

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Can a booster be involved when a prospect is on an official or unofficial visit to JU?

A. No. Boosters may not be involved in the on or off-campus recruitment of prospective student-athletes beyond informing JU coaches of an outstanding prospect.

Q. May a prospect call a booster?

A. Yes. A booster may have a telephone conversation if the prospect initiates the call, the call is not prearranged by a staff member, and the booster does not engage in a recruiting conversation.

Q. As a booster, if I attend a prospect's athletic event, may I talk to the prospect's coach after the event?

A. No. A booster may not contact the coach, the prospect or family members, the principal or counselor in an attempt to evaluate or recruit a prospect.

Q. What if a booster attends an athletic event and finds himself/herself sitting next to the parents or relatives of the prospect?

A. A booster may not initiate conversations with relatives of a prospective student-athlete. If conversation is initiated by the relatives, the booster may respond in a friendly and civil manner but may not discuss the Jacksonville University athletics program.

Q. Do contact rules for prospective student-athletes apply to family friends or neighbors?

A. A booster may continue to have contact with family friends or neighbors who are prospective student athletes as long as such contacts are not made for recruiting purposes and are not arranged by Jacksonville University athletics staff.

Q. May a booster employ an enrolled student-athlete?

A. Boosters may employ enrolled student-athletes as long as they comply with NCAA employment guidelines. The NCAA requires that athlete's earnings must not be based off their reputation as an athlete, must be for work actually performed, and must be at the going rate for similar services. Boosters interested in employing enrolled student-athletes should first contact the Jacksonville University compliance office at (904) 256-7473.

Q. May a booster employ a prospective student-athlete?

A. After a prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent, a booster may contact the prospect regarding permissible employment arrangements prior to his/her enrollment at JU. This employment may not begin until after the prospect has graduated from high school. If you are interested in employing prospective student-athletes, you must first contact the Jacksonville University compliance office at (904) 256-7473.

Due to the complexity of the rules, this brochure should not be relied upon exclusively. Compliance with NCAA and Atlantic Sun Conference rules is of the highest priority to Jacksonville University. If you have any questions, please contact the Compliance Office at (904) 256-7473.



JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
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JACKSONVILLE



GUIDE TO NCAA RULES FOR ALUMNI,
FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF
JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS



UNIVERSITY

FROM THE A.D.

Dear Supporter:

Thank you for your on-going support and interest in Jacksonville University athletics. We are proud of our student-athletes, coaches, and programs and the tradition of success we have developed over the years. This success is not possible without the strong support of individuals such as yourself. We cannot thank you enough for all you do for Dolphin Athletics.

We are producing this guide to request your cooperation and understanding on a matter of great importance. As you are likely aware, a number of colleges and university athletics programs have encountered difficulty through well-meaning actions of supporters and boosters.

NCAA Bylaw 13.01.4 prohibits anyone representing JU, other than appropriate coaching personnel, from making in-person, on or off-campus recruiting contacts, or written or telephonic communications with a prospect or the prospect's relatives or legal guardians. Any violation of this rule (or rules against providing transportation, entertainment, meals or anything else of material value to enrolled student-athletes or their family members), regardless of intentions, may affect the continued eligibility of the young man or woman and may result in our athletics program being penalized by the NCAA.

We respectfully request that you please DO NOT make any recruiting contact with prospective student-athletes at any time. If you know of an athletics prospect, please inform the appropriate head coach, and let the coach be responsible for any contact with the prospect. Should you have any questions about what you, as a supporter, may and may not do, please contact the office of athletic compliance.

If you have any questions, please ask. We want and need your support, but we also need your cooperation to ensure full compliance with NCAA rules. Thank you for your assistance in this regard.

Sincerely,



Alan Verlander
Director of Athletics

ARE YOU A BOOSTER?

In the eyes of the NCAA, you are considered a representative of athletics interests (most commonly known as a booster) if any of the following applies:

- You have made financial contributions to the JU athletics department or to any athletics booster organization (JUAA).
- You are a past or current season ticket holder.
- You have participated in promoting the JU athletics program.
- You have helped arrange employment for JU student-athletes.
- You have assisted or been requested to assist in the recruiting of prospects.

Once an individual has been identified as a representative of athletics interests, the individual retains that identity forever.

Representatives of Jacksonville University's athletics interests are bound by the rules of the NCAA, the Atlantic Sun Conference, the Pioneer Football League and Jacksonville University. Under these rules, Jacksonville University is responsible for the actions of its representatives and may incur stiff penalties for rules violations.

BOOSTERS CAN:

-Notify the JU coaching staff of outstanding prospects in your area.

-Observe a prospect's athletic contest, provided there is no contact with the prospect or the prospect's parents and/or relatives.

-Continue to have normal contact with any neighbor, relative, or family friend that might be a high school prospect so long as you do not engage in the recruitment process.

-Provide an occasional meal to current student-athletes provided that the meal is in the home of the booster.

-Accept a phone call from a prospect, as long as the prospect initiates the call. All questions regarding JU's athletics department should be directed back to members of the athletics staff.

BOOSTERS CANNOT:

-Write, call, or make in-person recruiting contacts with a high school prospect or his/her parents or legal guardians.

-Make a recruiting presentation to prospective student-athletes.

-Contact a coach, principal, and/or counselor, to evaluate a high school prospect.

-Visit a high school prospect's school to pick up a transcript or video to evaluate the prospect's academic or athletic ability or provide to an athletics department staff member.

-Provide extra benefits to high school prospects, enrolled college student-athletes, or their relatives, and friends.

-Use the student-athlete's name, picture, or appearance to promote sales or advertise the use of a commercial product or service.

TERMS TO KNOW

• **Prospective Student-Athlete**

Any student-athlete who has started classes for the ninth grade is considered a prospective student-athlete. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if they, or their relatives, are provided with any financial assistance or other benefits from JU or its representatives. An individual remains a prospective student-athlete until they either enroll and attend classes, or practice with a JU athletic team before the beginning of any term.

• **Enrolled Student-Athlete**

An enrolled student-athlete is any student who is enrolled at Jacksonville University and is presently participating on an athletics team or has completed his/her eligibility but is still enrolled at the university.

• **Extra Benefit**

An extra benefit is any special arrangement by a Jacksonville University representative to provide a student-athlete or student-athlete's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by the NCAA. Impermissible benefits include, but are not limited to: cash, loans, use of vehicles, free or reduced cost housing, payment of transportation costs, and discounts on goods or services.

• **Contact**

Any face-to-face encounter between a prospect or the prospect's parent or legal guardian and a Jacksonville University representative during which any dialogue occurs in excess of an exchange of a greeting. Any such face-to-face encounter that is prearranged or that takes place on the grounds of the prospect's educational institution or at the site of an organized competition or practice involving the prospect or the prospect's high school, preparatory school, two-year college or all-star team shall be considered a contact, regardless of the conversation that occurs.

• **Evaluation**

Any off-campus activity designed to assess the academic qualifications or athletics ability of a prospect, including any visit to a prospect's educational institution (during which no contact occurs) or the observation of a prospect participating in any practice or competition at any site.

• **Recruiting**

Any solicitation of a prospect or the prospect's family by a University staff member or representative for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment at the University and/or participation in the athletics program. All recruiting must be done by designated members of the Jacksonville University athletics department.