Re: NCAA Rules for Faculty and Staff

To ASU faculty and staff members:

As an NCAA and Pac-12 Conference member institution, Arizona State University is obligated to follow the rules governing intercollegiate athletics. That obligation is institutional in nature and therefore extends beyond Sun Devil Athletics to all ASU employees (see ICA 104: Rules Compliance, available at http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/ica/ica104.html/aad/manuals/ica/ica104.html). As a general matter, NCAA and Pac-12 rules require that student-athletes be treated exactly the same as other students, and prospective student-athletes (prospects) like other prospective students. Additionally, as an employee of the University, you would likely be considered a booster under the NCAA’s broad definition of that term. At a basic level, NCAA booster legislation consists of two main rules: (1) boosters cannot recruit and (2) boosters cannot give benefits to athletes (current or prospective) or their friends or families. Listed below are more specific rules that could apply to your interactions with Sun Devil Athletics prospects.

Transportation – ASU employees cannot provide transportation to prospects or prospects’ family members.

Benefits – ASU employees cannot provide prospects or prospects’ family members any money, items of value (e.g., t-shirts, hats, souvenirs), or discounts on items or services unless the same benefits are provided to all students or prospective students.

In-person contacts – Face-to-face contact between a prospect and an employee of the University that is directed by a Sun Devil Athletics coach or otherwise related to athletics is prohibited unless it occurs (a) on campus or (b) if off campus, during a prospect’s official visit and within 30 miles of campus.

Telephone calls – ASU employees cannot call prospects regarding the athletics program or at the direction of a Sun Devil Athletics coaching staff member. Employees of the University may receive calls from prospects so long as those calls are unrelated to athletics. All athletically related questions must be directed to Sun Devil Athletics.
Electronic communications (e.g., email, text messaging, Facebook, Twitter) – Emails to a prospect that relate to athletics are prohibited until September 1 of the prospect’s junior year. All other electronic communications (e.g., friending prospects on Facebook, following prospects on Twitter, instant messaging prospects) are prohibited. Like telephone calls, employees of the University can receive electronic communications from prospects provided the communications do not relate to athletics.

Publication of a prospect’s recruitment – ASU and its employees are prohibited from publicizing the recruitment of any prospect or a prospect’s visit to campus (e.g., posting a picture of a prospect’s visit on social media).

At the Sun Devil Athletics Compliance Office, it is our job to assist you whenever you have questions about NCAA legislation, and we are more than happy to do that. So, if you have any questions about whether something is permissible, please call us or send an email to SunDevilsAsk@asu.edu.

Thank you for your support of Sun Devil Athletics.

Arizona State University
Sun Devil Athletics Compliance Office
PO Box 872605
Tempe, AZ 85287-2605
480/965-5760

Steve Webb
Executive Director of Athletics Compliance
480/965-5138
steve.webb@asu.edu

Justin Pollnow
Associate Director, Athletics Compliance
480/965-5755
justin.pollnow@asu.edu