

# Head Coach Responsibility Educational Document

## APPLICABLE NCAA DIVISION I BYLAW

**Bylaw 11.1.1.1 – Responsibility of Head Coach.** An institution’s head coach shall be held responsible for the head coach’s actions and the actions of all institutional staff members who report, directly or indirectly, to the head coach. In order to assist the NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions in penalty deliberations, the enforcement staff will gather information regarding whether the head coach promoted an atmosphere of compliance within the program and monitored the activities of all institutional staff members who report, directly or indirectly, to the head coach.

## CHARGING

If there is a Level I or II violation(s) in a sport program, the enforcement staff will charge a head coach responsibility violation at the same level as the underlying violation(s).

## PENALTIES

During its deliberations on appropriate penalties, the Committee on Infractions (COI) will apply penalties consistent with the level and classification of the head coach’s violations. In determining the application of aggravating and mitigating factors (AMFs) and the severity of penalties, the COI will consider whether the head coach promoted an atmosphere of compliance and monitored the activities of direct and indirect reports. Examples of the factual information that may inform on AMFs and penalties include, but are not limited to, whether the head coach – through both words and actions – did the following:

- Established that compliance is a shared responsibility and the ultimate responsibility for the integrity of the program rests with the head coach;
- Set clear expectations that all coaches, staff and student-athletes should comply with NCAA legislation and that failure to do so would result in clearly articulated discipline;
- Conducted frequent spot checks, actively looked for and evaluated red flags and asked pointed questions about potential issues or areas of concern;
- Regularly consulted with the compliance staff and asked about the permissibility of actions before acting;
- Provided and/or actively participated in timely, consistent and continuing education of all coaches, staff members and student-athletes regarding NCAA legislation;
- Promptly and consistently reviewed relevant documentation (e.g., forms, logs, evaluations, questionnaires) within the sport program;
- Self-detected and/or reported actual and potential violations to the compliance staff in a timely manner;
- Regularly evaluated direct and indirect reports’ commitment to compliance, including knowledge of an individual’s past published infractions history;
- Encouraged staff and student-athletes to report actual or potential violations to the compliance staff and protected from retribution any person who did so; and
- Allowed for and appropriately participated in an independent inquiry by the institution into potential violations.

While these actions do not negate a violation of Bylaw 11.1.1.1, they will inform on the types and severity of the penalties prescribed by the COI. Additionally, the enforcement staff will consider these actions for purposes of negotiated resolution.

