This first installment of the Sun Devil Compliance Update relates to NCAA booster legislation. In accordance with the NCAA membership’s underlying concepts of amateurism and student-athlete welfare, that legislation outlines the activities that you, as a booster, can engage in with or direct toward Arizona State prospects and/or student-athletes. It also includes information regarding the limitations that the NCAA membership has placed on the booster/student-athlete relationship that will assist you in ensuring that our prospects, student-athletes and the department as a whole are not put at risk.

**NCAA Booster Legislation**

**Who is a Booster?**

The NCAA definition for booster (referred to as a “representative of the institution’s athletics interests) includes any individual or entity who:

- Made any type of contribution to Arizona State or its athletic program;
- Joined a Sun Devil donor or booster club or any sport specific support group;
- Provided benefits (e.g., summer jobs) to prospective or enrolled student-athletes or their families;
- Assisted, in any manner, in the recruitment of prospects;
- Participated as a varsity athlete at the Arizona State University;
- Is the parent or legal guardian of an enrolled student-athlete; or
- Promoted the athletics program in any way.

As you can see, the definition is very broad and includes anyone, such as yourself, who has joined the Sun Devil Club or made a financial contribution to the Arizona State athletics program. As someone who has become an ASU booster, under NCAA rules, you remain one indefinitely.

**What can I do?**

Now you may be asking yourself, “what are the things that I am permitted to do as a booster?” That question depends on whether a student is a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete. A student becomes an Arizona State prospect when he/she begins the ninth grade. That prospect then becomes a student-athlete when he/she enrolls at Arizona State and attends classes or practices with an Arizona State team. Until one of these things occurs, an individual remains a prospect and is subject to the more restrictive rules (explained below) that relate to booster activities with prospects. The following lists provide examples of activities that are permitted (along with any accompanying requirements) under NCAA legislation.

**As a Booster, What am I Allowed to Do with or for ASU Student-Athletes or Prospects?**

**Student-athletes:** What you CAN do:

- Speak with student-athletes at games, events, banquets, etc.
  - To determine the best way to communicate, ask the student-athlete or coach – generally email is the preferred method.
- Host an occasional home meal for a student-athlete or an entire team:
  - At your home or on the ASU campus (and can be catered).
  - **Please be sure to obtain prior approval by the compliance staff and head coach** – this allows the staff to monitor and track all requests for each sport to ensure there are no issues.
AS A BOOSTER, WHAT AM I ALLOWED TO DO WITH OR FOR ASU STUDENT-ATHLETES OR PROSPECTS?

Student-athletes: What you CAN do (continued):

- Send a birthday, graduation or holiday greeting.
  - So long as you do not include any money, gift cards, or presents.
- Take a student-athlete to a movie, play, sporting event or other form of entertainment.
  - The student-athlete must, however, pay his/her own expenses, including the cost of admission, tickets, etc.
- Employ a student-athlete, so long as you:
  - Ensure the student-athlete has registered the job with the compliance staff,
  - Pay only for work actually and already performed,
  - Pay at the going rate in your locality for similar services, and
  - Do not base any of the pay on the student-athlete’s value to you because of his/her athletics skills or reputation.

Prospective student-athletes (Arizona State recruits): What you CAN do:

- Attend high school, community college, and public events in which prospects are participating.
  - You are simply not allowed to attempt to contact or recruit prospects while you are there.
- Continue established family relationships with prospects, their parents, and their relatives.
  - Contact needs to remain unrelated to recruiting purposes.
- Accept calls from a prospect so long as they are:
  - Not arranged by ASU coaches or staff members and are unrelated to athletics.

WHAT CAN’T I DO?

NCAA legislation prohibits boosters (along with coaches, staff members, etc.) from providing “extra benefits” to student-athletes and “recruiting inducements” to prospects. Basically, both of those terms mean that, except in limited circumstances, student-athletes and prospects and their family and friends cannot receive things (money, gifts, discounts, etc.) from representatives of Arizona State. To put this in a real world context, the following non-exhaustive lists provide examples of types of actions that would be considered impermissible by the NCAA.

AS A BOOSTER, WHAT AM I NOT ALLOWED TO DO WITH OR FOR ASU STUDENT-ATHLETES OR PROSPECTS?

Enrolled student-athletes: What you CANNOT do:

- Provide transportation to a student-athlete.
- Provide or co-sign for a loan.
- Allow the use of your telephone or other personal property (e.g., boats, homes, cars, computers, stereos).
- Give cash or allow the use of your credit card.
- Provide free or reduced cost entertainment, services or products.
- Provide academic assistance.
- Give a gift of any kind for any reason, including birthdays and holidays.
- Promise employment, money, gifts or anything else of value after college graduation.
- Receive a complimentary ticket to an Arizona State game from a student-athlete.
- Purchase items or services from a student-athlete or their relatives at inflated prices.
WHAT CAN’T I DO? (CONTINUED)

Prospects: What you CANNOT do:
- Engage in any recruiting activities (e.g., contacting a prospect or the prospect's relatives, coaches or high school administrators).
- Contact a recruit in any way to congratulate him/her after signing a National Letter of Intent to play at Arizona State.
- Have contact with a prospect during an official paid visit (yes, this restriction applies to former Sun Devil student-athletes).
- Host a meal with a prospect.
- Arrange for or finance a prospect's unofficial visit to Arizona State.
- Provide transportation to a prospect or loan an automobile to a student-athlete host for a prospect's use during an official paid visit.
- Provide or co-sign for a loan.
- Allow the use of your telephone or other personal property (e.g., boats, homes, cars, computers, stereos).
- Give cash or allow the use of your credit card.
- Provide free or reduced cost entertainment, services or products.
- Provide free or reduced cost lodging.
- Provide academic assistance.
- Give a gift of any kind for any reason, including birthdays and holidays.
- Promise employment after college graduation.
- Purchase items or services from a prospect or their relatives at inflated prices.

A FINAL NOTE FROM THE COMPLIANCE STAFF

It is our job to assist you whenever you have questions about NCAA legislation and we are more than happy to do that. We know how much you care about the Sun Devil Athletics family and that you want to avoid any situation that might damage the athletics department, any of its programs or any of the young men and women that compete for Arizona State. Please know that we are here to help and, therefore if you have any questions about whether something is permissible, please call us at the number below.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in assisting Arizona State University.

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