and Lyle F. Rhine Scholarship (football), Given by Jon J. and Lyle F. Rhine, Freeland, Wash.; William A. Henry Scholarship (football), Given by William F. Henry and Lynne Henry Coyne, Omaha, Neb.; Dave Noble Scholarship (football), Given by Bob and Joanne Berkshire, Omaha, Neb.; David L. Stannard Scholarship (football), Given by anonymous; George Sullivan Endowed Scholarship (football), Given by the Touchdown Club, former student-athletes and friends; Richard Raimondi Memorial Scholarship (softball), Given by the Raimondi Family, Fremont, Calif.; Julie Geis Memorial Scholarship (softball), Given by the Geis Family and Friends, Beaver Crossing, Neb.; Louis and Charlotte Orloff Fund (tennis), given by Charlotte Orloff, Lincoln, Neb.; Janice and Rodney Beck Scholarship (football), Given by Janice Beck and The Beck Family, Omaha, Neb.; Beatrice Dierks Rohman Scholarship (women's golf), Given by Stephen Rohman, Lincoln, Neb.; Milton C. Ebers Family Scholarship (All Sports), Given by The Ebers Family, Omaha/Fremont, Neb.