

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I RECRUITING AND ATHLETICS
PERSONNEL ISSUES CABINET
June 22-23, 2011, MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. Priority Item – Continuing Examination of the Recruiting Model.** The NCAA Division I Recruiting and Athletics Personnel Issues Cabinet continued its comprehensive examination of recruiting models in the areas of contacts, evaluations, electronic transmissions, telephone calls and official visits. The cabinet reviewed feedback received from conferences, coaches associations and roundtables conducted at the recent regional rules seminars. Based on the feedback received, the cabinet agreed to sponsor legislative proposals related to electronic transmissions (e.g., text messages) and evaluations. In addition, the cabinet reviewed feedback submitted by sport specific groups and coaches associations regarding the development of recruiting calendars and establishing recruiting-person days or evaluation days in all sports for which such provisions currently do not apply. Based on the feedback, the cabinet sponsored proposals to establish recruiting calendars for men's and women's fencing, field hockey, men's ice hockey, women's gymnastics and wrestling. The cabinet noted a lack of consensus in the membership regarding concepts that would permit earlier contacts and official visits and the NCAA Division I Leadership Council's current review of men's basketball recruiting issues. Therefore, the cabinet agreed to defer additional discussion of these concepts until after the review of the men's basketball recruiting issues is complete and the membership has reacted to the resultant model. During the upcoming year, the cabinet will explore potential concepts to deregulate and simplify recruiting rules.

- 2. Priority Item – Discussion on Limits on Noncoaching Staff with Sport Specific Responsibilities.** The cabinet discussed a request from the NCAA Division I Legislative Council to explore potential revisions or alternatives to the current proposals regarding limits on noncoaching staff with sport specific responsibilities. Specifically, the cabinet discussed whether the current proposals appropriately addressed competitive equity and financial resource issues and concerns related to monitoring and enforcement. The cabinet noted that restricting the activities of noncoaching staff members (e.g., attending practice, sitting on the bench during contests) has the potential for unintended consequences, such as eliminating a noncoaching staff member's access to the coaching staff for administrative or student-athlete welfare purposes. In addition, such restrictions may limit a noncoaching staff member's ability to gain professional development. The cabinet noted that previous feedback received from the membership favored the limits identified in the current proposals. Based on feedback from the NCAA enforcement staff, the cabinet believes that the current legislation regarding limitations on number and duties of coaches is enforceable and may be sufficiently monitored. The cabinet will continue to review feedback from the membership and explore options related to this topic at its September meeting.

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Legislative – Cabinet Sponsored Proposals for the 2011-12 Legislative Cycle.

a. Recruiting – Recruiting Calendars – Men's and Women's Fencing.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal to establish a recruiting calendar in the sport of men's and women's fencing as specified:
 - (a) August 1 through August 31 – Quiet Period with an exception for any North American Cup or United States Fencing National Championships.
 - (b) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the fall signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.
 - (c) December 24 through December 25 – Dead Period.
 - (d) Noon Wednesday preceding the NCAA National Championship finals to noon the following Monday – Dead Period.
 - (e) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the spring signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.
 - (f) May 1 through June 15 – Quiet Period with an exception for any North American Cup or United States Fencing National Championships.
 - (g) Establish 168 Recruiting Person Days.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.
- (3) Rationale. At the request of the cabinet to evaluate the appropriate parameters of a recruiting calendar and the number of recruiting-person or

evaluation days, the United States Fencing Coaches Association determined that the establishment of a sport specific recruiting calendar and 168 recruiting-person days would ensure a quality of life for prospective student-athletes and coaches.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

b. Recruiting – Recruiting Calendars – Field Hockey.

(1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal to establish a recruiting calendar in the sport of field hockey as specified:

(a) Monday through Thursday prior to the first permissible contest date – Dead Period.

(b) The first permissible contest date through the following Thursday – Quiet Period.

(c) Wednesday prior to the NCAA Division I Field Hockey Championship to noon on the day after the championship – Dead Period.

(d) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the fall signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period

(e) December 17-23 – Quiet Period.

(f) December 24-January 2 – Dead Period.

(g) Monday through Sunday of the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Convention – Quiet Period.

(h) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the spring signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.

(i) Monday following the second weekend of the United States Field Hockey Association National Indoor Tournament to April 30 – Quiet Period.

(j) Establish 75 Recruiting-Person Days.

(2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.

(3) Rationale. At the request of the cabinet to evaluate the appropriate parameters of a recruiting calendar and the number of recruiting-person or evaluation days, the National Field Hockey Coaches Association determined that the establishment of a sport specific recruiting calendar and 75 recruiting-person days would ensure a quality of life for prospective student-athletes and coaches. In addition, the potential cost reduction efforts may help level the recruiting playing field.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

c. Recruiting – Recruiting Calendars – Men's Ice Hockey.

(1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal to establish a recruiting calendar in the sport of men's ice hockey as specified:

(a) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the fall signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.

(b) Wednesday prior to the NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship to noon on the Sunday after the game – Dead Period.

(c) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the spring signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.

(d) Thursday through Sunday of the American Hockey Coaches Association Convention – Dead Period.

(e) May 12 through May 26 – Quiet Period.

(f) July 1 through July 6 – Quiet Period.

(2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.

- (3) Rationale. At the request of the cabinet to evaluate the appropriate parameters of a recruiting calendar and the number of recruiting-person or evaluation days, the American Hockey Coaches Association determined that the establishment of a sport specific recruiting would ensure a quality of life for prospective student-athletes and coaches.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

d. Recruiting – Recruiting Calendars – Women's Gymnastics.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal to establish a recruiting calendar in the sport of women's gymnastics as specified:
 - (a) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the fall signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.
 - (b) Monday before Thanksgiving through Sunday after Thanksgiving – Dead Period.
 - (c) Last two weeks of December (including January 1) –Dead Period.
 - (d) The three days during the National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches/Women Convention – Dead Period.
 - (e) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date for the spring signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.
- (3) Rationale. At the request of the cabinet to evaluate the appropriate parameters of a recruiting calendar and the number of recruiting-person or evaluation days, the National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches/Women determined that the establishment of a sport specific recruiting would ensure a quality of life for prospective student-athletes and coaches.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

e. Recruiting – Recruiting Calendars – Wrestling.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal to establish a recruiting calendar in the sport of wrestling as specified:
 - (a) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date of the fall signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.
 - (b) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial date of the spring signing of the National Letter of Intent – Dead Period.
 - (c) Thursday through Sunday of the National Wrestling Coaches Association Convention – Dead Period.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.
- (3) Rationale. At the request of the cabinet to evaluate the appropriate parameters of a recruiting calendar and the number of recruiting-person or evaluation days, the National Wrestling Coaches Association determined that the establishment of a sport specific recruiting calendar would ensure a quality of life for prospective student-athletes and coaches.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

f. Recruiting – Limitations on Number of Evaluations – Women's Basketball, Women's Sand Volleyball and Women's Volleyball.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal that, in women's basketball, women's sand volleyball and women's volleyball, would eliminate the limitation on the number of evaluations per prospective student-athlete.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.
- (3) Rationale. Recruiting model feedback indicated broad support for establishment of recruiting person days or evaluation days in all sports and the elimination of limitations on the number of evaluations. In the sports that have established recruiting person days or evaluation days, institutions should have the autonomy to determine how to use them without the

limitation on the number of evaluations per prospective student-athlete. This proposal will eliminate the burden of monitoring the number of evaluations per prospective student-athlete and inadvertent violations of the limitation. The sports to which this proposal will initially apply are women's basketball, women's sand volleyball, and women's volleyball. Men's fencing, women's fencing; and field hockey will be added if other proposed legislation is adopted, which will establish recruiting-person days in those sports. Men's basketball is not included in this proposal due to the current review of men's basketball recruiting issues and rules by the Leadership Council. Football is not included due to the specific nature of the current evaluation periods and the limits on evaluations during each period. Softball is not included due to the fact that, pursuant to current legislation, the observation of prospective student-athletes participating in high school softball competition does not count toward the limit on evaluation days. These sports are encouraged to review their legislation to determine whether they would like to pursue changes that would facilitate the elimination of the limitation on the number of evaluations per prospective student-athlete. Other sports are encouraged to explore the option of establishing recruiting-person days or evaluation days and the elimination of the limitation on the number of evaluations per prospective student-athlete. The cabinet will consider any recommendations for modifications to this proposal during its September meeting.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

g. Recruiting – Recruiting Materials – Electronic Transmissions.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal that would permit all forms of electronically transmitted correspondence (e.g., electronic mail, text messaging, Instant Messenger) to be sent to an individual (or his or her parents or legal guardians), provided the correspondence is sent directly to the individual (or his or her parents or legal guardians) and is private between only the sender and recipient. Further, the proposal would permit an institution to begin sending recruiting materials, including electronic transmissions, to a prospective student-athlete on the date that is consistent with the date on which the institution may begin to make telephone calls to an individual in the particular sport (e.g., June 15 at the conclusion of the prospective student-athlete's sophomore year in high school for men's basketball and men's ice hockey, July 1 following the completion of the junior year in high school for most other sports).

- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. There has been growing concern that current prohibitions on electronic transmissions are outdated and lagging behind prospective student-athletes' use of technology. Current limitations on the permissible forms of electronic transmissions are inhibiting the exchange of information in the most efficient, cost effective and least intrusive means when compared to other forms of communication, such as telephone calls. Developments in technology have made it easier and less expensive to communicate through the expanded availability and prevalence of mobile communication devices that are multifunctional and often provide options for the user to define his or her communication preferences. Institutions have been permitted to send an unlimited number of emails to prospective student-athletes for several years and there have not been any concerns regarding frequency or intrusion. Today, most mobile communication devices permit electronic mail and text messages to be sent and received in the same manner. Further, research indicates that a clear majority of teens are texting and have unlimited texting plans. In fact, many teens prefer texting when compared to other methods of communication. This proposal seeks to deregulate the current restrictions on electronic communication as well as define electronic communication in a broad manner in order to account for future advancements in technology. Further, this proposal would establish a consistent start date with the current telephone call limitations so that all forms of permissible communication with prospective student-athletes would begin at the same time.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Potential cost increase if do not currently have unlimited texting plans.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

h. Recruiting – Telephone Calls.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal which would eliminate the limitations on the numbers and frequency of telephone calls to prospective student-athletes.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.
- (3) Rationale. This proposal seeks to further the cabinet's deregulation efforts regarding telephone calls. Currently, many institutions are spending

thousands of dollars for software to monitor telephone calls, as well as countless hours investigating potential violations. However, coaches are able to easily circumvent the phone call limitations (e.g., one per week) by emailing a prospective student-athlete and requesting the prospective student-athlete to call the coach at his or her own expense. The current restrictions do not limit the amount of intrusion on prospective student-athletes. In fact, a prospective student-athlete may feel more compelled to make a call at his or her own expense to a coach in response to the email request than to answer a telephone call. Further, early in the recruiting process, coaches and prospective student-athletes should be expected to discuss the prospective student-athlete's preferred frequency and method of communication. As a result, reasonable parameters may be set as it relates to telephone calls. This proposal would not change the permissible date on which institutions may begin calling prospective student-athletes or who may make telephone calls to prospective student-athletes. Finally, current restrictions regarding telephone call contact at a prospective student-athlete's practice and competition site would remain in place.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Variable, based on amount of telephone calls made to prospective student-athletes.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

i. Recruiting – Contacts and Evaluations – Women's Basketball Evaluations – Evaluations During Academic Year Evaluation Periods.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal that, in women's basketball, would specify that evaluations of live athletics activities during the academic year evaluation periods (other than permissible nonscholastic events) shall be limited to regularly scheduled high school, preparatory school and two-year college contests/tournaments and practices; and regular scholastic activities involving prospective student-athletes enrolled only at the institution at which the regular scholastic activities occur.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. In women's basketball, there has been an escalation in the number of impermissibly arranged activities disguised as open gyms or pick-up games during the academic year evaluation periods. These activities subject coaches to potential rules violations and can create an environment in which contact between NCAA coaches and outside influences occur. During the academic year evaluation periods,

evaluations should be limited to regularly scheduled high school, preparatory school and two-year college contests/tournaments and practices; regular scholastic activities involving prospective student-athletes enrolled only at the institution at which the regular scholastic activities occur; and institutional basketball camps and noninstitutional organized events (e.g., camps, leagues, tournaments and festivals) that are certified through the basketball certification process. Evaluations at certified nonscholastic events during the last full weekend of the fall contact period and the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the spring evaluation period will remain permissible. Additionally, legislation was recently adopted to preclude evaluations at noninstitutional, nonorganized events (e.g., pick-up games, open gyms) during the summer evaluation periods. This proposal seeks to expand that prohibition to academic year evaluation periods and make the restrictions more similar to what exists in men's basketball. This proposal was initiated by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association and the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Issues Committee supports this legislative change.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Potential reduction in recruiting costs.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

j. Recruiting – Tryouts – Nonscholastic Practice or Competition and Noninstitutional Camps and Clinics – Women's Basketball.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal that would specify that an institution [including any institutional department (e.g., athletics, recreational/intramural)] shall not host, sponsor or conduct a nonscholastic basketball practice or competition in which women's basketball prospective student-athletes participate on its campus or at an off-campus facility regularly used by the institution for practice and/or competition by any of the institution's sport programs, and to establish limited exceptions, as specified. Further, the proposal would specify that the use of an institution's facilities for noninstitutional camps and clinics is limited to the months of June, July and August. Finally, the proposal would prohibit evaluations at noninstitutional events, camps or clinics that occur on a Division I campus during evaluation periods.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate; contracts signed before June 28, 2011, may be honored.

- (3) Rationale. In women's basketball, there has been a proliferation of nonscholastic events held on Division I campuses during quiet periods, specifically during the months of May and June. Generally, these events are being planned and operated in an attempt to assist institutions with recruiting opportunities. Travel and lodging expenses are routinely provided free of charge for those prospective student-athletes or teams identified as important to the coaching staff's recruiting efforts, and funds and/or services provided by institutions and boosters are sometimes used to pay these expenses. Reluctant college coaches are being leveraged to help the event operator arrange for discounted operational costs (e.g., facility fees) under the threat that the event operator will take the event (and all of the prospective student-athletes) to another institution's campus. Regardless of the level of complicity or involvement of the coaching staff, these events provide a significant recruiting advantage for the institution that hosts the events. Institutions will continue to have the opportunity to host noninstitutional camps or clinics during the months of June, July and August and the opportunity to host basketball competition that is part of state multisport events. Finally, this recommendation is the same, including the specified exceptions, as NCAA Proposal No. 2009-100-A, which was adopted in April 2011 for men's basketball, with the exception of the additional prohibition of evaluating at noninstitutional events, camps or clinics that occur on a Division I campus during evaluation periods. This proposal was initiated by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association and the Women's Basketball Issues Committee supports this legislative change.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Potential lost revenue for use of institutional facilities by outside entities.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

k. Recruiting – Recruiting Calendars – Bowl Subdivision Football.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal in bowl subdivision football which would eliminate the contact period between the New Year's Day holiday and the American Football Coaches Association convention. Further, the proposal would eliminate the quiet period on the Sunday during the week of the annual convention of the American Football Coaches Association.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2012.

- (3) Rationale. Due to the increase in the number of bowl games occurring after January 1, institutions that participate in such bowls often do not have the opportunity to engage in off-campus recruiting activities during this time period. This proposal would eliminate the recruiting disadvantage that institutions may experience due to bowl participation after January 1. The days currently designated as contact and quiet periods would be designated as dead periods. The cabinet notes this proposal was initiated by the American Football Coaches Association and supported by a majority of the bowl subdivision football head coaches.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Potential cost savings due to the reduction of days in the contact period.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

I. Recruiting – Telephone Calls – Permissible Callers -- Exceptions – Prior to Commitment – Compliance Administrators.

- (1) Recommendation. The cabinet sponsored a proposal to permit compliance administrators to make calls to or receive calls from a prospective student-athlete (or the prospective student-athlete's parents or legal guardians), with no limit on the timing or number of such calls, provided the calls relate only to compliance issues.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Compliance administrators should have the flexibility to make calls to or receive calls from a prospective student-athlete in order to address compliance related issues if such issue occur prior to the prospective student-athlete's commitment to the institution. It would remain impermissible for a compliance administrator to engage in a recruiting conversation during such a call.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative.

- a. Enforcement Staff Update.** The enforcement staff provided an update regarding its recent focus on collecting information related to emerging recruiting trends in football. Several trends identified include: (1) involvement of street agents; (2)

involvement of scouting/recruiting services and their relationships with college coaches and agents; (3) employment of individuals associated with prospective student-athletes at institutional camps; (4) marginalization of high school coaches during recruiting process; and (5) intent of nonprofit mentoring programs to insert themselves into the lives of prospective student-athletes and develop relationships with them and their families. The enforcement staff noted that currently, some football programs' use of scouting/recruiting services appears to be contrary to NCAA Bylaw 13.14.3 in that the scouting/recruiting services provide oral reports (in addition to published reports or video) to college coaches. Bylaw 13.14.3 currently requires that the service be made available to any institution desiring to subscribe and at the same fee rate for all subscribers. Oral communication/reports from scouting/recruiting services in information that is not standardized or available to all other subscribers. The cabinet noted the ongoing concerns regarding the involvement of third parties in the recruiting process in basketball and the seemingly similar situations in football. The cabinet agreed to continue to monitor these trends and to discuss ways to specifically address them.

- b. Priority Item – Discussion on Limits of Noncoaching Staff with Sport Specific Responsibilities.** The cabinet discussed a request from the Legislative Council to explore potential revisions or alternatives to the current proposals regarding limits on noncoaching staff with sport specific responsibilities. Specifically, the cabinet discussed whether the current proposals appropriately addressed competitive equity and financial resource issues and concerns related to monitoring and enforcement. The cabinet noted that restricting the activities of noncoaching staff members (e.g., attending practice, sitting on the bench during contests) has the potential for unintended consequences, such as eliminating a noncoaching staff member's access to the coaching staff for administrative or student-athlete welfare purposes. In addition, such restrictions may limit a noncoaching staff member's ability to gain professional development. The cabinet noted that previous feedback received from the membership indicated support for the limits identified in the current proposals. Based on feedback from the enforcement staff, the cabinet believes that the current legislation regarding limitations on number and duties of coaches is enforceable and may be sufficiently monitored. The cabinet will continue to review feedback from the membership and explore options related to this topic at its September meeting.
- c. Priority Item – Priority Item – Continuing Examination of the Recruiting Model – Recruiting Calendars.** The cabinet continued its comprehensive examination of recruiting models in the areas of contacts, evaluations, electronic transmissions, telephone calls and official visits. The cabinet reviewed feedback received from conferences, coaches associations and roundtables conducted at the recent regional rules seminars. Based on the feedback received, the cabinet

agreed to sponsor legislative proposals related to electronic transmissions (e.g., text messages) and evaluations. In addition, the cabinet reviewed feedback submitted by sport specific groups and coaches associations regarding the development of recruiting calendars and establishing recruiting-person days or evaluation days in all sports for which such provisions currently do not apply. Based on the feedback, the cabinet sponsored proposals to establish recruiting calendars for men's and women's fencing, field hockey, men's ice hockey, women's gymnastics and wrestling. The cabinet noted a lack of consensus in the membership regarding concepts that would permit earlier contacts and official visits and the Leadership Council's current review of men's basketball recruiting issues. Therefore, the cabinet agreed to defer additional discussion of these concepts until after the review of the men's basketball recruiting issues is complete and the membership has reacted to the resultant model. During the upcoming year, the cabinet will explore potential concepts to deregulate and simplify recruiting rules.

- d. Women's Basketball – Limit on Number of Off-Campus Recruiters at Any One Time.** The cabinet reviewed a request from the Women's Basketball Issues Committee to sponsor legislation that would permit all four women's basketball coaches to engage in off-campus recruiting activities at the same time during the two nonscholastic evaluation weekends during the academic year and the July evaluation periods. The cabinet noted concerns regarding the potential for all coaches to be off-campus at the same time during the academic year. Further, the cabinet noted that true cost savings may not be achieved due to the brief nature of the academic year nonscholastic weekends and the current legislative exception that permits four coaches to engage in off-campus recruiting during the July evaluation periods.
- e. Request from the American Volleyball Coaches Association.** The American Volleyball Coaches Association requested that the cabinet review a potential emerging issue related to recruiting influences and nonscholastic clubs and facilities. A growing trend has been noted in which outside entities connected to private sports clubs are hosting nonchampionship segment tournaments in which college teams participate. The cabinet expressed concern with the proliferation of these events and the impact it may have on recruiting, particularly as it relates precollege expenses legislation. The cabinet would encourage the American Volleyball Coaches Association or other applicable organizations to explore potential solutions that would set appropriate parameters on these types of events and activities.
- f. Request from the NCAA Eligibility Center Related to Submission of a Official Transcripts.** The NCAA Eligibility Center requested that the cabinet

consider sponsoring legislation to require a prospective student-athlete to submit all official transcripts, representing the first six semesters of high school, to the NCAA Eligibility Center before an institution would be permitted to issue a National Letter of Intent or an institutional financial aid agreement to the prospective student-athlete. The cabinet declined to sponsor legislation at this time due to concerns regarding how this could impact the issuing of a National Letter of Intent or an institutional financial aid agreement to a prospective student-athlete who is initially recruited late in the year. In particular, concern was expressed as it relates to sports (e.g., baseball) in which a prospective student-athlete may choose to pursue a professional career after having signed a National Letter of Intent or financial aid agreement, thus requiring late recruitment and signings of other prospective student-athletes. However, the cabinet expressed general support of a concept that would require a prospective student-athlete to submit all official transcripts within an appropriate timeframe after he or she signs a National Letter of Intent or an institutional financial aid agreement.

- g. Contacts Between Boosters and Prospective Student-Athletes on Social Media Networks.** The cabinet reviewed a request from a conference office to review legislation related to an institution's responsibility in monitoring direct written communication between fans/boosters and prospective student-athletes on social media networks. Current legislation prohibits boosters from making contact with prospective student-athletes, including through written correspondence. The cabinet agreed that institutions are faced with challenges in monitoring the nature and volume of social media network communication that potentially involves its fans/boosters and prospective student-athletes. However, legislation that would permit social media communication between representatives of an institution's athletics interests and prospective student-athletes could lead to the development of relationships between boosters and prospective student-athletes as well other impermissible contacts and the provision of impermissible recruiting inducements. Further, such legislation would potentially require increased, and increasingly complex, monitoring efforts by institutional compliance staffs. If a representative of an institution's athletics interests contacts a prospective student-athlete via a social media site, the institution must report a violation. If the identity of the individual is unknown, the institution should attempt to determine his or her identity. If the institution is not able to determine the identity of the individual, the institution may take the approach of issuing a cease and desist order to the involved individual. To date, only three secondary cases involving similar circumstances have been processed. Based on the forgoing factors, the cabinet agreed to maintain the current legislation and encourage continued and increased education of boosters and fans regarding this matter.

- h. Academic Reform Efforts Regarding Two-Year College Transfer Requirements.** The NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet requested that the Recruiting and Athletics Personnel Cabinet review concepts related to recruitment of two-year college transfers who are nonqualifiers in conjunction with its development of an academic year of readiness for students who are significantly academically underprepared. Specifically, the Academic Cabinet recommends that the first year of academic enrollment for purposes of Bylaw 13.1.1.2 (contactable individuals -- two-year college prospective student-athletes) would not include the year of academic readiness. Therefore, on or off campus in-person recruiting contact (including unofficial and official visits) would not be permissible until after the second year of enrollment. The Recruiting and Athletics Personnel Issues Cabinet agreed generally with the concept, but recommended that the Academic Cabinet explore the possibility of an exception to contact restriction during the prospective student-athlete's final term if he or she is on track to graduate and fulfill the two-year transfer requirements at the conclusion of his or her second year of enrollment. In the alternative, the current legislative relief waiver process would apply.

Cabinet Chair: Ian McCaw, Baylor University

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