

Bison Bulletin



Bucknell University Athletics Compliance Department

Summer Leagues and Competition: Exceptions

When the academic year ends, Bison student-athletes have the opportunity to practice and compete with outside teams during their summer vacation. However, there are several limitations on their outside participation.

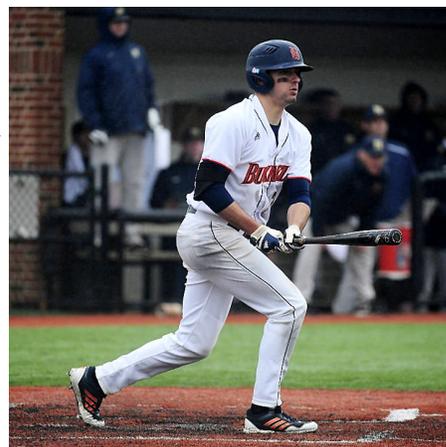
For basketball, a Bucknell student-athlete may compete from June 15 until the opening day of classes, August 27, 2014, in a certified league, as long the student-athlete has received written permission from Bucknell's athletic director, or his designee, prior to participation. For the league to be certified, an application must be submitted to the NCAA national office and meet certain criteria, including geographical, player, and staff limitations, competition restrictions, payment prohibitions, and several others.

For all other sports, a student-athlete may compete outside of the declared playing and practice season as a member of an outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition during any official vacation period published in the institution's catalog. The number of Bucknell student-athletes with eligibility

remaining competing on any one outside team may be limited, however.

For all sports, including basketball, Bucknell may not organize or financially support practices during the summer, unless specifically authorized in the NCAA Legislation. Bucknell may, however, pay fees associated with the use of institutional practice and competition facilities by student-athletes engaged in voluntary athletically related activities in their sport.

Institutional cross country, golf, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, and wrestling coaches may participate in individual-workout sessions with student-athletes from the coach's team during the summer, provided the request for such assistance is initiated by the student-athlete. For all other sports at Bucknell, no member of the coaching staff may be involved in any capacity at any time with an outside team that involves any student-athletes with remaining eligibility from their team unless permitted by NCAA Legislation.



An outside baseball team may not have more than four Bucknell student-athletes with eligibility remaining on its roster.

Limits on number of Bucknell Student-Athletes playing on Outside Teams :

Baseball - 4	Lacrosse - 5
Basketball - 2	Soccer - 5
Field Hockey - 5	Softball - 4
Football - 5	Volleyball - 2

Extra Benefits

As a reminder, an extra benefit is any special arrangement by a Bucknell employee, or representative of Bucknell's athletics interests, to provide a student-athlete, or the student-athlete's family member or friend, a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Receipt of a benefit is not a violation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the institution's students or their family members or friends or to a particular segment of the student-body determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability (e.g., international students, minority students).

For example, it would not be permissible for student-athletes to use their coach's washer or dryer when the institution's regular laundry facilities are inaccessible, regardless of whether an arrangement is made for the students to reimburse the coach for the use of such appliances, unless the same benefit is available to all students at the institution.

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Attorney Jeffrey Kessler Files Suit vs. NCAA, Five Richest Conferences

By: George Schroeder,
USA TODAY Sports

Calling it "the elephant in the room," antitrust attorney Jeffrey Kessler filed a class action suit Monday in federal court against the NCAA and the five richest college conferences on behalf of college football and men's basketball players. The suit seeks an injunction to prevent the enforcement of NCAA rules limiting the amount of financial aid players can receive. In essence, it would allow them to be paid.

In the filing, the plaintiffs accuse the NCAA and five power conferences – the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12 and SEC – with "price-fixing," creating artificial restraints by capping scholarship amounts to restrict competition. Its intent, Kessler told USA TODAY Sports, is to "strike down the rules that prevent (players) from getting a share" of the revenue generated by college football and basketball at the highest levels.

"Anybody watching the NCAA Tournament this week knows it's a huge commercial business," Kessler said. "The (College Football Playoff) is a huge commercial business. No one would say people who provide the essential services should not receive compensation – other than in big-time college sports."

The lawsuit joins others pending against the NCAA. But Kessler, who is noted for his work on behalf of the NFL's and NBA's player associations, said "the other fights are on secondary aspects. This is a frontal attack on the basic unfairness of the system."

Four players are listed as plaintiffs. Clemson defensive back Martin Jenkins, a junior, has eligibility left. Cal offensive lineman Bill Tyndall, UTEP tight end Kevin Perry and Rutgers basketball

player J.J. Moore, all seniors, have completed their college careers.

Kessler said more current players will be added to the lawsuit, which seeks certification as a class action. The suit does not seek class action damages, but the four players seek individual damages.

An NCAA spokesman declined comment. Representatives of the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12 and SEC also declined comment, citing policy not to discuss pending litigation.

"The one thing people should recognize is how fundamentally unfair it is to look at a team in the NCAA Tournament, where the coach is making \$5 million, the school is generating hundreds of millions," Kessler said. "Sponsors are cashing in, administrators are cashing in and the only group that is not receiving any benefit are these athletes – most of who will not graduate and most of who will never be a professional athlete. This is their one opportunity to be recognized and compensated."

The suit is modeled in part after a 2006 suit, which was certified as a class action but was settled before trial.

The suit filed by Kessler is similar to another suit filed earlier this month, in which former West Virginia football player Shawne Alston sued the NCAA and the five power conferences. The Alston suit, which doesn't include current players, seeks damages – specifically, the full cost of attendance – for all scholarship players in the five power conferences for the last four years.

Kessler said the lawsuit filed Monday sought instead to "change the system" rather than to collect damages.

"We're all about changing the landscape," Kessler said. "That's the biggest difference."



Under the NCAA model, financial aid, better known as an athletic scholarship, is essentially capped at tuition, books, room and board. The power conferences have pushed the idea of altering scholarships to include full cost of attendance, and are currently seeking greater autonomy within the NCAA's legislative structure in order to enact such measures.

Mike Aresco, commissioner of the American Athletic Conference – which is not named in the suit – said he had not read the complaint. But speaking in general, he defended the current model.

"I think student-athletes derive great benefits from their scholarships, from the ability to attend these wonderful institutions," he said. "It's a model that has worked. I think it can be tweaked. There's no question we are embracing enhanced benefits for student-athletes, but we're not talking about paying them."

Kessler said the timing had nothing to do with the NCAA Tournament, but with the bigger picture.

"Many (people) recognize there has to be a change," he said. "We hope this is the vehicle for the change."

March 17, 2014, www.usatoday.com/sports/ncaaf/

Recent Violations: Extra Benefits, Unethical Conduct, and Failure to Monitor

In January 2013, the NCAA sanctioned a member institution for several major infractions, including impermissible benefits to a student-athlete, unethical conduct in the form of plagiarism and academic misconduct by the coaches, and the institution's failure to monitor a particular athletic program.

The violations initially occurred when a head coach and an assistant coach offered \$5,000 and an automobile to one of their highly-recruited student-athletes to entice him not to transfer. When that same student-athlete was having difficulty in his classes, the head coach arranged to have a teammate write an essay for one of his classes and the assistant coach wrote essays for him for another class. Once the university learned of these violations and began its investigation, the coaches tried to interfere by telling the student-athlete to deny everything. The head coach caused further problems when he refused to participate in the NCAA's formal investigation in any way.

The university was also penalized for its failure to monitor the specific program and its coaching staff to ensure compliance with both NCAA rules and institutional policies. The investigation showed that the institution did not maintain records related to general pur-

chases and travel expenses in order to show the proper procedures were followed. Additionally, the university failed to provide the requisite staff and necessary resources to properly fulfill the compliance function of the athletic department.

On the upside, the NCAA found that a one-day excursion for the student-athletes while on their foreign tour in the Bahamas, including a roundtrip day cruise, lunch, and water activities, and costing \$200 per person, did not constitute an extra-benefit because the student-athletes paid half the cost and it was reasonable entertainment considering the location of the tour.

Due to the major infractions involved in this situation, the institution was sanctioned heavily, including four years of probation, a one-year postseason ban for the program involved, and show cause sanctions for both coaches involved. Additionally, both student-athletes involved forfeited all remaining eligibility.

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Compliance Conundrum

Ocean State University (OSU) softball team is competing in away from home contests Friday and Saturday. The games will be played in the sport administrator's home town, so she would like for her two nieces to come watch. If the nieces have reached prospect age, is it permissible for OSU to provide complimentary admissions?

Yes. **NCAA Staff Interpretation- 3/15/13-Complimentary Admissions to an Away-From-Home Contest for an Athletic Department Staff Member's Relative who is a Prospective Student-Athlete (I)**- states that an institution may provide complimentary admissions to an away-from-home contest to an athletic department staff member's relative who is a prospective student-athlete.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 13.02.12 (prospective student-athlete); 13.2 (offers and inducements); 13.6.7.1 (general restrictions) and 13.7.2.1 (general restrictions), and a staff interpretation (9/14/90, Item No. a), which has been archived]



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Bucknell University, by virtue of its membership with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), is responsible for ensuring complete compliance of all constituencies with all NCAA Rules and Regulations.

This newsletter serves as a way for the Compliance Department to educate and inform our coaches, sports administrators, and student-athletes about relevant rules and tips, hot topics in college athletics, and upcoming dates to remember.

WWW.BUCKNELLBISON.COM

April/May Recruiting Calendars

April Recruiting Calendar:



MBB—Dead Period, April 3-10 and April 14-17; Quiet Period April 24-July 5, except April 25-27 is an Evaluation Period

WBB—Dead Period, April 4-17, except Evaluations are allowed at one women's basketball event certified by the NCAA held in conjunction with, and conducted in the host city of the NCAA DI Women's Basketball Championship and April 11-13 is a Quiet Period; Quiet Period, April 18-July 5, except April 25-29 is an Evaluation Period (Evaluations only permitted at a certified nonscholastic women's basketball event during April 25-27)

FB—Evaluation Period, April 15-May 31 (Quiet Period during days not being used for Evaluation)

MBA, MGO, WGO, MLAX, WLAX, ROW, SB, MSWD, WSWD, MTE, WTE, VB, WWP, WR—Dead Period, April 14-17

May Recruiting Calendar:

MBB—Quiet Period April 24-July 5, except May 22-30 is a Dead Period (Exception: Evaluations may be conducted at the NBA Draft Combine)

FB—Evaluation Period, April 15-May 31 (Quiet Period during days not being used for Evaluation)

SB—Dead Period, May 27-June 4

VB—Quiet Period, May 1-23

MLAX—Dead Period, May 23-27

WLAX—Dead Period, May 23-25, except evaluations may occur at one event conducted during the weekend of the NCAA DI Women's Lacrosse Championship, provided the event is conducted within a 100-mile radius of the site of the championship (The evaluation must be conducted on a day in which no championship competition is conducted)

MXC, WXC, FHY, MSOC, WSOC, MTF, WTF, and MWP have only contact periods during April and May

