



# SUN DEVIL COMPLIANCE

VOLUME 13 - ISSUE 8 - APRIL 2024



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## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

### Voluntary Athletics Activities

Allowed during the summer vacation period (which begins May 5, 2024) as long as the activities meet the definition of "voluntary" listed below.

### "Voluntary" Defined

An activity can be voluntary (not countable) only if all of the following are true:

- Student-athletes request the activity;
- Coaches and noncoaching staff do not observe, supervise, or direct the activity;
- Information related to the activity is not reported to coaches;
- Attendance at the activity is not recorded; and
- There is no penalty for missing and no recognition/incentive for participating in the activity.

### Summer Strength/Conditioning Exception

Strength coaches (not countable coaches) may design and conduct workout programs for student-athletes, but only if those workouts are voluntary (dictionary definition) and no countable coaches or noncoaching staff members are present.

### Safety Exception

Coaches may be present and provide safety instruction when student-athletes practice, but the coaches may not provide non-safety-related instruction. Safety-exception sports include wrestling, gymnastics, swimming and diving, water polo, and certain disciplines in track and field and triathlon.

### Individual Sports Exception

If student-athletes in an individual sport request assistance, coaches may be present and provide skill instruction. SDA individual sports are cross country/track and field, gymnastics, golf, swimming and diving, tennis, triathlon, and wrestling.

### Incoming Student-Athletes

Before participating in any summer activities, incoming student-athletes must (1) be enrolled in and attend summer classes, (2) receive medical clearance, and (3) receive Compliance Office approval.

## 2023 - 24 COMPLIANCE STAFF

|                                      |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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# STUDENT-ATHLETE AWARDS

NCAA rules limit the type, value, and frequency in which student-athletes receive awards. SDA coaches and staff are responsible for tracking student-athlete awards to ensure that the annual limitations are not exceeded. The award categories and their permissible values are listed below. Please see Madison in the Compliance Office with any questions. To view the full PDFs from the NCAA manual, click the titles below.

## PARTICIPATION AWARDS

| Type of Award   | Maximum Value of Award                             | Number of Times Award May Be Received  | Permissible Awarding Agencies  | Maximum Number of Permissible Awarding Agencies |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Annual Participation — Underclassmen  | \$225  | Up to maximum value per year per sport | Institution  | 1   |
| Annual Participation — Senior   | \$425  | Up to maximum value per year per sport | Institution  | 1   |
| <b>Special Event Participation</b>  |  |  |  |   |
| • Participation in postseason conference championship contest or tournament                 | \$375*   | Once per event                         | • Institution<br>• Management of event (may include conference office) | 2   |
| • Participation in postseason NCAA championship contest or tournament                       | Institution — \$375<br>NCAA — No limit             | Once per event                         | • Institution<br>• NCAA  | 2   |
| • Participation in all-star game or postseason bowl   | \$400 (Institution)<br>\$550 (Management of event) | Once per event                         | • Institution<br>• Management of event                                 | 2   |
| • Participation in other established meets, tournaments and featured individual competition | \$400*   | Once per event                         | • Institution<br>• Management of event                                 | 2   |

\*The combined value of all awards received for participation in this type of event from the institution and the management of the event may not exceed the published value.

## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

| Type of Award   | Maximum Value of Award                   | Number of Times Award May Be Received    | Permissible Awarding Agencies   | Maximum Number of Permissible Awarding Agencies |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| Special attainments or contribution to team's season (e.g., scholar-athlete, most improved player, most minutes played, most valuable player) | \$175                                    | Once per category of award per year      | Institution   | 1   |
| Most valuable player -- special event*  | \$325**                                  | Once per event                           | • Institution<br>• Conference<br>• Organization approved by institution or conference | Unlimited                                       |
| Most valuable player -- bowl game or all-star contest   | \$350                                    | Once per event                           | Sponsoring entity of all-star contest or certified postseason bowl                    | 1   |
| Established regional/national recognition awards (e.g., Wade Trophy, Heisman Trophy)  | \$325                                    | Once per year per award                  | Management of award program   | 1   |
| Trophy recognizing established national award   | Unlimited                                | Once per year                            | Management of award program   | 1   |
| Trophy recognizing conference "athlete of the year"   | \$1,500                                  | Once per year to one male and one female | Conference  | 1   |
| Trophy recognizing conference "scholar-athlete of the year"   | \$1,500                                  | Once per year to one male and one female | Conference  | 1   |
| Specialized performance in single contest or during limited time period (e.g., player of the game, player of the week)                        | \$80 (certificate, medal or plaque only) | Unlimited                                | • Conference<br>• Outside organization (e.g., local business)                         | Unlimited                                       |
| Hometown award  | \$80                                     | Unlimited                                | Group (other than institution's booster club) located in student-athlete's hometown   | Unlimited                                       |

\*The award recipient must be selected by a recognized organization approved by a member institution or conference.

\*\*Each permissible awarding agency is subject to separate \$325 limit per award. Each awarding agency may provide only a single award for each event to each student-athlete.

## CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

| Type of Award  | Maximum Value of Award | Number of Times Award May Be Received | Permissible Awarding Agencies     | Maximum Number of Permissible Awarding Agencies |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| National Championship conducted by NCAA                    | \$415*                 | Once per championship                 | • Institution**<br>• Conference** | 2   |
| National Championship not conducted by NCAA***             | \$415*                 | Once per championship                 | • Institution**<br>• Conference** | 2   |
| Conference Championship — regular season                   | \$325#                 | Once per championship                 | • Institution**<br>• Conference** | 2   |
| Conference Championship — postseason contest or tournament | \$325#                 | Once per championship                 | • Institution**<br>• Conference** | 2   |

\* Each permissible awarding agency is subject to a separate \$415/\$325 limit per award.

\*\* Award may be provided by another organization recognized by the institution or conference to act in its place.

\*\*\* Applies only to sports or classification divisions in which the NCAA does not conduct championships. Teams must be designated as a "national champion" by a national wire-service poll or the national coaches association in that sport.

# The combined value of both awards shall not exceed \$325 if same institution wins conference regular-season and postseason championships.

## SPOT THE VIOLATION

After the last game of the season, the head softball coach provided each student-athlete with a Fitbit that tracked steps and activity. The Fitbits were linked to a team account which allowed the coaches to view each student-athlete's progress. The coaches checked in periodically on the student-athletes' activities over the summer. Before the team left for summer vacation, the coaches gave the team a schedule with dates and times the softball facility would be open for voluntary workouts over the summer. One day over the summer, a student-athlete asked the coach to throw batting practice to her during a voluntary workout. The coach was free that day, so the coach met the student-athlete at the field and threw batting practice to the student-athlete.



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## IN THE NEWS

### Houston – Academic Misconduct and CARA issues

The University of Houston was penalized by the Committee on Infractions for violations involving academic misconduct with two football student-athletes and CARA limitations violations in the women's volleyball program. A tutor was found to have committed institutional academic misconduct by writing four papers for two football student-athletes. Houston became aware of the potential violations when a graduate student reported that the tutor told him he had written a student-athlete's paper in exchange for money.

Additionally, during the enforcement staff's investigation of academic misconduct, the institution discovered and reported potential CARA violations involving the head women's volleyball coach. The head coach violated CARA limitations by requiring student-athletes to participate in summer camps and "pre-practice" activities over the course of two years. The student-athletes' required participation in what should have been voluntary activities resulted in exceeding the in-season hourly limits by 39 hours.

Penalties included a vacation of wins by the football team for contests in which the ineligible student-athletes competed, an 8-year show cause order for the tutor, and a 2-year show cause for the former volleyball head coach.

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. The general rule is that academic misconduct violations involving institutional staff members (including student tutors) are Level I or II infraction cases.
2. Requiring student-athletes to work camps/clinics is considered CARA and must be included in the student-athletes' daily and weekly hours limitations. In addition, student-athletes cannot be required to work camps/clinics during institutional vacation periods while the sport is out of season (e.g., summer).
3. Pre-practice activities like warm-ups and individual workouts are countable activities when observed by staff members.

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## NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFER PROCESS

A student-athlete who wants to contact other schools regarding transferring must submit a notification of intent to transfer to the Compliance Office. To request to go into the portal, student-athletes must complete the ARMS "Notification of Transfer" workflow within the sport-specific transfer portal windows. General transfer information and sport-specific transfer portal window information is available [here](#).

Once the ARMS workflow is completed, the Compliance Office has two business days to put the student-athlete into the transfer portal.

The student-athlete does not have to notify the coaching staff before requesting to go into the transfer portal.

To be immediately eligible at the new institution, a student-athlete must leave ASU academically eligible.

## AND THE ANSWER IS . . .

The softball coach violated vacation-period CARA legislation. The first violation occurred when the coach viewed student-athletes' Fitbit data from the vacation period. Although wearable devices may be provided for the student-athletes' own benefit or to be used during countable activities, any activities tracked by the device that are viewed by coaches or staff are countable and cannot occur during a vacation period when a sport is out of season. The second violation occurred when the coach threw batting practice to the student-athlete. A coach in a team sport may not be present during a student-athlete's voluntary workout, even if the coach's assistance is requested by the student-athlete. (Note, there are exceptions for individual and safety-exception sports. See page 1.) So when the coach observed and participated in the softball student-athlete's workout, it became countable and therefore impermissible during an out-of-season vacation period.

# RECRUITING CALENDARS

For information about permissible dates for various recruiting activities, check out our Recruiting 101 tip sheet, available [here](#). And please see sport recruiting calendars listed below.

## APRIL 2024

### CALENDAR KEY

 EVALUATION PERIOD
  CONTACT PERIOD (Recruiting Period in MBB)
  QUIET PERIOD
  DEAD PERIOD

#### FOOTBALL

|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

|     | 1  | 2   | 3  | 4  | 5   | 6   |
|-----|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 7   | 8  | 9   | 10 | 11 | 12  | 13  |
| 14  | 15 | 16  | 17 | 18 | 19  | 20  |
| 21  | 22 | 23* | 24 | 25 | 26* | 27* |
| 28* | 29 | 30  |    |    |     |     |

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

|      | 1* | 2* | 3* | 4  | 5    | 6    |
|------|----|----|----|----|------|------|
| 7    | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12   | 13   |
| 14   | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19** | 20** |
| 21** | 22 | 2* | 24 | 25 | 26   | 27   |
| 28   | 29 | 30 |    |    |      |      |

\* Contact period for high school seniors; evaluation period (scholastic activities only) for all other prospects.  
\*\* Evaluations at NCAA-certified nonscholastic events only.

#### SOFTBALL

|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

Softball evaluations at scholastic practices and competitions only.

#### WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

|     | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4  | 5  | 6  |
|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|
| 7   | 8  | 9  | 10  | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14  | 15 | 16 | 17* | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21* | 22 | 23 | 24  | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28  | 29 | 30 |     |    |    |    |

\* Dead period begins and ends at noon.

#### MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

|     | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4  | 5  | 6  |
|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|
| 7   | 8  | 9  | 10* | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14* | 15 | 16 | 17  | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21  | 22 | 23 | 24  | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28  | 29 | 30 |     |    |    |    |

\* Dead period begins and ends at noon.

#### ALL OTHER SPORTS

|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

Please note this table has dates that run until April 30. Many of the periods run past April 30.

Visit the [NCAA Recruiting Calendars website](#) for full recruiting calendars and NCAA sport-specific recruiting guides.

# ASK FIRST!