

University of Nebraska Athletics



Booster Do's & Don'ts

2015-16

Activities with Prospective Student-Athletes (9th grade until enrollment)

The Do's

The NCAA rules allow boosters to:

- ✓ Attend prospects' athletics events provided no recruitment or contact with prospects, parent or coach occurs;
- ✓ Continue pre-existing relationships provided no recruitment takes place;
- ✓ Have unavoidable incidental contact provided it is not directed by coaches; is not at the prospect's school or contests and no recruitment takes place.
- ✓ Provide funding to a high school athletics program in the booster's community provided the following rules are met:
 - The booster acts independent of the University of Nebraska;
 - The funds are distributed through the high school or organization hosting the activity; and
 - The funds are not earmarked for a specific prospect.
- ✓ Talk to a prospect on the phone only if the prospect calls the booster and the call is not for recruiting purposes. Direct all questions regarding the athletics program to the coaches;
- ✓ Employ a prospect who has signed a National Letter of Intent. Employment may not begin until after the prospect graduates from high school. The employment must meet these rules:
 - Compensation must be the going rate for the service in the locale;
 - The prospect may only be paid for work actually performed; and
 - Any benefits provided must be similar to other employees performing the same service.

The Don'ts

The NCAA rules do not allow booster to:

- ⊘ Have any contact with a prospect (including parent/guardian) who has not signed a National Letter of Intent. Contact includes the following:
 - × Face-to-face – both on- and off-campus;
 - × Telephone
 - × Letters, cards, notes, etc.
 - × Social Media – direct message, mention, posting on wall, chat rooms, instant message, etc.
 - × Text message
 - × Email
- ⊘ Provide any type of benefit to a prospect -money, apparel, meals, services, tickets, etc.;
- ⊘ Mail anything to a prospect – letters, newspaper clippings, articles, posters, programs, media guides, etc.
- ⊘ Attend a prospect's competition to evaluate at the request of the coach;
- ⊘ Contact a student-athlete enrolled at another institution to talk to him/her about transferring to Nebraska;
- ⊘ Provide any type of benefit (i.e., cash, services, tickets, etc.) to a prospect's coach – this includes AAU, club and other non-scholastic coaches;

- Ø Pay a prospect's registration fee (or part of) for a camp or clinic;
- Ø Contact a prospect's coach, principal, counselor or teacher to evaluate a prospect; and
- Ø Visit a prospect's school to pick up film or transcripts.

Activities with Current Student-Athletes

The Do's

The NCAA rules allow boosters to:

- ✓ Employ student-athletes, provided the following rules are met:
 - Compensation must be the going rate for the service in the locale;
 - The student-athlete may be paid for work actually performed; and
 - Any benefits provided must be similar to other employees performing the same service.
- ✓ Provide a student-athlete a meal on an occasional basis, provide the following rules are met:
 - The meal takes place at the booster's home, on-campus or at a facility regularly used for practice and competition. The meal may not be at a restaurant;
 - The meal may be catered;
 - The booster may provide the student-athlete transportation to and from a meal in a booster's home; and
 - The sport and Compliance must be notified prior to the meal. Each student-athlete may receive eight (8) meals during the academic year and four (4) meals during the summer.
- ✓ Continue a pre-existing relationships with a student-athlete at the same level prior to the individual becoming a student-athlete;
- ✓ Have contact with current student-athletes; and
- ✓ Have student-athletes participate in promotional activities for non-profit, educational and charitable organizations. They may receive actual and necessary expenses to participation. Please contact Life Skills before inviting a student-athlete to participate.

The Don'ts

The NCAA rules do not allow boosters to:

- Ø Provide any type of extra benefit. Examples (not exhaustive):
 - × A loan of money;
 - × Co-signing a loan;
 - × Reduced-cost or free rent;
 - × Free services (i.e., oil change, haircut, car wash);
 - × Use of any type of vehicle;
 - × Providing rides;
 - × Meals that exceed the definition of occasional;
 - × Use of your washer/dryer;
 - × Gifts of any kind – this includes birthday, holiday and graduation gifts;
 - × Free or reduced-cost entertainment (i.e., movies, bowling, laser tag, etc.)
- Ø Pay student-athletes for appearance at promotional activities;
- Ø Use their name, image or likeness to advertise a commercial product;
- Ø Buy a student-athlete's complimentary admissions they receive for friends and family; and
- Ø Host an autograph signing at a commercial location.