GUIDEBOOK
TO NCAA REGULATIONS
Whom Do I Contact?
This guide is provided to offer a general overview of the NCAA Rules & Regulations regarding interaction with prospective student-athletes (PSA) and enrolled student-athletes (SA). It is not totally comprehensive. Should there be a need to inquire further, please direct your questions to:

Assistant AD / Compliance
Iona College
715 North Avenue
New Rochelle, NY 10801
914-637-7797

Who is a “Prospective Student-Athlete?”
A prospective student-athlete is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's relatives or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students generally. An individual remains a prospective student-athlete until one of the following occurs (whichever is earlier):

(a) The individual officially registers and enrolls in a minimum full-time program of studies and attends classes in any term of a four-year collegiate institution's regular academic year (excluding summer); or
(b) The individual participates in a regular squad practice or competition at a four-year collegiate institution that occurs before the beginning of any term; or
(c) The individual officially registers and enrolls and attends classes during the summer prior to initial enrollment and receives institutional athletics aid.
**Who is a “Representative of Athletic Interests?”**

A "representative of the institution's athletics interests" is an individual, independent agency, corporate entity (e.g., apparel or equipment manufacturer) or other organization who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to:

(a) Have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program;
(b) Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
(c) Be assisting or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
(d) Be assisting or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families; or
(e) Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution's athletics program.

***Once an individual, independent agency, corporate entity or other organization is identified as such a representative, the person, independent agency, corporate entity or other organization retains that identity indefinitely.***

**Who is able to recruit for Iona College?**

Only Iona College coaches who have passed the NCAA Recruiting Certification Examination may be involved in the recruitment process for a sport. There may be no recruiting contacts made by “reps.” This includes letters, telephone calls or face-to-face contact on or off campus.

You may be of assistance by forwarding all information on prospective student-athletes to the appropriate coaches.

You may, as a “rep,” continue to maintain friendships developed previously even when it may involve a PSA. You may not encourage the PSA to attend Iona College or provide extra benefits.
NCAA Rules Regarding Contact with High School and Junior College Coaches

You may not contact the prospect’s coach, principal or counselor for the purpose of evaluating the prospect.

You are not permitted to pick up films or transcripts from the prospect’s educational institution.

You may not entertain high school, prep school or junior college coaches at any location.

You may not provide tickets or transportation for high school, prep school or junior college coaches at any location. Only the Department of Athletics may provide complimentary admissions to those coaches for regular season home athletic events.

You may not reimburse high school, prep school, or junior college coaches of a prospect for expenses incurred in transporting a prospect to visit the campus.

NCAA Rules Regarding Contacts with High School and Junior College Prospective Student-Athletes

You may not make any contact, including telephone calls and letters, to a prospect or the prospect’s family, on or off campus. If a coach has a recruit at an athletic event, you should not approach the coach until the prospect and family have gone elsewhere. If a prospect approaches you off campus regarding the athletic program, explain that NCAA rules do not permit you to discuss the program. Suggest that the prospect contact the head coach of the sport for information.

You may not become directly or indirectly involved in making arrangements to receive money or financial aid of any kind for a prospect, or the prospect’s family or friends.

You may not provide room and/or board, transportation of any kind or any other benefit to a recruited student-athlete during the period of the individual’s eligibility including the summer prior to initial enrollment.

You may not make contact with a prospective student-athlete and his or her legal guardian(s) on an official visit to the campus.

You may not provide cash or the use of an automobile to a prospect or student-host on his or her official visit to the campus.

You may not transport, pay or arrange for payment of transportation costs for a prospect, relatives or friends to visit campus or elsewhere. While it is permissible for a friend or neighbor to transport a high school or community college student who is not an athlete to the campus, NCAA regulations prohibit the activity for a prospective student-athlete.

You may not provide anything to a prospect, the prospect’s family or friends without first discussing it with the Compliance Coordinator at Iona College. You may not entertain or provide tickets at reduced cost to Iona home or away athletic or non-athletic events to a prospect, the prospect’s family or friends. Admission to these events is strictly managed by the Department of Athletics. You may not pay or offer to pay registration fees for summer sports camps for a prospect.

You may not contact an enrolled student-athlete at another institution for the purpose of encouraging transfer to Iona College and participation in our programs.
Permissible Activities by a Representative of Athletic Interests in Regards to a Prospective Student-Athlete

You may attend high school and junior college athletic events.

You may continue established family relationships with friends and neighbors. Contacts with sons and daughters of these families certainly are permitted as long as they are not initiated by Iona’s coaching staff members. You are permitted to play “pick up” basketball or softball games, continue neighborhood picnics or backyard barbecues and engage in your normal activities with prospects and their parents who are family friends. Again, you simply are not permitted to attempt to recruit the prospect or discuss the athletic program.

You may attend a public event (e.g. a high school awards banquet or dinner) at which prospects are in attendance. No attempt should be made to recruit the prospect.

You may send to the Iona coaching staff any newspaper clippings or other information about prospects which you think would be of interest. Your assistance in this way is very helpful. The coaching staff will then make the contact with the prospect.

You may offer assistance to members of the Iona coaching staff who are recruiting in your community.

You may discuss summer employment arrangements with a prospect after he/she has signed a National Letter of Intent.
NCAA Rules Regarding Contacts with Currently Enrolled Student-Athletes

You may not provide a student-athlete any benefits or special arrangements.

You may not provide room, board or any type of transportation during the summer for a student-athlete with eligibility remaining.

You may not provide room, board, or transportation costs incurred by friends or family of an enrolled student-athlete to visit campus or attend an away athletic contest.

You may not expend funds to entertain student-athletes, their friends or relatives. You are not even permitted to buy a soda or cup of coffee for them.

You may not use the name picture or appearance of an enrolled student-athlete to directly advertise, recommend or promote sales or use of a commercial product or service of any kind. Even the sale of a picture of an enrolled student-athlete would jeopardize eligibility.

You may not use the name, picture or appearance of an enrolled student-athlete to promote an educational or charitable cause until it has been approved by the Assistant Athletics Director / Compliance.

You may not provide any payment of expense or loan of any automobile for a student-athlete to return home or to any other location for any reason.

You may not provide awards or gifts directly to a student-athlete for his or her athletic performance. All awards financed by “representatives of athletic interests” must first be approved by Iona College and meet NCAA award regulations.

You may not provide an honorarium to a student-athlete for a speaking engagement. Only necessary travel expenses can be given when speaking to educational or charitable groups. All speaking engagements must be approved in advance by the Assistant Athletics Director / Compliance.

You may not employ or arrange for the employment of a prospective or enrolled student-athlete without checking first with the Iona College Athletics Department. The Department is permitted to make arrangements for summer employment for prospects prior to enrollment as freshman and to enrolled student-athletes during the summer and semester breaks.

You may not allow a student-athlete, his or her friends or relatives to use your telephone to make free local or long distance calls.

You may not provide transportation for prospects or student-athletes to their place of employment unless transportation is provided for all other employees.

You may not employ student-athletes at a rate which is greater than the standard rate for similar jobs in your area.

You may not pay or provide the expenses (room, board and transportation costs) incurred by friends or relatives to visit an enrolled student-athlete. Representatives of athletic interests are reminded that NCAA rules regarding enrolled student-athletes remain in effect throughout the entire year, including summer break. When student-athletes complete their final season of eligibility, they must abide by NCAA rules until the end of that academic year and/or until they are no longer receiving athletic financial aid.
**Frequently Asked Questions:**

Q. Once an individual has been identified as a “rep”. How long does he or she retain this identity?
A. Indefinitely

Q. Can boosters make contact with a prospective student-athlete and his or her legal guardian(s) on an official visit to the campus?
A. No.

Q. Can boosters entertain relatives and friends of a prospective student-athlete at any site off campus?
A. No.

Q. During an official visit to campus, is it permissible for a booster to entertain, buy a complimentary meal for or expend any funds on the prospective student-athlete, his or her legal guardian(s), relatives or friends?
A. No. On an official visit to campus, the prospect may only be entertained by the Department of Athletics. The prospect is limited to three complimentary tickets distributed solely by the institution, to a regular season home athletic event. The prospect may not be entertained whatsoever by “reps” for the purposes of entertaining a prospect on his / her official visit.

Q. Is it permissible for a booster to provide free admission to the institution’s away from home contests to prospects, their friends or relatives?
A. No.

Q. Is it permissible for a booster to pay in whole or in part registration fees associated with summer sports camps.
A. No.

Q. Is the contact rule applicable to established family friends or neighbors?
A. No. However, it must be understood that such contacts may not be made for recruiting purposes and may not be initiated by the institution’s coaching staff members.

Q. May a recruit call a booster?
A. A booster may have a telephone conversation with a prospect provided the prospect initiates the call and the call was not prearranged by an institutional staff member. A booster is not permitted to have a recruiting conversation with the prospect but may exhibit normal civility. A booster must refer any questions about the institution’s athletics program to the athletics department staff.

Q. May a booster attend a public event (e.g., high school awards banquet or dinner) at which prospects are in attendance?
A. Yes, but any contact with a prospect may not be prearranged by an athletics department staff member, and no attempt may be made to recruit the prospect.

Q. May a booster engage in evaluation activities on behalf of the institution?
A. The legislation does not preclude a booster from viewing a prospect’s contest on the booster’s initiative, subject to the understanding that the booster may not contact the prospect. In addition, the booster is prohibited from contacting the prospect’s coach, principal or counselor in an attempt to evaluate the prospect, as well as from visiting the prospect’s educational institution to pick up film or transcripts pertaining to the evaluation of the prospect’s academic or athletics ability.

Q. Is it permissible for a booster to expend funds to entertain student-athletes and friends?
A. No.
Q. Is it permissible for a booster to pay or provide actual and necessary expenses (room, board and transportation costs) incurred by friends or relatives to visit an enrolled student-athlete?
A. No.

Q. Is it permissible for a booster to provide gifts or awards to a student-athlete for his or her athletics performance?
A. No. All awards must conform to NCAA awards legislation and must be approved by the institution.

Q. Is it permissible for a booster to provide enrolled student-athletes with professional services (for which a fee would be normally be charged) for personal reasons?
A. No. Professional services provided at less than normal or at no expense to a student-athlete are considered extra benefits.

Better Safe Than Sorry...
Compliance with NCAA regulations is of the highest priority for our athletic programs and institution. We need your assistance in complying with NCAA rules. When you are faced with a situation and unsure as to how to respond, we strongly urge you to contact Alyssa Morales, Compliance Coordinator at 914-637-7797 before acting. Your continued interest and support of the Iona College Athletic Programs is most appreciated.

Job Opportunities
We do encourage your assistance in making the Department of Athletics aware of job opportunities for enrolled student-athletes. This includes during the Summers and semester breaks. All information should be forwarded to the Compliance Coordinator.

GO GAELS!!!