



NCAA Compliance – UNI ATHLETICS

Reporting NCAA Violations

If you become aware of any rules violations, you should contact the UNI Athletic Compliance Office or the Director of Athletics to report the information pertinent to the violation.

Contact the Athletic Compliance Office at 319-273-6027

Who is a Booster?

You are a "booster" if you:

- Are a member of the Panther Scholarship Club;
- Made financial donations to athletic department or team;
- Have been asked to assist, or has, assisted in recruiting;
- Have assisted in providing benefits to student athletes;
- Are a season ticket holder;
- Are a former coach, staff member, or student athlete;
- Are otherwise involved in promoting UNI athletics.

Who is a Prospect?

A prospect is a student in 9th – 12th grade, (7th grade in MBB & Softball) including students in prep schools, junior colleges, and individuals who have officially withdrawn from four-year schools. In addition, a student who has not yet started ninth grade may become a prospect if UNI or a booster provides the student, or the student's relatives or friends, with financial assistance or benefits not generally provided to other students. An individual remains a prospect until they enroll at UNI full-time during the regular academic year (i.e., fall or spring), even if the individual signed a National Letter of Intent with UNI.

What is Recruiting?

Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospect or the prospect's parent/legal guardian by a University staff member for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment at UNI and/or participation in UNI's intercollegiate athletics program. Recruiting activities include correspondence, e-mail, faxes, telephone conversations, social media interaction, & in-person contacts (both on and off campus).

Who May Recruit?

Only coaches and Athletic Department staff may be involved in the recruiting process. Boosters cannot engage in recruiting activities. You may not have any contact (i.e., in-person encounter, telephone call, correspondence) with a prospect or the prospect's family, on or off campus. If a prospect approaches you regarding UNI, explain that NCAA rules prevent you from discussing UNI with prospects. This prohibition also applies to prospects making official or unofficial visits to UNI's campus. Additionally, you may not contact a prospect's coach, principal or counselor for the purpose of evaluating a prospect's athletic ability or academic record (transcript). You may not talk to a student-athlete at another institution for the purpose of encouraging him or her to transfer to UNI.

What May Boosters Do?

You may continue to have contact with an established family friend or neighbor who is a prospect. However, such contact may not be for recruiting purposes and may not be requested by a UNI coaching staff member.

You may bring outstanding prospects to the attention of the UNI coaching staffs. However, you may not be involved in the actual evaluation of prospects. All evaluations and contacts are the sole responsibility of the UNI coaching staff.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: The son/daughter of a long-time friend is being actively recruited by a UNI. Do I have to stop having any contact with the prospect and his/her parents?

A: No, you may continue to have the same relationship with the family that you had before. You may not, however, use your relationship to urge that the son/daughter choose UNI, and you may not allow a coach to enlist you in the recruitment process.

Q: What should I do if I encounter a prospect at a UNI athletic event or while watching my son/daughter's high school athletic contest?

A: The NCAA rules prohibit boosters from having in-person contacts with prospects. However, the rules recognize that a booster may inadvertently (not prearrangement) come into contact with a prospect. In this situation, the booster may exchange greetings with the prospect, but must then terminate the encounter.

Q: May I attend a public event – for example, a community picnic or a high school banquet or awards dinner – if prospects are also in attendance?

A: Yes, you may. However, you should not engage in anything that could be viewed as "recruiting" any prospects.

Extra Benefits

An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or booster to provide a prospective or current student-athlete (or a student-athlete's relative or friend) a benefit that is not generally available to the public or other UNI students or, is not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation.

Any inappropriate, even inadvertent activity, could result in:

- Declaring a prospective or current student-athlete ineligible to participate at UNI.
- Sanctions placed on the University and its athletics programs.
- Restrictions placed upon your involvement with UNI's athletics program.

Examples of Extra Benefits:

- Anything from a UNI employee or athletics booster (e.g., use of a car, clothing, gifts, money, tickets for any kind of entertainment, employing family/friends).
- Free or reduced cost housing, meals and/or professional services. This includes in Iowa, in the student-athlete's home city or any other location.
- Arranging, providing or co-signing a loan.

What May You Do for Current Student-Athletes?

- Employ a student-athlete, as long as the individual is paid only for work performed and at the going rate in that locale for similar services.
- If you live within a 30-mile radius of UNI's campus, you may provide an occasional meal to a student-athlete or a team at your home. You MUST consult with the student-athlete's coach before arranging any such meal.
- Cater meals at on campus practice/competition sites.

Ask Before You Act!!



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