

# **DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL HOT TOPICS**

## **Session 2**



**PJ Hubert  
Ken Huber  
Charnele Kemper**

**Jeremy McCool  
Christa Palmer  
Brian Thornton**



**Regional Rules**

# OVERVIEW

- Scholastic Team Definition.
- Summer Athletic Activities.
- Recruiting Calendar and Summer Events.
- Exhibition Game Waivers.
- Professional Development and Fellow Designees.
- Enforcement Updates.





# **SCHOLASTIC TEAM DEFINITION**



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# Background

- During its January 2020 meeting, NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee confirmed the current distinction between scholastic and nonscholastic recruiting periods should be maintained.
- Consistent with Commission on College Basketball recommendations.
- Longstanding membership concerns regarding third party harmful influence in men's basketball recruiting environment.



# Background

- Due to membership confusion and burden associated with application of the current scholastic team interpretation, MBOC charged staff to develop a clear and simple way to define a scholastic team.
- Staff's analysis is that the same definition for a scholastic team will apply to sports with designated scholastic and nonscholastic evaluation periods, including men's and women's basketball, football, softball and women's lacrosse.



# Background

- Group of staff members representing NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs, Enforcement, Eligibility Center and Office of Legal Affairs collaborated to develop the interpretation and educational column.
- Staff received membership feedback from the National Association of Athletics Compliance advisory group and a group of representatives from the Autonomy Five conferences.



# Background

- NCAA Division I Interpretations Committee reviewed and approved during its May 20 meeting.
- NCAA Division I Legislative Committee reviewed and approved during its June 15 meeting.
- Interpretations Committee charged the staff with developing an educational plan for ensuring the membership understands the application of the new definition.
- Timeline for implementation: Interpretation will be published and effective by August 1.



# Scholastic Team Interpretation

- The academic and membership affairs staff determined that a team of prospective student-athletes is scholastic if:
  - Its secondary institution has an NCAA Eligibility Center status of “cleared” or “extended evaluation”; or
  - It is identified on the NCAA Eligibility Center website as having a formal affiliation with a secondary institution that has an NCAA Eligibility Center status of “cleared” or “extended evaluation”.





# Educational Column

- Staff developed questions and answers to assist the Division I membership in applying the scholastic team legislation.
- Assist institutions in determining when a coaching staff member may evaluate scholastic and nonscholastic teams.
- Currently, interpretation and educational column posted on NCAA.org Legislative Issues and Actions website.
  - Will be posted on LSDBi by August 1.



# Educational Column – Key Takeaways

- A secondary institution may have more than one team with which it is formally affiliated provided the secondary institution takes affirmative action within its NCAA Eligibility Center account to verify the formal affiliation with the team.
- A team with a different name than the name of the secondary institution may be considered a “scholastic team” provided the team is listed in the secondary institution’s NCAA Eligibility Center account and the secondary institution has an NCAA Eligibility Center status of “cleared” or “extended evaluation”.



# Educational Column – Key Takeaways

- Basketball coaches are permitted to evaluate competition between a scholastic and nonscholastic team during the academic year.
- However, basketball coaches may not evaluate a prospective student-athlete that is on a nonscholastic team during a competition against another nonscholastic team during the academic year, unless such competition occurs during a certified event.



# Eligibility Center Logistics

- Technology and operations update with effective/implementation date of August 1.
  - High schools will need to submit a form to the Eligibility Center (via task in high school accounts) to verify formal affiliation with teams.
  - Field added to high school accounts on Eligibility Center website to display formally affiliated team names.
    - Verification statement includes acknowledgement by the high school that actions and activities of any coach, player, manager or person associated with team may be considered in the high school account status and review with the Eligibility Center.
- Search team name function similar to search high school on Eligibility Center website (pending IT update).



# Eligibility Center Communications

- Communication update.
  - Eligibility Center high school newsletter, coaches newsletter, member institution newsletter.
  - Announcement on high school portal.



# Case Study No. 1

- McCool High School has a varsity men's basketball team. Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team is formally affiliated with McCool High School.
- Is Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team considered a "scholastic" team?



# Case Study No. 1

- Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team may be considered a scholastic team provided the team is listed on McCool High School's NCAA Eligibility Center account and McCool High School has an NCAA Eligibility center status of "cleared" or "extended evaluation".



# Case Study No. 2

- McCool High School has a varsity men's basketball team. Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team has an agreement with McCool High School to provide academic coursework and support to Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team members.
- Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team is not listed on McCool High School's NCAA Eligibility Center account.
- Is Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team considered a "scholastic" team?





# Case Study No. 2

- No. Thornton Preparatory men's basketball team is considered a nonscholastic team as the team is not listed on McCool High School's NCAA Eligibility Center account.



# Timing of Verification

- A secondary institution's NCAA Eligibility Center account status may change throughout the year.
- It is the responsibility of the institution to verify that the team is considered scholastic prior to a coaching staff member engaging in an evaluation of the team.
- Should a team's scholastic status change throughout the year, the institution is only held to the scholastic status of the team as identified on the secondary institution's NCAA Eligibility Center account on the date the coaching staff member engaged in an evaluation of the team.





# Summer Athletic Activities



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# Summer Athletic Activities

## Division I Basketball Summer Access

**Voluntary and Virtual Nonphysical Activities Only until July 19 and Summer Access Beginning July 20**



June 2020							July 2020							August 2020							September 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
														30	31												

### Voluntary and Virtual Nonphysical Activities

- From June 1 through July 19, only voluntary activities and up to eight hours of virtual nonphysical activities are permissible.

### Summer Access

- Required summer athletic activities (summer access) may begin July 20 for up to eight weeks until the institution's first day of classes or September 15, whichever is earlier. *Model is based on classes beginning August 27.*
- Up to eight hours per week for weight-training, conditioning and skill instruction, with not more than four hours of skill-related instruction per week.
- Required virtual nonphysical activities are permissible for student-athletes.
- Required in-person and virtual activities may not exceed a combined eight hours per week.

### Out-of-Season

- Beginning on the institution's first day of classes or September 15, whichever is earlier, up to eight hours per week for weight-training, conditioning and not more than four hours of skill-related instruction per week. Two days off per week.

### Preseason Practice

- No changes to the start of on-court practice (e.g., 42 days before the date of the institution's first regular season contest).
- Limit of 30 days of countable activities (e.g., conditioning, skill-related instruction) within those 42 days.

**Note:** Calendar is based on November 10, 2020, as the institution's first contest date.



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# Summer Athletic Activities

**Question No. 1:** May an institution's coach and student-athlete engage in in-person, nonathletically related conversations while on-campus?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 2:** May student-athletes participate in "pick-up" games on the institution's campus?

**Answer:** Yes, provided there is no arrangement or observation by countable coaches and the "pick-up" game meets the remaining requirements of voluntary activities as defined in NCAA Division I Bylaw 17.02.19.





# **RECRUITING CALENDAR AND SUMMER EVENTS**



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# **Current Legislated Men's Basketball Recruiting Calendar**



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# Fall 2020 Recruiting Calendar (As Legislated)

August 2020						
SU	M	T	W	R	F	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- August 6-15:  
Dead Period.
- August 1-5; 16-31:  
Quiet Period.





# Fall 2020 Recruiting Calendar (As Legislated)

September 2020						
SU	M	T	W	R	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- September 1-8: Quiet Period.
- September 9-30: Recruiting Period.
- Evaluations of live athletics activities during the academic year recruiting periods 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 where the regular scholastic activities occur.



# Fall 2020 Recruiting Calendar (As Legislated)

October 2020						
SU	M	T	W	R	F	SA
		1	2	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- October 1-31: Recruiting Period.
- Evaluations of live athletics activities during the academic year recruiting periods 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 where the regular scholastic activities occur.



# Proposed Temporary Recruiting Calendar

- Temporary period designed for prospective student-athletes to showcase their talent, be evaluated by Division I coaches and earn a scholarship (especially Class of 2021).
- Basketball in-season practices begin September 29 and contests begin November 10. Season concludes April 5.
  - Temporary period provides increased off-campus recruiting opportunities prior to start of season and does not conflict with in-season practices and games.
- Provides equitable, but distinct, opportunities for scholastic and nonscholastic events, similar to current spring/summer recruiting calendar.
- Proposed changes are consistent with 2020 Recruiting Calendar NABC Guiding Principles, as supported by Men's Basketball Oversight Committee.



# NABC Guiding Principles

- NABC developed guiding principles for possible modified recruiting calendar.
  - Health, safety and well-being of all stakeholders is central priority.
  - Provide scholarship and participation opportunities to prospective student-athletes.
  - Care for current student-athletes.
  - No missed class time for prospective student-athletes.
  - Fiscal responsibility.
  - Collaboration between all stakeholders
  - Working through appropriate timelines.
  - Coaches' Commitment.
- Reviewed and endorsed by the Men's Basketball Oversight Committee.



# **Proposed August 2020 Recruiting Calendar**



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# Proposed August 2020 Recruiting Calendar

- Based on initial feedback received from NCAA Division I Council and membership during the week of June 15, Men's Basketball Oversight Committee has amended its original recommendation that would have established two evaluation periods in August.
- MBOC recommends August 1-31 as a quiet period.
  - Changes current August 6-15 dead period to a quiet period.
  - Prohibits any off-campus recruiting activities.
  - Permits official and unofficial visits and institutional camps to occur.
    - Subject to state, local and institutional health and safety guidelines.



# Proposed August Recruiting 2020 Calendar

AUGUST 2020						
SU	M	T	W	R	F	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Change August 6-15 dead period to a quiet period.
- August 1-31:  
Quiet period.
  - August 29:  
Testing date.



# **Proposed September 2020 Recruiting Calendar**



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# Proposed September 2020 Recruiting Calendar

- Current legislation permits off-campus recruiting activities beginning September 9.
- MBOC recommends off-campus recruiting activities to begin September 1.
- MBOC recommends expansion of types of events where coaches may evaluate prospective student-athletes for September 1-30 only.
  - Increased number of events provides more local recruiting and participation opportunities
    - Increases cost effectiveness and reduces health risks for coaches and prospects.
  - Provides more recruiting opportunities prior to start of practice and games.



# September 2020 Recruiting Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2020						
SU	M	T	W	R	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- September 1-30 non-holiday weekdays and September 13 & 27 (Sundays) academic year recruiting period + fall leagues & open gyms evaluations (green).
- September 5 at 9 a.m. - September 7 at 3 p.m.: Nonscholastic certified events evaluations only (blue).
- September 19 at 9 a.m. – September 20 at 5 p.m.: Scholastic certified events evaluations only (purple).
- September 12 & 26: Quiet period. Testing dates.



# Nonscholastic Certified Events

- September 5 (9 a.m.) – September 7 (3 p.m.)
  - MBOC recommends evaluation period for NCAA certified events only.
- These events are similar to current NCAA certified events that typically occur in April and July.
- Generally, traditional NCAA certification requirements will apply.
  - Due to pandemic, flexibility will be provided regarding deadlines and possibly some other policies and procedures (e.g., adjoining state rule).



# Scholastic Certified Events

- September 19 (9 a.m.) – September 20 (5 p.m.).
  - MBOC recommends evaluation period for NCAA certified high school scholastic events or two-year college certified intercollegiate events only.
- These events are similar to current NCAA, NFHS and two-year college certified events that typically occur the last two weekends in June.
- NFHS supports temporary change to permit NCAA to certify all high school scholastic events for NFHS members and nonmembers.
- Remaining current legislative requirements for June events continue to apply.
  - Current legislative waiver permits events to occur at noneducational facility pursuant to NCAA ECAG policies.



# Academic Year Recruiting Period, Fall Leagues & Open Gyms

- September 1 – 30 non-holiday weekdays (before school and after school until 9 p.m.) and September 13 & 27 (Sundays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.), MBOC recommends evaluations be permitted at:
  - a. Regularly scheduled high school prep school, two-year college contests and practices;
  - b. Regular scholastic activities including only prospects enrolled at school where regular scholastic activities occur;
  - c. Open gyms that include prospects from multiple high schools; and
  - d. Fall leagues.



# Academic Year Recruiting Period, Fall Leagues & Open Gyms

- Current NCAA legislation permits evaluations only at activities listed in (a) and (b) beginning September 9.
- Current NCAA legislation defines activities listed in (c) and (d) as nonscholastic.
- NCAA will not certify fall leagues and open gyms.
- NABC may create a registry of open gyms and fall leagues.
- Contacts with prospects (or his family members) permitted during recruiting period based on normal application of legislation.
- Beginning October 1, return to current legislated recruiting calendar.
  - Evaluations only permitted at activities listed in (a) and (b).



# Other Impacted Recruiting Legislation

- Current legislation requires off-campus recruiting activities to count toward 130 recruiting-person day limit beginning September 9.
  - MBOC recommends 130 recruiting-person day limit should not apply during September. Limit applies beginning October 1.
  - Proposed dates are intended to replace days lost in April, June and July when this limit generally does not apply.
- Current legislation permits four coaches to engage in off-campus recruiting activities.
  - MBOC recommends only two coaches may engage in off-campus recruiting activities at any one time (“baton rule”) during September 2020.
    - Consistent with NABC principle to prioritize care of current-student-athletes on campus.



# Other Impacted Recruiting Legislation

- Current legislation permits seven recruiting opportunities per prospective student-athlete per year.
  - Evaluations that occur September 1 – May 31 count toward the limit, while those that occur June 1 – August 31 do not count.
  - Contacts count toward the limit at anytime.
- MBOC recommends seven recruiting opportunities limit should not apply during September. Limit applies beginning October 1.





# Other Impacted Recruiting Legislation

- Current legislation for contact and communication restrictions continues to apply as legislated.
- For certified scholastic and nonscholastic events, fall leagues and open gyms:

## NO CONTACT

- No in-person contact with:
  - PSA;
  - PSA's family;
  - PSA's coach; or
  - IAWP.

## COMMUNICATION

- Phone calls and texting permissible with:
  - PSA;
  - PSA's family; and
  - HS coach.



# **Temporary Responsibilities for One Noncoaching Men's Basketball- Specific Staff Member**



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# Temporary Responsibilities for One Noncoaching Men's Basketball-Specific Staff Member

- MBOC recommends September 1 – September 30, one designated noncoaching staff member is permitted to participate in on-court activities, including coaching.
  - Provides coaches increased flexibility for decisions related to which countable coaches are going to engage in off-campus recruiting or remain on-campus to conduct workouts.
  - Provides additional on-court assistance when two countable coaches are engaged in off-campus recruiting activities.
  - Provides coaching experience to grow the pipeline of future qualified coaches.



# Temporary Responsibilities for One Noncoaching Men's Basketball-Specific Staff Member

- May not conduct workouts or provide instruction to student-athletes without presence of countable coach or strength and conditioning coach.
- Any current full-time men's basketball noncoaching staff member (e.g., director of operations, video coordinator, etc.) is eligible to serve in this capacity.
  - Only one may be designated and name must be kept on file with compliance.
  - Position must exist as of June 25, 2020.
- Beginning October 1, 2020, designated noncoaching staff member must return to legislated responsibilities.
  - No instruction to student-athletes and no on-court activities.





# **Exhibition Game Waivers**



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# Current Legislation

NCAA Bylaw 17.3.3.1 permits institutions to participate in the following:

- Two informal basketball practice scrimmages conducted in privacy and without publicity; or
- Two exhibition basketball contests against non-NCAA Division I four-year collegiate institutions prior to its first regular season contest; or
- One of each.



# Exhibition Game Waivers

- April 2020: MBOC and WBOC continued to confirm their support of Committee on Legislative Relief's guidelines for basketball exhibition game waivers to raise funds for catastrophic events for the 2020-21 basketball season.
- Counts as one of institution's two permissible exhibition games.
- Must submit a legislative relief waiver.
- No relief - waivers seeking to permit an additional exhibition game or scrimmage.
  - Previously signed contracts will not be considered mitigating circumstances.



# Committee For Legislative Relief Guidelines for Exhibition Games

- Relief efforts must be for a catastrophic event (defined by Federal Emergency Management Agency);
- Exhibition must occur prior to the first permissible contest date;
- Exhibition may occur at any location except for a prospective student-athlete's educational institution;
- No legislative relief is provided from playing season limitations;
- All proceeds must go to a 501(c)3 organization to support humanitarian efforts for the catastrophic event;
- Catastrophic event must have occurred after the previous season's NCAA Championship game; and
- Institution must report the amount of money raised and the name of the 501(c)3 organization the funds were donated.





# Exhibition Game Waivers

- Catastrophic events as defined by FEMA
- COVID-19
- Racial and Social Injustice





# **Professional Development Designee (MBB) & Fellow Designee (WBB)**



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# Professional Development & Fellow Designees

- Permit one existing noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities (designated on an annual basis) to provide technical or tactical instruction to a student-athlete during practice or skill instruction and engage in off-campus recruiting activities without counting against the coaching limits.
- The designation will help enhance ethnic, racial and gender diversity that better reflects the diversity of the sport, the membership and the coaching industry.
- Full-time employee budget neutral concept focus on professional development.
- Concepts currently being reviewed by MBOC and WBOC.





# **Enforcement Trends & Updates**



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# Enforcement Trends & Updates

- Traditionally identified impermissible activities continue to be identified prior to and continuing throughout the COVID-19 imposed Dead Period.
- Such activities to be aware of may include:



# Enforcement Related: Impermissible Recruiting Examples

- **Cash payouts to prospects, support system or family members** – *lump sum (\$30,000 up front) or installments, e.g. \$5k for unofficial visit, \$5k for official visit, \$5k after campus arrival, \$5k per each semester enrolled = \$30k for 1 full year as a SA.*
- **Relocation expenses for prospects and family members** – *may entail relocation to a temporary residence in the vicinity of campus or relocation to a better residence in current living area, e.g. from a humble apartment to condo on other side of town.*
- **Inducements of need** – *e.g., home furnishings, business repairs, utility or rent payments for prospect's family – may also include a parent's business or employment opportunity provided by a booster*
- **Vehicles for prospects or family members** – *sometimes paid for by an agent or booster*



# Enforcement Related: Impermissible Recruiting Examples

- **Travel reimbursement for institutional athletics contests** – *may be compatible with the relocation trend, travel expenses promised for away contests (home contests or both if only a local relocation).*
- **Employment for student-athlete's family members** – *This action may manifest in the form of a sports agency employing a family member for future services/representation.*
- **Expenses for unofficial visits** (cash, meals, airfare, lodging) - *typically requested after completion of the visit or a condition to visit, with a possible threat to end the recruitment for lack of reimbursement (grassroots coach, trainer, handler, etc.)*
- **Providing impermissible compensation to third parties to assist the institution in the recruiting process** (*access fees – possibly high school, prep school coaches, or scouting/recruiting service providers motivated to control the recruitment of a psa*)



# Enforcement Related: Impermissible Recruiting Examples

- **Involvement of apparel company representatives or regional scouts as impermissible recruiters** – *typically, but not exclusively member institution (MI) sponsor exclusive, e.g. MI is Nike, but a coach utilizes personal relationship with Under Armour representative to assist in recruiting.*
- **Tampering via a third-party with student-athletes prior to their entry into the Transfer Portal**
- **Grade Changes / Test Fraud for prospective student-athletes**





# QUESTIONS?



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