

League Guidelines and Requirements

SECTION I. General

The NCAA enforcement certification and approvals group (ECAG) that certifies non-scholastic basketball events (April and July) and college summer basketball leagues. To accomplish this task, ECAG is responsible for evaluating these events/leagues and ensuring that both the event/league and its participants are compliant with established standards, NCAA legislation and requirements. These standards, legislation, requirements and associated policies and procedures are subject to change without prior notice.

1. **Applicable Legislation.** Basketball certification is granted for the following:
 - A. **Basketball Leagues.** Student-athletes (SAs) enrolled at NCAA Division I institutions are permitted to participate. [NCAA Bylaws 17.31.4 and 17.31.4.1]
 - B. **Basketball Events.** NCAA Division I coaches are permitted to attend and observe prospective student-athletes (PSAs) who participate in the activities. [NCAA Bylaws 13.18 and 13.19]
2. **NCAA Requirements and Non-NCAA Members.** Because event/league operators (as well as registered participants in NCAA-certified events and leagues) are not NCAA members subject to its bylaws, by participating in the certification and approval process, all such individuals and/or entities are required to acknowledge and agree that they are voluntarily assuming the responsibility to:
 - A. comply with NCAA legislation and ECAG policies and procedures;
 - B. fully disclose information required by ECAG and operate in a financially transparent manner; and
 - C. allow the NCAA and/or ECAG staff unfettered access to the physical event location and to all relevant information and/or financial records associated with operation of the event.

Individuals submitting applications, rosters, and/or organization in the BBCS are assumed to know and understand all requirements and have plans/procedures to successfully comply. In other words, in determining whether a coach/operator violated NCAA legislation or policies/procedures, and in assessing any associated penalty, ECAG will not consider the individual's purported lack of knowledge as a mitigating factor. Failure to comply may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval.

3. **ECAG Communications.**
 - A. **Online.** www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification is the ultimate resource for information for participants. ECAG encourages those involved to frequent the website for updates and changes. Participants are expected to be knowledgeable of and compliant with NCAA requirements and will be held accountable to information posted online.
 - B. **BBCS.** Decisions and requests for information are communicated in the BBCS through the associated account, application/post-event review form (PERF), or team bench/roster with the exception of the new organization creation process, but this will be added soon. Alerts will also post to the account owner's profile. In most cases, the account owner will also be notified with an auto-generated email. ECAG will NOT typically contact the person associated with the account

by other means (phone, mail, overnight delivery service, fax, etc.) even if an email is sent and is returned as undeliverable. [There are plans to add text alerts to the BBCS in the future.]

- a. **User Account Contact Information.** It is the account owner's responsibility to make sure their contact information is accurate and up-to-date and to confirm that ECAG emails addresses are added as safe users in any filters being used by their service provider. If an issue arises, ECAG will contact an operator/coach via the information provided on the user account.
- C. **Email.** ECAG may also send emails outside of the BBCS to communicate upcoming changes, provide education, etc. that will be seen in mass via Salesforce.
- a. **Email Successfully Sent, but Not Received.** If the e-mail is not delivered for any reason (identified as spam, flagged as junk e-mail, no longer the user's address, mailbox is full, etc.) but the NCAA staff has either posted information online in the BBCS, has a delivery receipt that the e-mail was successfully sent, or has Salesforce records that the communication was successfully received/opened by the user, the contacted individual will be expected to respond by the appropriate deadlines.

SECTION II. Participant Requirements

1. **Registered BBCS Account.** All event/league operators, individuals involved in operating or managing an event, event coaches, people of ultimate authority for a team or organization of teams and event athletes must have an active account in the BBCS. Once an account is created, that same account should be utilized each year. Contact information can be updated at any time by contacting ECAG; so, it should NOT be necessary to create a new account only to edit an address, phone number or email.
2. **USA Basketball (USAB) Gold License.** All league operators are required to obtain a USAB Gold License. The USAB Gold License requires completion of educational modules and includes a criminal background check. Until ECAG has been notified by USAB directly and verified in the BBCS that a USAB Gold License has been issued, the account owner is blocked from performing any activity in the BBCS beyond creating a user account including certification applications and team building.
3. **NCAA Compliant and ECAG Eligibility.** Certain behaviors/circumstances may render individuals/entities ineligible to operate or participate in NCAA-certified events/leagues. The NCAA reserves the right to withdraw current or deny future opportunities to participate in or benefit from the NCAA-certification and approval process if the coach/operator fails in any of the following areas:
 - A. **ECAG Policies and Procedures.** Failure to comply with ECAG policies and procedures, including any attestations or terms of participation agreed to when completing any of the online processes required in the BBCS.
 - B. **NCAA Requirements.** Failure to comply with NCAA legislation, guidelines and requirements.
 - C. **Unethical Conduct and/or Participation in a Violation.** Participation in unethical activities and/or a violation(s) of NCAA legislation/requirements include, but are not limited to, involvement in:
 - a. Fraudulent activities;

- b. Misconduct in the NCAA certification and approval process or activities associated with those processes;
 - c. Influencing others to furnish the NCAA false or misleading information; or
 - d. Any other activity conducted with intent to otherwise deceive.
- D. **Failure to Cooperate.** Failure to cooperate with the NCAA regarding possible NCAA rules violations, even if the violations are unrelated to basketball certification rules and guidelines. Failure to cooperate could include, but would not be limited to, the failure to:
- a. Provide relevant information;
 - b. Provide complete and accurate information;
 - c. Provide supporting documentation requested by the NCAA staff; or
 - d. Respond to inquiries in a timely manner.
- E. **False or Misleading Information.** Failure to provide complete and accurate information to the NCAA or the provision of false and misleading information to the NCAA in an investigation, in obtaining certification or approval, in participating in activities associated with the NCAA or to circumvent NCAA legislation/requirements.

NOTE: If a coach/operator has been notified of his/her ineligibility, he/she may still obtain a USAB Gold License and entitled to the benefits provided by USAB in association with that license but would be denied the opportunity to operate or participate in NCAA-certified events/leagues. Receipt of a USAB Gold License is not synonymous with being ECAG eligible.

SECTION III. Certification Process Overview

1. **Application.** Operators may request certification by submitting an online application in the BBCS. An application to request certification must be submitted to ECAG annually no later than 45 days prior to the first requested date of certification. The first date granted certification will be no less than 45 days after the date the application is submitted.
- A. **League Information.** League operators are required to submit the following information:
- a. General information. Identification of activity type (event or league), dates, gender of participants, number and age of participants, etc.
 - b. Facility information. Name, address, number of courts, capacity of venue, owner of venue and projected facility rental cost.
 - c. Fees for participants and league sponsorships received.
 - d. Anticipated awards, gifts and benefits (transportation, hotels, meals, etc.).

- e. Insurance submission.
 - f. Attestations.
2. **Initial NCAA Review.** ECAG will review the application and determine if the application is complete and can be processed to completion.
 - A. **Request for Additional Information.** If additional information is required to process an application to completion, ECAG will request additional information in the BBCS. This will result in an online alert and auto-generated email sent to the operator, to which he/she must respond by the identified deadline. The failure to respond to a request for additional information may result in a denial.
 3. **ECAG Decision.** Once the application is complete, ECAG will process the application to completion and render a decision. Decisions are final. If the application is denied, the reason for the denial will be posted to the BBCS.
 4. **Submission of Changes/Cancellations.** Applications are approved based on the information submitted in the application. Any changes (names, location, dates, fees, times of games, etc.) or cancellations made by the operator post-approval must be reported to ECAG via the "Request Change or Cancellation" feature in the BBCS no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled start of the event/league. Failure to report changes by the deadline may render the event/league ineligible for approval in the same season the following year.

SECTION IV. Deadlines

All deadlines are strictly enforced and expire at 11:59 p.m. (Eastern time) on the identified date. Failure to meet deadlines may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval.

1. **Actual Deadlines.**
 - A. **Application.** Forty-five days prior to the first requested date of certification.
 - B. **Request for Additional Information.** Ten days from the date of the request.
 - C. **Submission of Changes/Cancellations.** No later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled start of the event/league.
2. **Deadline Verification.** Online submissions will be date-stamped and are not disputable. For all other submissions, it is the applicant's responsibility to verify and produce proof of a timely submission. For documents sent via email it is advisable to mark them for a read and delivery receipt and keep that verification as proof of successfully submitting the information. Information submitted in writing should be sent to the NCAA staff via some type of traceable delivery (i.e., FedEx, UPS, certified mail, etc.).
3. **Completely Submitted.** The online application/PERF is NOT considered submitted until the status in the BBCS has changed from "Not Submitted" to "Submitted". Although all the information may have been entered in the BBCS, until the operator completely submits the application/PERF, staff cannot process the application/PERF. Leaving the application/PERF status as "Not Submitted" even when the

application/PERF is otherwise complete may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval.

SECTION V. Permissible Fees

1. **Participants Entry Fees.** Admission fees charged to all event/league participants must be similar. Operators are prohibited from granting free entry or reduced entry to select participants based on athletics ability or reputation. An operator may offer participants a reduced entry fee or employment program provided the following conditions are met:
 - A. **Reduced Entry Fee Program.** If offered, reduced entry fees must be:
 - a. Made available to all qualifying participants;
 - b. Based on some objective criteria that is unrelated to a participant's athletics ability or reputation;
 - c. Publicized in advance. Operators will need to identify during the application process how participants will be notified/informed that such a program exists (on registration form, event/league flyers, website, etc.).
 - B. **Participant Employment Program.** If offered, a participant employment program must be:
 - a. Made available to all qualifying participants;
 - b. Based on financial need that is unrelated to a participant's athletics ability, reputation or value that the individual would bring to the event/league. Financial need will need to be determined objectively and will need to be based on concrete information. Operators will need to identify during the application process what documentation/criteria will be utilized to determine financial need to select these participants;
 - c. Publicized in advance. Operators will need to identify during the application process how participants will be notified/informed that such a program exists (on registration form, event/league flyers, website, etc.);
 - d. Consistently and accurately salaried. Compensation must be paid only for work performed and at a rate commensurate with their experience and for similar employment in that locale.

SECTION VI. Insurance

Both event and league operators are required to show proof of insurance. The intent of this requirement is to ensure that prospective student-athletes and student-athletes participating in certified events and leagues are provided adequate financial protection if injury occurs.

1. **Accident Medical Insurance.** Operators must show proof of accident medical insurance for all participants and which provides coverage for athletically related activities regardless of negligence/fault. A liability policy alone WILL NOT meet the NCAA requirements.

NOTE: Most general liability policies will not cover all accident situations (even if the policy indicates that participants are included). Typically, a liability policy would cover accidents like a spectator falling down the bleachers, athlete slipping in the shower, etc.; a liability policy that states it includes participants would only cover accidents that occur during athletic related activities if the event/league/facility was negligent. In that regard, a liability policy alone is not sufficient.

- A. **Amount and Scope of Accident Medical Insurance.** No specific minimum or maximum is required for accident medical insurance, but coverage should be acquired before applying and must be effective during all the dates when athletically related activities will occur for the event/league.
 - B. **National/Social Healthcare and Insurance Requirements.** If the operator does not believe insurance is necessary because accidents would be covered under the social-healthcare system in the country where the event/league is located, the operator will need to confirm that all participants will be residents of that country and, therefore, covered by the national healthcare. If the event/league will include participants who are not covered by the national healthcare, then accident medical insurance will need to be purchased and submitted.
 - C. **Self-Insured.** If the event/league is self-insured, the operator must submit documentation that the event/league/city self-insurance policy includes accident medical coverage for all participants, which will cover athletically related activities more than liability and regardless of negligence/fault.
 - D. **Membership Organization Insurance.** If the ACCIDENT medical insurance is issued by a membership organization (AAU, USSSA, etc.) instead of a traditional insurance carrier, the operator will be required to confirm that all participating teams/individuals will be registered members of that organization. Additionally, this type of insurance may only apply if the event/league is sanctioned by that organization; in which case the operator will need to provide documentation of such sanctioning. Be aware that these membership organizations often have "team" insurance policies as well that only apply to a club team and cannot be utilized for an event/league; so, the operator needs to be sure to acquire/submit the correct documentation.
2. **Liability Insurance.** Event/league operators are also required to maintain in effect Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance.
- A. **Amount and Scope of Liability Insurance Coverage.** CGL insurance is required during all the dates when athletically related activities will occur for the event/league, with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate, written on an occurrence basis providing coverage for bodily injury and property damage, and personal and advertising injury. The CGL coverage shall not exclude liability arising from sexual abuse and molestation, athletics participation, spectators or food-borne illness.
 - B. **Additional Insured Requirement.** The NCAA and its officers, directors, agents, employees and volunteers must be named as additional insureds ("NCAA Additional insureds") in the CGL policy on a primary and noncontributory basis.
3. **Other Insurance Specifications.**
- A. **Validation.** If the insurance documentation is a simple Word/txt document OR is some other format that can be easily edited, it is impossible to determine whether the coverage outlined on the document is what was provided by the insurance company or has been changed. Operators will be

required to submit the original documentation provided by the insurance company and may be required to provide additional information validating authenticity.

a. **Insurance Applications, Quotes, Invoices and Waivers.** An application, quote, invoice or description of coverage available is not enough. The operator will need to submit a certificate of insurance showing evidence that coverage has been purchased and in effect at all times during the conduct of the event or league. Checking the athletes' personal insurance, offering supplemental insurance for purchase, or having athletes sign a waiver in lieu of the event/league having insurance is not sufficient.

b. **Falsified Insurance.** If insurance documentation is submitted that is not effective, has been altered in any way or does not comply with the NCAA requirements, the insurance information submitted will be considered fraudulent by the NCAA and the operator will be subject to outlined Adverse Actions.

B. **Single Insurance Account Number for Multiple Policies.** If the accident medical policy has the same account number as the liability policy (which is not usually the case), the operator must submit the full policy description information related to the accident medical policy. Even if the Accord form mentions medical payments for participants, it is possible that the accident medical insurance will only apply if the event is liable for the accident. In that regard, it is necessary for ECAG to review the detailed policy description to determine whether the event/league has the required insurance.

C. **Expired Insurance.** If the insurance submitted with the application has expired when the application is processed, ECAG will request additional information requiring that the policy be updated. The operator will have 10 days from the date of that request to acquire and submit the new policy. Failure to submit accident medical insurance or liability insurance effective during the event/league dates by appropriate deadlines will result in a denial of the application, as all deadlines are strictly enforced.

a. **Policy Renewal Cycles.** If the insurance policy is on an annual renewal cycle, there may be times when the operator cannot renew the policy prior to applying, but the policy will expire before the start of the event/league. If the operator has been previously NCAA-certified, ECAG will process the application with the current policy documentation, but the operator will need to renew the policy and submit the new documentation within five days of the expiration date as identified on the current policy. The operator will need be sure that the new policy includes language that specifically identifies the event/league or organization AND clearly states that it includes accident medical insurance for all participants. Failure to update insurance by the designated deadline will result in withdrawal of certification.

4. **Additional Coverage Requirements.**

A. **Carrier Ratings.** Insurance coverage must be issued by admitted insurance carriers with an A.M. Best rating of A-VII or better.

B. **Site Specific Insurance.** If the policy is site specific, the operator will be required to submit documentation that identifies all sites being utilized.

- C. **Quantity Specific Insurance.** If the policy identifies a specific number of teams/individuals, the operator will be required to affirm his/her understanding that the policy must be updated prior to the start of the event/league if the designated number of participants is exceeded.

5. **Insurance Providers.** Below is a list of the providers frequently utilized by operators. The list is provided as a courtesy to assist operators with a starting point of possible options when obtaining insurance coverage. The companies listed are provided as a reference only. The NCAA is not recommending any one company, nor are we endorsing the quality of their services. The list is provided for convenience and is not meant to be all-inclusive; these are merely the providers frequently seen when ECAG processes applications. Operators are free to use any company of their choice, provided the NCAA minimum requirements are met.

A. Insurance carriers with camp/event/tournament specific coverage.

- a. Francis L. Dean & Associates, Inc.
1776 South Naperville Road, Building B or P.O. Box 4200
Wheaton, Illinois 60189
Phone: 800/745-2409 ext. 129
www.fdean.com
- b. K&K Insurance Group, Inc.
1712 Magnavox Way
Fort Wayne Indiana 46804
Phone: 800/637-4757
www.kandkinsurance.com/Pages/Home.aspx
- c. American Specialty Insurance & Risk Services, Inc.
7609 W. Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 100
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
(800) 245-2744
www.americanspecialty.com or www.americanspecialtyexpress.com
- d. Gallagher Student Health & Special Risk
500 Victory Road
Quincy, MA 02171
Email: Sports@gallagherstudent.com
Phone: 877/345-8928
www.gallagherstudent.com
- e. CapSure Insurance Group
McKay Tower, Suite 421
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Email: dan@capsureins.com
Phone: 616/450-5870
www.capsureins.com
- f. The Camp Team
615 West 38th Avenue, Suite B109
Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033
Phone: 800/747-9573
www.campteam.com

- B. Nontraditional Options.
- a. [AAU](#)
 - b. [USSSA](#)
- C. Other insurance carriers that have been used.
- a. Aon Corporation - Global Headquarters
200 East Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois 60601 USA
Phone: 312/381-1000
<http://www.aon.com/default.jsp>
 - b. Chappell Insurance Agency, Inc.
25807-A Cox Road
Petersburg, Virginia 23803
Phone: 800/447-6797 or 804/733-2020
<http://www.chappellinsurance.com/home/index.htm>
 - c. The Monument Sports Group
508 North Allison Street, No. 1
Richmond, Virginia 23220-2704
E-mail: <http://www.monumentsports.com/forms/contact.php>
Phone: 804/354-9020
<http://www.monumentsports.com/>
 - d. Bollinger Insurance
101 JFK Parkway
Short Hills, New Jersey 07078
Phone: 973/467-0444 or 800/526-1379
<http://www.bollingersports.com/our-products.aspx>
 - e. Sadler & Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 5866
Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5866
Phone: 800/622-7370
<http://www.sadlerco.com/>
 - f. Bene-Marc, Inc.
6301 Southwest Boulevard, Suite No. 101
Fort Worth, Texas 76132-1063
Phone: 800/247-1734 or 817/738-6899
<http://www.bene-marc.com>

SECTION VII. Terms of Participation

The most current version of the Terms and Conditions, Privacy Policy and Attestations agreed to when submitting to roles/functions in the BBCS can be accessed at the bottom of the BBCS login screen at <https://BBCS.ncaa.org>:

NCAA Basketball Certification

Log in to BBCS

Welcome to the NCAA Basketball Certification System (BBCS)

All of the following individuals will need to create a BBCS profile:

- **Operators** - anyone involved in operating or managing of an NCAA-certified event or league
- **Athletes** - any athlete participating in an NCAA-certified event.
- **Coaches** - anyone participating in coaching activities at an NCAA-certified event.
- **Team/Organization CEO or Primary Business Officer** - the person of authority who will submit required financial documentation for an organization of teams.

NEW USER:

- If you have not logged in to THIS site before, you will need to click the Register as a New User button.

RETURNING USER:

- If you created an account already, login to that account - DO NOT CREATE MULTIPLE ACCOUNTS!
- If you do not remember your password to log in, click the Reset Password Here link below to gain access to your already existing account.

NEED HELP?

The ECAG User Manual and other resources are available on the Basketball Certification web page - www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification. The ECAG User Manual contains all the information you need to know about the NCAA's basketball certification process including step-by-step guides with pictures to assist you through all features of the BBCS.

WARNING:

Completing the USAB Gold License application DOES NOT allow you to access the BBCS. You must still Register separately in the BBCS.

Email Address

Password

Sign In

Forgot password? Reset Password Here

Ask a question? Contact Email Form

Register as a New User >

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SECTION VIII. Restrictions on Involvement in League

Any active or passive connection/participation in an NCAA-certified event/league by any of the following individuals and/or pertaining to any of the following activities (in the capacity set forth below) is strictly prohibited.

- 1. Agents.** Neither the event/league nor any participating team shall be associated with any individual or agency involved in the marketing of any individual's athletics reputation or ability (including an employee of an agent or anyone associated with an agent in his or her capacity of marketing any individual's athletics reputation or ability).
 - A. Financial Support.** Neither the event/league nor any participating team may receive financial support from any individual or agency involved in marketing any individual's athletics reputation or ability or any representatives of an NCAA member institution's athletics interests who is assisting or has assisted in the recruiting process.
- 2. Sports Wagering.** Neither the event/league nor any participating team may receive financial support or be associated in any way with a venue or other entity that is associated in any way with wagering on intercollegiate athletics.
- 3. Bribery, Point Shaving or Game Fixing Involvement.** Neither the event nor any participating team shall have on its staff or as a participant any individual who has been found guilty or pleaded guilty in a court of law for having been involved in sports bribery, point shaving or game fixing.

SECTION IX. League Locations and Facilities

ECAG encourages event/league operators to remember the health and welfare of the participating athletes when selecting facilities. This includes choosing a safe/clean environment; making sure that the facility can accommodate expected numbers; considering whether the facility is temperature controlled (air conditioned, etc.); considering whether the facility has satisfactory bathrooms (number and quality); etc.

Event operators should also keep in mind that certified events are required to provide for the separation of NCAA Division I coaches from participants and/or any individual associated with a prospect when choosing facilities. Separate seating for NCAA coaches is required. Separate entrances, bathrooms, bracket postings, etc. are suggested.

- 1. Sports Wagering Establishments.** An NCAA-certified event/league shall not be conducted in a venue that is associated in any way with a venue or other entity that is associated in any way with wagering on intercollegiate athletics.
- 2. Division I Campus Facilities.** Legislation exists that prohibits a Division I institution [including any institutional department (e.g., athletics, recreational/intramural)] from hosting, sponsoring or conducting a basketball practice or competition in which PSAs 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.
- 3. NCAA Unfettered Access.** Representatives of the NCAA must be provided with unfettered access to any event, including physical access and opportunity to inspect all financial and other documentation associated with the event without prior notice to the operator.

SECTION X. Awards and Benefits

There are limitations to what an event/league operator can provide to participating teams, coaches, athletes and their families. All the following apply:

- 1. Awards.** A participant may receive an award, provided (i) the cost of the award is included in and does not exceed the cost of the participant's entry fee; (ii) the award being given is NOT cash, or the equivalent thereof; and (iii) the award is not donated. If participants are not charged an entry fee, no awards may be provided. If the entry fee is paid by the team and not by the individual athletes, the entire cost of all awards given to the team and its total participants must be covered by the team entry fee.
- 2. Equipment and Apparel.** A PSA who participates in an NCAA-certified event/league shall not retain any athletics equipment or apparel provided for his/her use at the event/league other than an event/league T-shirt. All other apparel (e.g., shoes, shorts, warm-up suits, backpacks, cinch bags, basketballs, mementos, etc.) may be retained only if the PSA is charged the normal retail value of such items (as opposed to the cost in purchasing the items) and the items must be paid for separate from the entry fee.
 - A. Free T-Shirt Specifics.**
 - a.** Operators may provide an event/league t-shirt to participants regardless of whether the participants pay to participate. The event t-shirts CAN be donated to the operator. (T-shirts provided as awards CANNOT be donated.)

- b. Operators can provide simple, low-cost, reversible jerseys to participants instead of the event/league t-shirt. Jerseys would have to have the same monetary value as a t-shirt; so, authentic jerseys could not be utilized.
- 3. **Transportation.** No air or ground transportation shall be provided to the event/league participants, their coaches or family members to participate in the event/league.
 - A. **Event Local Transportation Exception.** Local shuttles for the participants (athletes, coaches and individuals traveling with them) between the event site, hotels/dorms and the nearest airport, bus or train station can be provided, if the same transportation is available to all attendees.
- 4. **Gifts and Inducements.** No gifts or inducements shall be provided to the event/league participants, their coaches or family members.

SECTION XI. Other Requirements and Restrictions

- 1. **NCAA Brand and Trademark Limitations.** Event/league operators and participating teams are not permitted to utilize the NCAA brand in association with the operation of the event, league or team including, but not limited to, the name of the event, league or team, use of NCAA trademarked terms (i.e., March Madness, Final Four, Big Dance, etc.) or use of the blue disk or other NCAA logos. Use of the NCAA brand, logos and trademarks in association with an event, league or team may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval.
- 2. **False Representation of NCAA Approval or Certification.** No event or league operator or affiliated entities or individuals may claim NCAA certification/approval when advertising (website, brochures, application, etc.) until the status of the application in the BCS appears as "Approved," approval notifications have been sent via email and the event/league is included on the list posted on www.ncaa.org. False claims of certification/approval may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval. Past NCAA certification or approval does not mean that it will be granted certification the following year and operators are prohibited from referencing prior certification or approvals as assurance that an event/league will or is likely to be certified in the current application period. Representation of certification/approval of an event/league prior to it being granted (or possibly even requested) is inaccurate and is false and misleading to the NCAA membership, participating PSAs, their coaches and their families.

SECTION XII. Additional LEAGUE Specific Requirements

- 1. **Dates.** A currently enrolled Division I student-athlete with remaining eligibility may participate in an NCAA-certified summer league only on certified dates between June 15 and August 31 or the institution's opening day of classes (whichever occurs earlier).
 - A. **Certified Dates Restriction.** Certification is only granted for dates that appear on the detailed playing schedule submitted with the application and that are compliant with the application deadline. **Division I student-athletes are only permitted on the NCAA-certified dates.** Division I student-athletes are prohibited from engaging in any type of organized competition prior to the first date of the league. The certified dates are identified in green on the application history when the approval is posted.



The same dates will be reflected on the list of approved leagues available on www.ncaa.org/basketballcertificaiton

2. **Institutional Approval.** Written permission from the institution's director of athletics (or the director's official representative) for each Division I SA who will participate in the league must be obtained by the league operator BEFORE the athlete's participation. If a Division I SA is permitted to participate without the required permission, the athlete will be rendered ineligible for collegiate competition AND may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval for the league.

Many institutions have created a form letter that they utilize to supply this requirement. ECAG does NOT have a standard letter to provide as an example, but the letter from the institution needs to include the student-athlete's name and name and location of the league in which the athlete is permitted to participate. League operators are not currently required to submit the letter(s) of permission collected to ECAG. However, it is advised that the league keep copies of those letters until the league begins the following year in case the NCAA would request that documentation after the conclusion of the league.

3. **League Residency Requirements.** The league operator is responsible for ensuring that all participating Division I SAs are compliant with the residency requirements. A Division I SA must participate in a league that is 100 air miles from their official residence or the institution last attended. If a league does not exist within 100 air miles of the SA's residence, a SA may participate in the summer league located closest to the student's official residence.

NOTE: The SA's institution should also be monitoring to ensure that the league meets the residency requirements for participation prior to issuing the required letter of permission from their director of athletics.

- A. **Both League and Event Certifications Granted to Same Activity.** If an activity receives both event and league certification, all participants must comply with both the league 100-mile rule and the event adjoining-state rule to fulfill the NCAA residency requirements.

4. **Two-Year of Four-Year College Staff Involvement with Leagues.** Neither the league nor any member team shall have on its staff or as a participant any person associated in any employment capacity with any two-year or four-year college, except that institutional employees who are not athletics department staff members and do not have responsibilities directly related to the athletics department may serve as game officials.

5. **Division I Coach Attendance.** A Division I coach may attend league competitions/activities in which SAs from their respective institutions are participating, but only if: (a) the coach is merely an observer and does not provide direction or instruction and (b) there are no PSAs participating. If PSAs will be participating, Division I coaches are not permitted to attend any time—not even to observe their own SAs who may be participating.

WARNING: Two-year college athletes ARE considered prospects.

- A. **NCAA Certified-Events—Exception.** Division I coaches are permitted to attend an NCAA-certified league competition/activity if the league has also submitted a separate **event** application and been granted NCAA-**event** certification, but the Division coach could only attend on permissible certified event dates in July.

6. Start and Completion Dates for League Participation.

- A. **Participation Allowed.** No currently enrolled Division I SAs may participate in any league prior to June 15.
- B. **First Day of Classes Restriction.** No currently enrolled Division I SAs may participate in a league after August 31 OR their institution's first day of classes (whichever is earlier). It is the league operator's responsibility to identify and document the "first day of classes" for each Division I institution in which the league has participants. If a Division I SA is permitted to participate in the league after that athlete's institution has started classes for the fall, the league will be rendered ineligible for certification the following year.

7. Finances.

- A. **Sponsors.** League operators are required to identify all league sponsors and disclose what those sponsors will be providing to the league (finances, end kind donation, paying for officials or insurance, etc.) as part of the application process.
- B. **Revenue Restriction.** NCAA legislation prohibits leagues involving DI SAs from utilizing those athletes to generate revenue. Revenue cannot be generated from admission fees for games; raffles or similar activities; live television or radio broadcasts; selling video tape/rights to league games or parking fees to attend games.
 - a. **Charity Events Restriction.** If the purpose of this league is to generate funding for charity, it would not be permissible for Division I SAs to participate and therefore, the activity would not be eligible for league certification. Certified leagues cannot generate revenue regardless of how that revenue will be utilized.

8. Team Composition.

- A. **Number from Any One College Restriction.** Each team in an NCAA-certified league is limited to no more than TWO athletes with intercollegiate basketball eligibility remaining from the same two-year or four-year college (other than a Division II or III member institution). The league operator is responsible for ensuring the roster limitations. Violations will render the involved SAs ineligible for collegiate competition AND may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval for the league.
- B. **One Team One League Restriction.** NCAA certification legislation requires that all Division I players must limit their competition to one team in one league per summer. Regardless of the number of days the league operates, Division I SAs who participate are not permitted to participate in any other organized basketball activity (including three-on-three tournaments) for the duration of the summer.

NOTE: This may impact the number of Division I student-athletes that are willing to participate in an activity that lasts only a couple of days. The league operator is responsible for educating participating SAs about this requirement.

- C. **All-Star Games.** NCAA-certified leagues are prohibited from including any kind of all-star competition.

- D. **Postseason Play-Offs.** NCAA-certified leagues may conduct post-season play-offs or tournaments only if:
- a. The SA competes on the same team during the regular season.
 - b. The play-off/tournament only involves intra-league competition.
 - c. All play-off games and/or tournaments are completed by August 31 or the first day of classes for each SA (whichever occurs earlier).

SECTION XIII. ADVERSE ACTIONS

1. **Violations.** Failure to comply ECAG policies and/or NCAA legislation will be determined to be a violation and subject to penalties.
2. **Penalties.** ECAG may also assess penalties for violations of NCAA policies and legislation, including:
 - A. **Withdrawal.** Loss of current certification, approval or eligibility to participate in NCAA-certified events/leagues.
 - B. **Denial.** Inability to obtain future certification, approval or eligibility to participate in NCAA-certified events/leagues.
 - C. **Ineligibility.** Loss of eligibility to operate an NCAA-certified event/league or to coach or participate in an NCAA-certified event.
 - D. **Reprimand.** A single instance or isolated failure to comply with ECAG policies and/or NCAA legislation may result in ECAG issuing a formal reprimand or warning. If the operator or coach fails to achieve compliance and/or the violation is repeating, ECAG may elevate the reprimand to probation or impose a penalty.
 - E. **Extended Evaluation.** ECAG may place an operator, event coach or recruiting/scouting service on extended evaluation status, in which case they will be presumed ineligible to apply for future certification/registration/approval unless the applicant can show that they have (a) implemented remedial measures sufficient to ensure the violation[s] does not reoccur and (b) remained fully compliant with NCAA policies and legislation for duration of the probationary period.
3. **Duration.** The most severe penalties are reserved for violations that: (a) result in a PSA or SA losing their NCAA eligibility; (b) involve a potential Level I or Level II bylaw violation by a member institution or institutional personnel; and (c) involve failures to comply with NCAA financial transparency and disclosure requirements. Such violations may be penalized for a period of up to five years. Penalties may apply to a specified period of time or until such time when the individual/organization is compliant and/or has cooperated.
4. **Final Decision.** ECAG staff has sole authority to determine violations and impose appropriate penalties and such decisions are not subject to appeal.