



Regional Rules

Bylaw 13

Virtual Recruiting



Agenda

- Evolution of Virtual Recruiting.
- Virtual Recruiting in Division III.
- Other Virtual Questions.
 - Virtual Visits.
 - Virtual Camps.
 - Virtual Celebratory Signing Ceremonies.
- Livestreaming.
- Questions.

Evolution of Virtual Recruiting

Since COVID-19 closed campuses in March of 2020...

The Subcommittee for Legislative Relief issues initial blanket waiver for virtual recruiting during the spring/summer of 2020.

April 2020

The April blanket waiver is extended for the 2020-21 academic year.

July 2020

The Interpretations & Legislation Committee recommends that the blanket waiver be pursued as a proposal for the 2022 NCAA Convention.

February 2021

The Management and Presidents Councils adopt ILC's recommendation.

April 2021

Division III members to vote on proposal to make virtual recruiting part of the legislation.

January 2022



Evolution of Virtual Recruiting cont.

What areas of the legislation are in play?

Virtual platforms like Zoom, FaceTime and Google Hangouts are videoconferencing tools - which are considered phone calls.

Bylaw
13.02.10

Before a PSA's financial deposit **and** May 1 of their senior year, all communication between a PSA and a coach/team must be **private**.

Bylaw
13.02.11

Videoconferencing tools are subject to the same privacy limitations as Bylaw 13.02.11, meaning *they must be **private** before a PSA's financial deposit & May 1.*

April 24, 2020
Interpretation

Dictates **how** and **when** an institution can comment on its recruitment of a given PSA.

Bylaw
13.10

Virtual Recruiting in Division III



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Virtual Recruiting in Division III

The virtual recruiting activity may occur at any time of the year; may involve prospective student-athletes of any age or grade level; and does not have to be initiated by the institution.

Zoom, Skype, FaceTime, Instagram ✓

Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring ✓

Freshmen through Seniors ✓

High School or Club Team ✓

Parents and Families ✓

Public Chat Function ✓

Virtual Recruiting in Division III (cont.)

Student-athletes may only participate in virtual recruiting events that occur during the regular academic year when they are enrolled full-time or eligible to compete. Further, the student-athlete's involvement must be voluntary, and they may not miss class.

Event in the Summer 

As a Practice During Declared Season 

Event Over Winter Break 

Student-Athlete Taking Gap Year 

Virtual Recruiting in Division III (cont.)

Institutional athletics and coaching staff members, other members of the campus community, alumni and other permissible recruiters may participate in the presentation.

Department Hall of Fame member ✓

Local Media ✗

Coaches from Other Institutions ✗

Admissions, FAR, Financial Aid Reps ✓



Virtual Recruiting in Division III (cont.)

Institutions may publicize the logistical details concerning the virtual recruiting event but are prohibited from promoting or publicizing the participation of an individual or a group of prospective student-athletes.

Tweet containing a screen shot of the attendees of the event. ❌

Instagram post with a flier for the event and the link to join. ✅

TikTok scrolling through each of the institutional reps who will present. ✅

Snap saying, “Jeff the PSA is registered for our event – are you?!” ❌

Other Virtual Questions



Other Virtual Questions

Are virtual visits permissible?

Yes. The relief allows virtual visits because the event itself would be permissible if done in person on the institution's campus.

Overall

Limited to **one** team meeting as part of a virtual visit, as this would be permissible on campus.

Team Meetings

The relief provides flexibility with respect to communicating with PSAs, but **does not** allow benefits, such as meals, to be provided to PSAs in their homes.

Benefits

Limited to one virtual team meeting.

Flexibility for multiple meetings was for Summer 2020, **only**.

Committed PSAs

Other Virtual Questions (cont.)

May an institution provide a digital photo following a virtual visit?

Yes. A PSA may be provided a digital photo, as long as the institution does not post the picture or encourage the PSA to post it on social media.

Answer

Institutions may provide the PSA with a digital photo from a campus visit.

May 8, 2020
Ed Column

An institution may provide a PSA with personalized recruiting materials if the materials are on official athletics publications published or produced by the institution.

October 21, 2019
Interpretation

The virtual visit photo is a personalized recruiting material as long as it is sent via an institutional email account or is otherwise deemed an official athletics publication.

Analysis

Other Virtual Questions (cont.)

May an institution conduct a virtual camp?

Yes, provided the camp meets the criteria of Bylaw 13.11.3.2.

Answer

Camp must:

- Be open;
- Not offer free/reduced admission; and
- Include mementos in the price of admission, if such items are given.

Bylaw 13.11.3.2

Limiting participation by number, age, gender or grade level is considered “open”.

Limiting participation by academic criteria is not.

March 21, 2019,
Interpretation

Other Virtual Questions (cont.)

May a coach attend a virtual celebratory signing ceremony?

No. A coach is not permitted to attend a celebratory signing ceremony, even if it is virtual.

Answer

Institutional staff members may not be present when a PSA signs the standard, nonbinding celebratory signing form and the form may not be signed on the institution's campus.

Bylaw
13.9.1.1.1

Virtual recruiting flexibility applies to events that would normally be taking place on campus.

Virtual Recruiting
Rationale

The virtual signing ceremony is **not** an event that an institutional staff member could normally attend in person.

Analysis

Other Virtual Questions (cont.)

May a coach send a video to be played at a virtual signing ceremony?

No. A coach is not permitted to send a recording to be played at a virtual celebratory signing ceremony.

Answer

A coach is not permitted to attend a celebratory signing ceremony, even if it is virtual.

Virtual Signing Ceremony



Still impermissible. The public communications timeline is a separate bylaw and does not change a coach's inability to attend a virtual signing ceremony.

After May 1 & Deposit



Livestreaming



Livestreaming

When it comes to recruiting, livestreaming falls into one of three categories:

Permissible. An institution is permitted to livestream a virtual recruiting event provided the event is not recorded or taped.

Institution Livestreaming
a Virtual Recruiting Event

Impermissible. An institution is not permitted to livestream a camp or clinic with PSAs in attendance. This is because Bylaw 13.10.4 prohibits the publicizing of a PSA's visit to campus.

Institution Livestreaming
a Virtual Camp

Permissible. An institutional athletics staff member is permitted to view a livestream (or recording) of an event involving PSAs provided the staff member could otherwise permissibly attend the event and the livestream is available to all at the same cost.

Coach Watching a
Livestreamed Contest

Questions?



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 - Click the survey link and answer the three questions.
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