# **League Requirements and Guidelines**

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# Chapter 1 – Enforcement Certification and Approvals Group

#### 1-1. Overview.

The NCAA enforcement certification and approvals group (ECAG) is a team within the NCAA enforcement staff dedicated to administering the certification/approval programs identified below and responsible for evaluating those services/activities to ensure compliance with established policies, procedures and relevant NCAA legislation, all which are subject to change without prior notice.

- Basketball Leagues: SAs enrolled at NCAA Division I institutions are permitted to participate. [NCAA Bylaws 17.31.4, 17.31.4.1]
- Basketball Events (scholastic and nonscholastic): NCAA Division I coaches are permitted to attend and observe prospective student-athletes (PSAs) who participate in the activities. [NCAA Bylaws 13.1.7.5.3, 13.18]
- Recruiting/Scouting Services: NCAA Division I coaches are permitted to purchase the service as a resource for the recruiting process in the sports of basketball and football. [NCAA Bylaw 13.14.3]
- Agents. Specific National Basketball Players Association (NBPA) registered agents who
  are permitted to enter into an agent agreement with eligible SAs or two-year college PSAs
  without impacting the SA's eligibility. [NCAA Bylaw 12.02.1.2].

ECAG policies and procedures are set forth in these internal operating policies and procedures (IOPs). ECAG programs serve the NCAA membership by assisting in in promoting and maintaining the integrity of collegiate recruiting in basketball and football and preserving the eligibility of prospective student-athletes (PSAs) and currently enrolled NCAA student-athletes (SAs).

The NCAA reserves the right to withdraw current or deny future opportunities to participate in or benefit from the NCAA-certification and approval process for any individual who fails or refuses to meet the requirements below or as otherwise provided by NCAA legislation, guidelines and requirements; or whose conduct is detrimental to the integrity and public confidence in the NCAA or it approval is not in the best interests of the NCAA's mission and/or certification/approval programs program. Impermissible conduct that is intentional, deceptive, contrary to the NCAA's core mission or which may adversely affect the interest or well-being of PSAs or SAs will be subject to adverse actions and/or penalties. The presumed penalty for the most severe violations is withdrawal of certification.

## 1-2. Purpose of the IOPs.

These ECAG IOPs are designed to assist ECAG with administering applicable legislation. The IOPs include the terms and conditions of participation for applicants; permissible and impermissible conduct of certified events/leagues, approved recruiting/scouting services and NCAA-certified agents; and state the procedures used by ECAG for processing and determining whether to certify/approve an application, and the enforcement and adjudicative processes. This information is intended to:

- a. Ensure consistent and accurate processing of applications and post-event review forms (PERF) for basketball events and participating teams;
- b. Establish objective criteria for measuring ECAG's performance through the quality assurance plan;
- c. Create baseline expectations and best practices for how ECAG completes each component of the certification and approval process; and
- d. Provide clear guidance and uniformity to how ECAG applies and adheres to rules, requirements, process and legislation for basketball certification, agent certification and recruiting/scouting service approvals.
- e. To the extent possible, assist in ensuring that NCAA SAs in the sport of men's basketball who are considering a professional career may obtain the assistance of a qualified agent in a transparent and consistent manner while being able to maintain collegiate eligibility.

## 1-3. Administrative Authority.

ECAG has authority over administration of NCAA basketball certification process recruiting/scouting service approval processes, agent certification process and all associated technology systems, including without limitation the authority to approve or deny annual applications for certification/approval; determine the nature and categories of information that registrants are required to submit; set deadlines for submission; draft the policies and procedures for implementing the certification/approval processes; develop/investigate potential violations at any point in the certification/approval cycle; and impose penalties for violations of NCAA policies or legislation by participating individuals/entities. ECAG reserves the right to change, amend or supplement these IOPs at any time and without notice, subject to annual review and approval by the relevant oversight committee.

# 1-4. ECAG Task Force.

The NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee approved the creation of an ECAG Task Force to provide more frequent and direct assistance to ECAG. The ECAG Task Force is comprised of two members from the MBOC, WBOC, NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee (FOC) and the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Experience Committee (SAEC). General responsibilities of the ECAG Task Force include:

- a. Review and approve event and team certification and recruiting/scouting services criteria proposed by ECAG. This would include initial adoption of new criteria and subsequent amendments or modifications.
- b. Serve as advisory board for ECAG questions concerning priorities, process improvements, potentially challenging adverse action decision, etc.
- c. Other duties delegated by the Council or other authorized NCAA committee.

While the oversight committees retain authority for the respective policies and procedures, the ECAG Task Force will work on behalf of the oversight committees to expedite review/discussion with the full committees.

#### 1-5. Terms and Conditions.

#### 1-5-1. NCAA Requirements and Non-NCAA Members.

Because event/league operators (as well as registered participants in NCAA-certified events and leagues), recruiting/scouting service operators and agents 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 requesting some other NCAA approval in one of ECAG's online systems are assumed to know and understand all requirements and have plans/procedures to successfully comply. In other words, in determining whether a coach/operator/agent 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. Neither the provisions contained in these IOPs nor relevant NCAA legislation were adopted with the intent or purpose to confer a benefit on any third party

### 1-5-1-1. Sharing of Information.

ECAG is authorized to share information received/discovered while processing, monitoring, investigating or otherwise obtained with NCAA

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membership/committees, law offices, governing bodies and/or other individuals/entities determined to be appropriate at ECAG's discretion.

#### 1-5-2. Responsibility for NCAA Compliance.

Operators of NCAA-certified events, leagues and recruiting/scouting services; coaches of teams participating in NCAA-certified events; individuals responsible for an organization of teams participating in NCAA-certified events; and NCAA-certified agents are ultimately responsible for ensuring that their events, leagues, services, teams, organizations and agencies are compliant with NCAA legislation, requirements, policies and procedures. They are presumed to be responsible for the actions of all employees and individuals (paid or unpaid) who report to them directly or indirectly and assist with their work. Further, they will be held accountable for violations in the event, league, service team, organization or agency unless he/she can rebut the presumption of responsibility by showing he/she has promoted an atmosphere of compliance, have monitored the activities of those individuals and have proactively taken steps to avoid such violations.

#### 1-5-3. Promotion of Certification/Approval.

#### 1-5-3-1. False Representation of NCAA Approval or Certification.

It is not permissible for an event/league operator, host organization, team/organization of teams, recruiting/scouting service, agent or any affiliated entity/individual to claim NCAA certification/approval when advertising (website, brochures, application, etc.) until that is a factual statement. Past NCAA certification or approval does not guarantee certification/approval the following year; so, it is prohibited to reference previous certification/approval as assurance that an event/league, recruiting/scouting service or agent will or is likely to be certified/approved in the current application period.

It would be permissible to communicate that "NCAA certification/approval is pending" once an application has been successfully submitted, but not before. Promotion of being NCAA certified/approved is permissible once the following is true:

- a. The operator, organization, or agent is included on the appropriate approval list accessible in one of the ECAG subject areas posted on <a href="https://www.ncaa.org/ecag">www.ncaa.org/ecag</a>;
- b. The operator, organization, or agent receives notification of the approval from ECAG; and
- c. For applications completed in an online system [Basketball Certification System (BBCS), Recruiting/Scouting Service Approval System, or Agent Certification Application], the status of the application appears as "approved".

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Representation of certification/approval prior to it being granted (or possibly even requested) is inaccurate and is false and misleading to participating PSAs, their coaches and their families; participating SAs and their families; and to the NCAA membership. False claims of certification may result in denial of current or future certification/approval.

### 1-5-3-2. Permissible Language for ECAG Subject Areas.

#### 1-5-3-2-1. Promotion of Certified Basketball Events and Leagues.

Once an event/league has been notified by ECAG that the event/league has received NCAA certification and the event/league has been posted to the appropriate approval list on <a href="www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification">www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification</a>, the event/league may use the following language to promote the NCAA certification:

- **Events** (nonscholastic): "This event has been certified by the NCAA in accordance with NCAA bylaws, policies, and procedures. NCAA Division I basketball coaches may attend for evaluation purposes."
- **Events (scholastic):** "This event has been certified in accordance with NCAA bylaws, policies, and procedures. NCAA Division I basketball coaches may attend for evaluation purposes."
- Leagues: "This league has been certified by the NCAA in accordance with NCAA Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures. Currently enrolled NCAA Division I basketball student-athletes may participate in the league."

If the operator has applied, but a decision has not yet been rendered, the event/league may be promoted as "NCAA Certification Pending."

If the operator has not yet applied in the current season/year no claims of NCAA certification/approval are permitted. False claims of certification/approval may impact future eligibility to be NCAA-certified/approved.

#### 1-5-3-2-1-1. Other Scholastic Events Not NCAA Certified.

Hosts of events that have been approved by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) are asked to refrain from communicating that those events are "NCAA-certified"

events" as that is not an accurate statement, but may use the following language to promote their events: "This event has been certified by the *NFHS* (*NJCAA or CCCAA*) consistent with NCAA Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures."

#### 1-5-3-2-2. Promotion of Approved Recruiting/Scouting Services.

Once a recruiting/scouting services has been notified by ECAG that the service has been approved by the NCAA and the service has been posted as approved both in the Recruiting/Scouting Service Approval System and on the list available to the NCAA membership posted on www.ncaa.org, the service may use the following language to promote the NCAA approval:

"This recruiting/scouting service has been approved in accordance with NCAA bylaws, policies, and procedures. NCAA Division I football and/or basketball coaches are permitted to subscribe to this recruiting/scouting service."

If the operator has applied, but a decision has not yet been rendered, OR the operator has not yet applied in the current season/year, no claims of NCAA approval are permitted. False claims of certification/approval may impact future eligibility to be NCAA-certified/approved.

#### 1-5-3-2-3. Promotion of NCAA-Certified Agents.

Once an agent has been notified by ECAG that he/she has passed all the necessary steps to be eligible for certification, paid the certification fees, and appears on the NCAA-certified agent directory posted on http://www.ncaa.org/enforcement/basketball-certification/agent-certification, the agent may use the following language to promote the NCAA certification:

"I, <<agents name>>, have been certified by the NCAA in accordance with NCAA bylaws, policies, and procedures. This certification permits me to represent a currently enrolled NCAA Division I men's basketball student-athlete as the student-athlete explores opportunities to become a professional without negatively affecting that athlete's collegiate eligibility."

If the agent has applied, but a decision has not yet been rendered, OR the agent has not yet applied in the current season/year, no claims of NCAA certification are permitted. False claims of certification/approval may impact future eligibility to be NCAA-certified/approved.

#### 1-5-3-3. NCAA Brand and Trademark Limitations.

It is not permissible for an event/league operator, host organization, team/organization of teams, recruiting/scouting service, agent or any affiliated entity/individual to utilize the NCAA brand in association with the operation of an event, league, team, recruiting/scouting service, or sports agent/agency including, but not limited to, use of the name, NCAA trademarked terms (i.e., March Madness, Final Four, Big Dance, etc.) or use of the blue disk or other NCAA logos. Impermissible use of the NCAA brand, logos and trademarks may result in denial of current or future certification, participation or approval and could be subject to additional legal action.

#### 1-5-4. 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.

#### 1-5-5. Responsibility to Cooperate.

Current/former operators of an NCAA-certified event/league, current/former individuals involved in the operation of an NCAA-certified event, individuals who have or will participate in coaching activities at an NCAA-certified event, current/former operators of an NCAA-certified recruiting/scouting service; and current/former NCAA-certified agents have agreed to an affirmative obligation to cooperate fully with and assist the NCAA with any investigation regarding possible NCAA rules violations, even if the violations are unrelated to ECAG certification/approval. ECAG may take adverse action and impose penalties, including withdrawal of current or denial of future certification/approval until that time when the individual does cooperate. ECAG has sole authority to determine whether a failure to cooperate has occurred and assess the resulting penalty. Such decisions are final and not subject to appeal. Full cooperation includes, but is not limited 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.

#### 1-5-6. False or Misleading Information.

Current/former operators of an NCAA-certified event/league, current/former individuals involved in the operation of an NCAA-certified event, individuals who have or will participate in coaching activities at an NCAA-certified event, current/former operators of an NCAA-certified recruiting/scouting service; and current/former NCAA-certified agents have agreed to an affirmative obligation to provide accurate information to the NCAA. ECAG may take adverse action and impose penalties, including withdrawal of current or denial of future certification/approval to these individuals or organizations who fail to provide complete and accurate information to the NCAA or who provide 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. ECAG has sole authority to determine when false or misleading information has been provided and assess the resulting penalty. Such decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

#### 1-5-7. Restrictions on Involvement.

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.

### 1-5-7-1. Financial Support Restrictions.

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. Further, all NCAA-certified agents are prohibited from financially supporting an NCAA-certified event/league or participating team.

#### 1-5-7-2. Agent Restrictions.

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). Further, all NCAA-certified agents are prohibited from associating with an NCAA-certified event/league or participating team.

#### 1-5-7-3. Sports Wagering Restrictions.

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.

#### 1-5-7-4. Restrictions on 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.

#### 1-5-8. Strict Enforcement of Deadlines.

All deadlines are STRICTLY enforced and expire at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. Deadlines are NOT speculative and therefore there is no gray area; they are either met or not met. Participants/applicants are expected to plan accordingly to make sure that all processes and information are completed or submitted by the applicable deadline.

For processes that are completed in an online system (BBCS, Recruiting/Scouting Service Approval System, or Agent Certification Application), the system will time/date stamp all activity. This date CANNOT be disputed. Similarly, an online application/PERF is NOT considered submitted until the status has changed online from "Not Submitted" to "Submitted". Although all the information may have been entered online, until it is completely submitted and the status has changed, ECAG will not process the application/PERF. Leaving the application/PERF status as "Not Submitted" will result in denial of NCAA certification/approval.

#### 1-5-8-1. 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.).

### 1-5-9. BBCS Terms of Use and Privacy Policies

#### 1-5-9-1. BBCS Terms of Use.

The Terms of Use (Terms) for the NCAA Basketball Certification System website, together with its subpages and microsites (BBCS) are accessible on the login page of the BBCS (<a href="https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/login">https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/login</a>) and included in Supplement 1 of these IOPs.

#### 1-5-9-2. BBCS Privacy Policy.

The Privacy Policy for the NCAA Basketball Certification System (BBCS) is accessible on the login page of the BBCS (<a href="https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/login">https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/login</a>) and included in Supplement 2 of these IOPs.

#### 1-5-9-3. Additional BBCS Data Usage Restrictions.

Under the Terms of the BBCS, event operators are required to register and maintain an active and up-to-date account. Further, operators are required to maintain the

security and secrecy of your account username and password, prohibiting the sharing of the operator's username and/or password with other individuals or entities who are not authorized to access the BBCS. Further, the event/league operator is responsible for all activities that occur while signed in to his/her account.

Consistent with the BBCS use policy, operators agree annually "not to distribute, reproduce, republish, display, modify, transmit, reuse, repost, link to, or use any information or data from or relating to a PSA provided or otherwise made available", except for the limited purpose of creating an information packet to be provided or made available to NCAA coaches attending an event. Operators are only allowed to share information relating to PSAs (e.g., team rosters) for the limited purpose of creating a coach's packet. Any use of this information beyond that limited purpose is unauthorized. Further, should the operator share this information with a third-party for the limited purpose of creating a coach's packet, the operator is responsible for ensuring that the third-party does not exceed the authorized use of that information.

If the operator or a third part the operator provided access to the BBCS data exceeds the authorized use of the information, the NCAA reserves the right to pursue any remedies available under the BBCS Guidelines and/or the law.

# Chapter 2 - Definitions

As used in these IOPs and in connection with ECAG processes, the following definitions apply:

Academic and Membership Affairs (AMA) Staff: The AMA staff supports the NCAA membership and general public in six basic areas: (1) legislation; (2) interpretation of NCAA bylaws; (3) education; (4) self-study; (5) academics; and (6) committee and governance liaison support for all three divisions and provides compliance assistance for member institutions.

<u>Activity Type</u>: Identification of whether the occurrence seeking basketball certification is an event or a league or is for predetermined teams or individual athletes.

Actual and Necessary Expenses: The fair market value of those expenses essential for participation on a team or a tryout for that team. [NCAA Bylaw 12.02.2] Such expenses should be limited to the item(s)' cost in the locale where the athlete competes. Actual and necessary expenses include:

- 1. Meals and lodging tied directly to competition and practice held in preparation for such competition;
- 2. Apparel, equipment and supplies;
- 3. Coaching and instruction;
- 4. Health/medical insurance;
- 5. Transportation (i.e., expenses to and from practice and competition, cost of transportation from home to the training/practice site at the beginning and end of the season);
- 6. Medical treatment and physical therapy;
- 7. Facility usage;
- 8. Entry fees; and
- 9. Other expenses necessary to participate on the team.

**Adjoining State:** A state sharing a continuous boarder with another state.

Adjoining State Rule: The residency requirement applied to nonscholastic teams participating in NCAA-certified events. Teams participating in NCAA-certified events are restricted to including athletes who reside within the same state as the team's official address or within a geographically adjoining state to the team's official address. MEN'S TEAMS are limited to three adjoining state athletes. WOMEN'S TEAMS are not limited in number, but the athletes must be from an adjoining state.

<u>Advisor</u>: A lawyer or other individual who can discuss the components of a proposed professional sports contract with a SA provided that the individual does not:

- 1. Represent the SA directly in negotiations for the contract; OR
- 2. Facilitate in any manner communications between the SA and professional teams.

<u>Amateurism</u>: NCAA Division I member institutions adhere to a "Commitment to Amateurism" whereby they are required to conduct their athletics programs for students who choose to participate in intercollegiate athletics as a part of their educational experience and in accordance with NCAA bylaws, thus maintaining a line of demarcation between SAs who participate in the Collegiate Model and athletes competing in the professional model. SAs must be amateurs in an intercollegiate sport, and their participation should be motivated primarily by education and by the physical, mental and social benefits to be derived. Student participation in intercollegiate athletics is an avocation, and SAs should be protected from exploitation by professional and commercial enterprises. [NCAA Division I Constitution 2.9; NCAA Bylaw 12.1.2, et seq.]

**Agent:** See definition of Non-NCAA-Certified Agent.

Agency Contract: As used herein, agency contract means a written agreement in which a SA authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract or other agreement made for the purpose of marketing the SA's athletics ability or reputation. NOTE: NCAA-certified agents are ONLY permitted to provide representation services for the purposes of obtaining employment for an individual with a professional sports team or organization or as a professional athlete.

<u>Application</u>: Form submitted to request NCAA approval or certification for the following categories of applicants:

- 1. Basketball events/leagues;
- 2. Recruiting/scouting services in the sports of basketball and football; and/or
- 3. Agents.

Athlete: Any PSA or SA participating in a nonscholastic basketball event or league.

<u>Basketball Certification</u>: The process by which basketball activities (events, leagues, showcases, tournaments, festivals, camps) for PSAs and Division I SAs request NCAA approval as a league or an event for the defined purpose (see definition of league and event).

<u>Basketball Certification System (BBCS)</u>: The online service used by ECAG to administer the basketball certification process. BBCS registration is required for all individuals involved in coaching activities and in operating or managing an event, league operators, nonscholastic coaches, participating PSAs and those who are financially responsible for an organization of nonscholastic teams. All basketball application requests, PERFs, team rosters, financial disclosures and other documentation necessary for compliance with certification requirements are submitted via the BBCS.

**Board of Directors (BOD):** The NCAA Division I governing body comprised of conference chairpersons and is the top governing body for Division I, responsible for strategy and policy and overseeing legislation and management of the division. The BOD focuses on strategic topics in college sports and their relationship to higher education; monitors legislation to ensure it does not conflict with policies and goals; reviews and approves policies and procedures governing the infractions program; approves an annual budget; adopts legislation when significant values are at stake or an issue requires fast action that does not allow use of the regular legislative process; and collaborates with NCAA staff on how the national office can best serve Division I members.

**Booster:** See definition for "Representative of the Institution's Athletics Interests."

**Broad Based Coverage:** Information provided by an NCAA-approved recruiting/scouting service must include PSAs from a broad spectrum and not limit the coverage to select teams, individuals or geographical locations.

<u>Coach</u>: As applicable to ECAG and used in these IOPS, "coach" means any individual who is a nonplayer and who inhabits the bench during an event or competition, or who engages in other coaching activities.

<u>Coaching Activities</u>: Coaching activities including, but not limited to providing instruction or training; directing the behavior of a team or individual player; having the responsibility for improving a team through player development, strategy and in-game management; and nonplayer individuals who sit on the team bench during an event.

<u>Coaches'/Event Packet</u>: A packet of material prepared by an event operator available for purchase by NCAA coaches that includes information about the event (i.e., schedule, driving direction between sites, team rosters with contact information, etc.).

<u>Contact</u>: A contact is any face-to-face encounter between a PSA or the PSA's family members and an NCAA institutional staff member or athletics representative during which any dialogue occurs in excess of an exchange of a greeting. Any such face-to-face encounter that takes place at the site of organized competition or practice involving the PSA is considered a contact, regardless of whether any conversation occurs. [NCAA Bylaw13.02.4]

<u>Contact Period</u>: A contact period is that time period when it is permissible for authorized athletics department staff members to make in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts and evaluations. [NCAA Bylaw 13.02.5.1]. Note that NCAA recruiting periods and calendars for each sport change from time to time and it is the responsibility of the event operator and/or nonscholastic coach to stay apprised of any such changes.

<u>Dead Period</u>: A dead period is that time period when it is not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the member institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by PSAs to the institution's campus. [NCAA Bylaw 13.02.5.5] Note that NCAA recruiting periods and calendars for each sport change from time to time and it is the responsibility of the event operator and/or non-scholastic coach to stay apprised of any such changes.

<u>Demographic Information</u>: Information that identifies a PSA including, but not limited to name, address telephone number, high school, non-scholastic team, position, jersey number, date of birth, graduation year, height, weight, etc.

<u>Director of Athletics</u>: As used herein, director of athletics means the individual responsible for administering the overall athletic program of an educational institution, or his or her designated representative.

<u>Division I Council</u>: The NCAA Division I governing body comprised of athletics administrators, faculty athletics representatives and institutional administrators representing Divisions I-A, I-AA and I-AAA. The Council recommends nonacademic policies to the BOD; coordinates strategic planning activities; identifies and examines trends and issues in college sports; takes final action on matters delegated to it by the BOD; supervises qualifications and selection procedures for Division I championships and national collegiate championships; reviews recommendations from sports committees regarding the administration of championships; and oversees Division I membership standards.

**Eligibility:** The determination of a PSAs or SAs compliance with NCAA rules resulting in the right to practice, compete and get a scholarship from a member institution through satisfaction of the appropriate conditions (academic record, SAT® or ACT scores, and amateur status). [NCAA Bylaw 14.3]

<u>Eligibility Center (EC)</u>: The EC is responsible for processing and certifying the initial eligibility (academic and amateurism status) of PSAs. The EC is responsible for academic certification, amateurism certification, the NCAA customer service center, high school review and managing the daily operations of the National Letter of Intent (NLI) program.

**Evaluation Period:** An evaluation period is a time period when it is permissible for authorized athletics department staff members to be involved in off-campus activities designed to assess the academic qualifications and playing ability of PSAs. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall be made with the PSA during an evaluation period. [Bylaw 13.02.5.2]. Note that NCAA

recruiting periods and calendars for each sport change from time to time and it is the responsibility of the event operator and/or non-scholastic coach to stay apprised of any such changes.

**Event Participant Information (EPI):** As part of the PERF, operators are required to identify who participated in the event.

- 1. For individual events, operators are required to search the BBCS for each PSA and individual involved in coaching activities and add them to the event's individual participants tab of the PERF. Operators will also have to disclose compensation paid for everyone involved in coaching activities.
- 2. For team events, it is the operator's responsibility to ensure that all participating teams have registered in the BBCS. The operator is required to access the roster of all participating teams in the BBCS and identify each coach and PSA who participated. Additionally, it is the operator's responsibility to confirm that the address and telephone number provided in the BBCS is accurate for each participant, is a permissible address for that athlete (sometimes requiring collection of documentation of residence) and is compliant with ECAG residency requirements.

**Event:** An athletics activity (event, league, showcase, tournament, festival, camp, etc.) that is certified to allow Division I basketball coaches to attend and evaluate PSAs.

**Family Member**: A family member is an individual with any of the following relationships to the PSA: spouse, parent or legal guardian, child, sibling, grandparent, domestic partner or any individual whose close association with the PSA is the practical equivalent of a family relationship. [NCAA Bylaw 12.02.4]

<u>Games (Countable Competition)</u>: [NCAA Bylaw 17.31.2.1 Organized Basketball Competition] An athletic activity would be considered a game if any of the following conditions are met:

- 1. Competition is scheduled and publicized in advance;
- 2. Official score is kept;
- 3. Individual or team standings are maintained;
- 4. Official timer or game officials are used;
- 5. Admission is charged;
- 6. Teams are regularly formed, or team rosters are predetermined;
- 7. Team uniforms are used;

8. A team is privately or commercially sponsored; or

9. The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

**Individual Analysis:** Analysis reported by a recruiting/scouting service beyond demographics (e.g., height, weight, class and position), ranking (e.g., Division I level PSA) and general comments (e.g., excellent shooter) for an institution to make an athletics or academic analysis of the PSA. Each PSA named in a standard recruiting/scouting service is required to be evaluated.

<u>Individual Associated with a Prospect (IAWP)</u>: In basketball, an individual associated with a prospect is any person who maintains (or directs others to maintain) contact with the PSA, the PSA's family members or coaches at any point during the PSA's participation in basketball, and whose contact is directly or indirectly related to either the PSA's athletics skills and abilities or the PSA's recruitment by or enrollment in an NCAA institution. This definition includes, but is not limited to family members, handlers, personal trainers and coaches. [NCAA Bylaw 13.02.19]

<u>Individual Event</u>: An event most often in a camp type format, involving PSAs who register by themselves and not as part of a team. In some cases, individual events still involve team competition, but the teams are created at the event for the purpose of competition.

<u>Interpretation</u>: As applicable to ECAG, an explanation of meaning, guidance on the application of NCAA legislation or determination of whether a violation has occurred, as provided by the AMA staff.

<u>League</u>: An activity that is certified to allow currently enrolled Division I SAs to compete outside of the regular season. Such competition is only permissible from **June 15 to August 31** or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier, and only after obtaining written permission from the institution's director of athletics (or the director's official representative).

<u>Legislative Services Database (LSDBi)</u>: The online version(s) of the NCAA Divisions I, II, and III manuals. NCAA legislation changes frequently. The most up-to-date legislation is available in LSDBi. LSDBi includes a directory of proposals, and legislation is updated continuously throughout the year as it changes. Portions of LSDBi are accessible to those outside the NCAA membership. Note that the LSDBi manual cites and text may differ from those in the hardcopy of the bylaw manual that is issued once a year.

Metro Area Rule: An exception to the adjoining state rule that allows for men's teams with an official address in a city that is divided by the state line of multiple states (i.e., Washington, D.C.; Kansas City; St. Louis/East St. Louis; etc.) to include more than three out-of-state athletes from adjoining states if each additional participant resides within the same metropolitan area as the team. If the team's official address does not border two different states, this exception does not apply.

<u>Minimum Level of Analysis</u>: Information disseminated by a standard recruiting/scouting service must include individual analysis beyond demographics (e.g., height, weight, class and position), ranking (e.g., Division I level PSA) and general comments (e.g., excellent shooter) for an institution to make an athletics or academic analysis of the PSA. Each PSA named in the service is required to be evaluated.

<u>NBPA</u>: National Basketball Players Association. The NBPA is the union for current professional basketball players in the National Basketball Association (NBA). The NBPA certifies agents who represent the players in the NBA.

<u>NCAA Bylaws</u>: The legislation adopted by the NCAA membership that governs, among other things, permissible recruiting activities by member institutions and coaches, as well the eligibility of PSAs and SAs.

**NCAA-Certified Agent:** Any individual who has met all of the annual requirements of the NCAA agent certification program and as a result, is permitted to solicit a SA/PSA (PSA representation is not permitted until high school students are eligible to enter the NBA draft) to enter into an agency contract for purposes of obtaining employment with a professional sports team or organization or as a professional athlete without affecting the athlete's collegiate eligibility.

Non-NCAA-Certified Agent: A non-NCAA-certified agent is any individual who directly or indirectly: (1) represents or attempts to represent an individual for the purpose of marketing his or her athletics ability or reputation for financial gain; or (2) seeks to obtain any type of financial gain or benefit from securing a PSA's enrollment at an educational institution or from a SA's potential earnings as a professional athlete. [NCAA Bylaw 12.02.1]

<u>Non-Prospect Aged Teams</u>: Any team of athletes comprised of athletes who do not meet the definition of a PSA as defined in Bylaw 13.12.1.1.1 (men's basketball) and Bylaw 13.02.13 (women's basketball).

Operating or Managing the Event: encompasses all staff people who are in a managerial or leadership role, not just someone assisting or working in an administrative role (check-in staff, concessions, janitorial staff, score keepers, etc.); those people who would be the "go to" person for all emergencies or issues at each event facility; for multi-site events, the individual "in charge" at each site (site director, gym supervisor, organizer, coordinator). Individuals involved in operating or managing the event must have a USA Basketball (USAB) Gold License and meet NCAA standards of eligibility.

<u>Operator</u>: Any individual who establishes, owns in whole or in part, organizes or operates an NCAA-certified event/league or NCAA approved recruiting/scouting service.

<u>Participant(s)/Participation</u>: All coaches, SAs and PSAs who take part in athletically related activities at NCAA-certified events and/or NCAA approved leagues.

<u>Participant Employment Program</u>: Opportunity provided to participating PSAs by an event/league operator to work (clocks, stats, etc.) to assist the athlete in earning money to apply to any fees associated with their participation provided that certain criteria are met. If offered, an employment program must be made available to all qualifying participants and must be 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. Compensation must be paid only for work performed and at a rate commensurate with their experience and for similar employment in that locale. Any participant employment program must be publicized in advance.

<u>Post Event Review Form (PERF)</u>: If an event is certified and Division I coaches were provided the opportunity to attend and observe PSAs, the activity operator is required to submit a PERF providing ECAG with information regarding the conduct of the event (e.g., identity of participants, staff, coaches'/event packets sold, Division I coaches in attendance, post-event financial information, etc.) NCAA-certified leagues are not required to submit a PERF. The PERF must be submitted no later than two months after the last certified event date. The specific deadline will be visible on the Event Applications tab in the BBCS and will appear in the Respond by Date column of an approved event application.

<u>Preferential Treatment</u>: NCAA legislation prohibits a SA from receiving preferential treatment, benefits or services because of the individual's athletics ability or payback potential as a professional athlete, unless NCAA rules specifically states otherwise. [NCAA Bylaw 12.1.2.1.6]

<u>Primary Facility</u>: The main location utilized by an event/league. Facility used as event/league headquarters.

**Proof of Insurance:** Documentation required of an event/league operator that indicates the event/league has insurance compliant with the NCAA requirements.

<u>Prospective Student-Athlete (PSA)</u>: Generally, a PSA is an individual who has started classes for the ninth grade. [NCAA Bylaw 13.02]. In men's basketball, for the purposes of sports camps and clinics, a PSA is an individual who has started classes for the seventh grade. [NCAA Bylaw 13.12.1.1.1]. In addition, and regardless of whether the individual has enrolled in classes, an individual is deemed a PSA if an NCAA member institution provides the individual (or his/her family members or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that the institution does not provide to PSAs generally. An individual remains a PSA until one of the following occurs (whichever is earlier):

- 1. The individual officially registers and enrolls in a minimum full-time program of studies and attends classes in any term of a four-year collegiate institution's regular academic year (excluding summer);
- 2. The individual participates in a regular squad practice or competition at a four-year collegiate institution that occurs before the beginning of any term;

- 3. The individual officially registers, enrolls and attends classes during the certifying institution's summer term prior to his or her initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution; or
- 4. The individual reports to an institutional orientation session that is open to all incoming students within 14 calendar days prior to the opening day of classes of a regular academic year term.

<u>Qualified Medical Personnel</u>: As applicable to ECAG, the term "qualified medical personnel" is intentionally broad, but at a minimum means an individual trained to respond quickly to emergency situations regarding medical issues, traumatic injuries and accident scenes, can administer CPR and utilize a defibrillator. Qualified medical personal must be present at each facility being utilized.

<u>Quiet Period</u>: A quiet period is that time period when it is permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts only on the member institution's campus. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts or evaluations may be made during the quiet period. [NCAA Bylaw 13.02.5.4]. Note that NCAA recruiting periods and calendars for each sport change from time to time and that it is the responsibility of the event operator and/or nonscholastic coach to stay apprised of any such changes.

**Recruit or Solicit:** Recruit or solicit means any attempt to influence the choice of an agent by a SA or, if the student-athlete is a minor, a parent or guardian of the SA. The term does not include giving advice on the selection of a particular agent in a family, coaching, or social situation unless the individual giving the advice does so because of the receipt or anticipated receipt of an economic benefit, directly or indirectly, from the agent or the agent's employer.

**Recruiting Calendar:** A chart/description identifying the ranges of dates designated as quiet, dead, contact and evaluation periods. [NCAA Bylaw 13.17]. Note that NCAA recruiting periods and calendars for each sport change from time to time and that it is the responsibility of the event operator and/or nonscholastic coach to stay apprised of any such changes.

<u>Recruiting Period – Men's Basketball</u>: In men's basketball, a recruiting period is a time period when it is permissible for authorized athletics department staff members to make in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts and evaluations. [NCAA Bylaw 13.02.5.3]

Recruiting/Scouting Service: Any individual, organization, entity or segment of an entity that is primarily involved in providing information about PSAs. This definition includes but is not limited to any service that provides information only to paid subscribers; any service that is only available to a select group of individuals (e.g., coaches), regardless of whether there is a charge associated with the service; and any service that provides information to the public free of charge. However, this definition does not include any individual, organization or entity or segment of an entity that provides information about PSAs incidental to its primary purpose and is generally available to the public (e.g., news media).

Reduced Entry Fee Program: Opportunity provided by an event/league operator to participating PSAs to pay a reduced entry fee provided that certain criteria are met. If offered, reduced entry fees must be made available to all qualifying participants and must be based on some objective criteria that is unrelated to a participant's athletics ability or reputation. Any reduced entry fee program must be publicized in advance. (i.e., early bird registration discounts, multiple team discounts, financial need, etc.).

**Representative of the Institution's Athletics Interests:** An individual, independent agency, corporate entity (e.g., apparel or equipment manufacturer) or other organization who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to do any of the activities identified below (also known as a "booster"). [Bylaw 13.02.15]

- 1. Participate/participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program;
- 2. Make/made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
- 3. Assist/assisted or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of PSAs;
- 4. Assist/assisted in providing benefits to enrolled SAs or their family members; or
- 5. Involved otherwise in promoting the institution's athletics program.

Revised Uniform Athlete Agent Act (RUAAA): The Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act (RUAAA) modernizes the Uniform Athlete Agents Act (UAAA) to more effectively protect the interests of student athletes, academic institutions, and athlete agents. While retaining many portions of the UAAA, the RUAAA expands the definition of "athlete agent", enhances agency contract requirements, requires athlete agents to notify an educational institution at which a student athlete is enrolled before contacting a student athlete, and gives student athletes a right of action against an athlete agent for violation of the act.

**Scouting Service:** See definition for "Recruiting/Scouting Service".

<u>Secondary Facility(s)</u>: Additional site location utilized by an event/league other than the main/primary facility or headquarters.

**Sponsor:** A person, group, or company that pledges or provides any form of financial support, inkind donation and/or service, whether directly or indirectly, to the operation of an event, league, team or scouting service.

**Sports Agent Responsibility and Trust Act (SPARTA):** A federal law prohibiting certain conduct by sports agents relating to the signing of contracts with SAs. SPARTA makes it unlawful for an agent to directly or indirectly recruit a SA by giving any false or misleading information, making a false promise or representation, or providing anything of value to a SA (or anyone associated with the SA), before entering into an agency contract. A violation of this act is deemed an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act. [15 U.S.C. 7801-7807]

**Standard Scouting Service:** See the definition of "Recruiting/Scouting Service." Not a Video Only service.

<u>Student-Athlete (SA)</u>: A student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of athletics interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletics program. Any other student becomes a SA only when the student reports for an intercollegiate squad that is under the jurisdiction of the athletics department, as specified in NCAA Constitution 3.2.4.5. A student is not deemed a SA solely based on prior high school athletics participation. [Bylaw 12.02.14]

**Student-Athlete Reinstatement (SAR):** The staff in AMA that processes violations and waivers on behalf of SAs who have been involved in violations of NCAA regulations that affect their eligibility. SAR evaluates the responsibility of an athlete to determine whether he or she can be reinstated, and under what conditions.

<u>Subscription</u>: Requiring some action in order to access information (i.e., requires payment or must register to gain access to the information). An institution subscribes to a recruiting/scouting service when a staff member registers to access information provided by the service only to paid subscribers or registers to access information available only to a select group of individuals (e.g., coaches), regardless of whether a charge is associated with accessing the information. However, an institution is not considered to have subscribed to a recruiting/scouting service if a staff member registers to access information about PSAs from a service that provides the same information to the general public at no cost.

<u>Team</u>: As applicable to ECAG, "team" means a group of five or more players (PSAs, current or former SAs) forming one side in a competitive game at an NCAA-certified event and/or NCAA-certified league.

<u>Team Event</u>: An event involving pre-existing nonscholastic teams of PSAs (i.e., travel teams, club teams, etc.).

<u>Team/Organization Chief Executive Officer (CFO) or Primary Business Officer</u>: The chief executive or primary business officer of a team/organization; the person of ultimate authority over a team or organization of teams.

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<u>Tribal Exception</u>: An exception to the Adjoining State Rule that allows the Native American tribe to be viewed in its entirety as analogous to a state, although its geographic location may encompass several states. Therefore, Native American PSAs are permitted to participate on their tribal team regardless of their state of residence.

<u>Uniform Athlete Agent Act (UAAA)</u>: The Uniform Athlete Agents Act (UAAA) is a model state law governing the relationships between student-athletes, athlete agents and academic institutions that provides for uniform registration, certification and background checks on sports agents. Although there are variances among individual states, the UAAA generally requires athlete agency contracts to contain specific information, including language notifying a student-athlete that entering into an agency agreement could render them ineligible to compete in collegiate athletics. Under the UAAA, agents and student athletes are required to give notice of the contract to the athletic director of an affected educational institution. The UAAA also prohibits agents from providing anything of value or using materially false or misleading information to coerce a student to enter into an agency contract. Finally, the UAAA provides for criminal, civil and administrative penalties with enforcement at the state level.

<u>Unsolicited Information</u>: Information regarding PSAs is given to, sent to or received by NCAA coaches without being paid for or requested.

<u>Video Only Service</u>: A recruiting/scouting service that only provides video of PSAs and does not provide information about or analysis of PSAs. Information to identify the PSA is permissible but is limited to the PSA's name, high school, position, jersey number and year of graduation.

# Chapter 3 - Basketball Certification

## 3-1. ECAG Authority and Functions.

#### **3-1-1.** Overview.

ECAG oversees the basketball certification process that provides activity operators who agree to operate their activities in accordance with certification requirements the opportunity to receive **league certification** to allow the participation of Division I SAs and/or **event certification** to allow NCAA Division I coaches to attend and observe PSAs who are participating in the activity. The NCAA reserves the right to withdraw current or deny future opportunities to participate in or benefit from the NCAA-certification and approval process for any individual who fails or refuses to meet the requirements below or as otherwise provided by NCAA legislation or it approval is not in the best interests of the NCAA's mission and/or certification/approval programs program.

#### 3-1-1.1 Nonscholastic Event Certification - Men's Basketball.

Pursuant to Bylaw 13.18, the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Committee (MBOC and WBOC) has the authority to revise these policies and procedures and/or adopt additional requirements pertaining to men's nonscholastic basketball events and leagues certified by the NCAA. ECAG administers the certification process in accordance with NCAA legislation and ECAG certification policies and procedures.

### 3-1-1-2. Summer League Certification.

Pursuant to the NCAA Division I Governance process, the NCAA Division I Council (Council) has primary legislative authority to revise NCAA Bylaw 17.31.4 and/or adopt additional legislated requirements pertaining to men's and women's basketball leagues certified by the NCAA as proposed by the MBOC and WBOC. Council actions are subject to review by the NCAA Division I Board of Director (BOD). ECAG administers the league certification process in accordance with NCAA legislation and ECAG certification policies and procedures.

#### 3-1-1-3. June Scholastic Event Certification - Men's Basketball.

Pursuant to the NCAA Division I Governance process, the NCAA Division I Council (Council) has primary legislative authority to revise NCAA Bylaw 13.1.7.5.3 and/or adopt additional legislated requirements pertaining to June scholastic events (men's basketball only) certified by the NCAA as proposed by the MBOC. Council actions are subject to review by the NCAA Division I Board of Director (BOD). ECAG administers the June scholastic event certification process in accordance with NCAA legislation and ECAG certification policies and procedures. The purpose of the June scholastic period is to help advance and maintain an education-based focus in the recruiting environment, and ensure such events are conducted in a manner consistent with the Association's core mission.

3-1-2. Applicable Legislation – Basketball Certification.

#### 3-1-2-1. Enabling Legislation.

17.31.4 Summer Basketball Leagues.

#### 3-1-2-2. Related NCAA Bylaws.

 2. Itciaicu i i c	Mi Dylaws.
13.02.13	Definition of a Prospective Student Athlete.
13.02.13.1	Exception – After Commitment.
13.11.1.2	Definition of "Prospective Student-Athlete" for Tryout-Rule
	Purposes – Men's Basketball.
13.11.1.8	Use of Division I Campus - Nonscholastic Practice or Competition
	Men's Basketball.
13.11.1.9	Use of Division I Campus - Nonscholastic Practice or Competition
	Women's Basketball.
13.12.1.1.1	Definition of a Prospective Student-Athlete – Men's Basketball.
13.02.14	Recruiting.
13.02.14.1	Recruited Prospective Student-Athlete.
13.02.18	Individual Associated with a Prospective Student-Athlete – Men's
	Basketball.
13.1.7.5	Evaluations Men's Basketball.
13.1.7.5.1	Academic Year Recruiting Periods.
13.1.7.5.2	April Evaluation Periods.
13.1.7.5.3	Summer Evaluation Periods.
13.1.7.5.3.1	Practice in Preparation for a Certified Event.
13.1.7.5.3.2	Events Organized and Conducted for Recruiting Purposes.
13.1.7.5.4	NBA Draft Combine.
13.1.7.6	Evaluations Women's Basketball.
13.1.7.6.1	Academic Year Evaluation Period.
13.1.7.6.1.1	National Standardized Testing Weekends.
13.1.7.6.2	Summer Evaluation Period.
13.1.7.6.3	On-Campus Events.
13.1.7.6.4	Practice in Preparation for a Certified Event.
13.1.7.6.5	Events Not Subject to Certification Program.

### 3-1-2-3. Recruiting Calendars.

Recruiting Calendars are posted on the <u>Resources Tab</u> of LSDBi. Or can be found by going to <u>www.ncaa.org</u>, select Division I, select Recruiting, and then use the link under Recruiting Resources. Recruiting calendars for the next academic year are usually published mid-June.

## 3-2. Requirements for <u>ALL</u> NCAA-Certified Events and Leagues.

### 3-2-1. Applicant/Participation Requirements.

#### 3-2-1-1. Whitelist NCAA Email Addresses with Service Provider.

It is an applicant's or BBCS account owner's responsibility to make sure that "<a href="mailto:@ncaa.org" mailto:@ncaa.org" mailto:@ncaa.org</a>" is added as a "safe" or "trusted" source in any filters being used by their email service provider. If an issue arises, ECAG will contact the individual via the information provided on the user account. ECAG will NOT typically contact by other means (phone, mail, overnight delivery service, fax, etc.) even if an email is sent and is returned as undeliverable.

#### 3-2-2. Location Requirements and Restrictions.

#### 3-2-2-1. 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.

#### 3-2-2. 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 nonscholastic basketball practice or competition in which basketball 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.

#### 3-2-2-3. Unfettered Access to NCAA.

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.

#### 3-2-3. Insurance.

Both event and league operators are required to show proof of.

#### 3-2-3-1. 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.

#### 3-2-3-1-1. 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.

3-2-3-1-2. 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.

#### 3-2-3-1-3. 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.

#### 3-2-3-1-4. 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.

#### 3-2-3-2. Liability Insurance.

Event/league operators are also required to maintain in effect Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance.

#### 3-2-3-2-1. 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.

#### 3-2-3-2-2. 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.

#### **3-2-3-3.** 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.

#### 3-2-3-3-1. 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.

#### 3-2-3-3. 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.

#### 3-2-3-4. 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.

### 3-2-3-5. 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.

#### 3-2-3-6. 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.

## 3-2-3-7. Additional Coverage Requirements.

## **3-2-3-7-1.** Carrier Ratings.

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

#### 3-2-3-7-2. Site Specific Insurance.

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

## 3-2-3-7-3. 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.

#### 3-2-4. Award Requirements.

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.

#### 3-2-4-1. Scholastic Restrictions on Awards.

For June scholastic events, awards should be provided according to the limitations defined by the host state association or, for multi-state events, the most restrictive participating state association.

#### 3-2-4-2. Disclosure of Awards.

Operators are required to maintain records of all awards given to participants and must disclose that information, along with the source of their provision, to the NCAA or its designee when requested.

#### 3-2-5. Gifts, Benefits and Inducements.

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

#### 3-2-5-1. Prohibition of Gifts and Inducements.

No gifts or inducements shall be provided to the event/league participants, their coaches or family members.

3-2-5-2. Provision of 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.

## 3-2-5-3. Transportation Restrictions.

No air or ground transportation shall be provided to the event/league participants, their coaches or family members to participate in the event/league.

## 3-2-5-3-1. 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.

## 3-2-5-4. Disclosure of Gifts, Benefits and Inducements.

All gifts, benefits and inducements provided to participants and/or contractual arrangement with their families (travel, meals, accommodations, gear, etc.) must comply with certification requirements. Operators are required to maintain records of anything provided to participants or their families and must disclose that information, along with the source of their provision, to the NCAA or its designee when requested.

## 3-3. Requirements Specific to NCAA-Certified Leagues.

#### 3-3-1. Participating Athlete Requirements.

#### 3-3-1-1. 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 current or future certification of the league may be affected.

## 3-3-1-1. 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.

# 3-3-1-1-1. 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.

## 3-3-1-2. Staff Requirements.

## 3-3-1-2-1. 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.

## 3-3-2. Team Composition.

## 3-3-2-1. 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 current or future certification of the league may be affected.

#### 3-3-2-2. 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.

## 3-3-3. Division I Coach Requirements.

#### 3-3-3-1. 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.

## 3-3-3-1-1. 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 I coach could only attend on permissible certified event dates in July.

## 3-3-4. Schedule Requirements.

#### 3-3-4-1. Start Date.

No currently enrolled Division I SAs may participate in any league prior to June 15.

#### 3-3-4-2. Completion Date - 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 may be rendered ineligible for certification the following year.

#### 3-3-4-3. All-Star Games.

NCAA-certified leagues are prohibited from including any kind of all-star competition.

## 3-3-4-4. 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).

#### 3-3-5. Financial Requirements.

## 3-3-5-1. 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.

#### 3-3-5-1-1. 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.

#### 3-3-5-2. Sponsors.

Operators are required to disclose to the NCAA the identity of all league sponsors and the value/benefit of that sponsorship.

# 3-4. Requirements Specific to NCAA-Certified Leagues and Nonscholastic Events.

## 3-4-1. Applicant/Participation Requirements.

## 3-4-1-1. Participating Coach/Operator Requirements.

All individuals who are involved in operating an NCAA-certified league, involved in operating or managing an NCAA-certified nonscholastic event or who will participate in coaching activities at an NCAA-certified nonscholastic event must be approved in accordance with guidelines established by ECAG as outlined below:

#### 3-4-1-1. 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.

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.

## 3-4-1-1-2. NCAA Eligibility.

Violations of NCAA terms and conditions, rules and requirements, or policies and procedures may result in adverse actions that impact the individual's eligibility to operate an NCAA-certified league/nonscholastic event or participate in coaching activities and an NCAA-certified nonscholastic event.

#### 3-4-1-1-3. Registered BBCS Account.

An online account is required in the BBCS for the following:

- League Operators All operators of an NCAA-certified league must have a BBCS user account;
- **Nonscholastic Event Operators** anyone involved in operating or managing of an NCAA-certified nonscholastic event;
- **PSAs** any PSA participating in an NCAA-certified nonscholastic event;
- Event Coaches anyone participating in coaching activities at an NCAAcertified nonscholastic event;
- **Team/Organization CEO or Primary Business Officer** the person of authority who will submit required financial documentation for an organization of teams participating in NCAA-certified nonscholastic event.

## 3-4-1-1-3-1. Coach/Operator Accounts Must be Validated with USAB Gold License.

All league operators, individuals involved in the operating or managing of a nonscholastic event, and individuals involved in coaching activities at an NCAA-certified nonscholastic event must have a BBCS account that has been validated with a current USAB Gold License number prior to performing any activity in the BBCS beyond registration.

#### 3-4-1-1-3-2. Only One BBCS Account Necessary.

Only ONE user account is needed. 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, operators should NOT create a new account if edits need to be made to the address, phone number or email.

## 3-4-1-1-3-3. Registration Agreements and Attestations.

As a term and condition of participation, all event/league operators who register with the BBCS agree to a series of attestations acknowledging understanding of and agreeing to operate in compliance with ECAG policies and procedures.

#### 3-4-1-1-3-4. User Account Contact Information - BBCS.

It is the account owner's responsibility to make sure their contact information is accurate and up to date If an issue arises, ECAG will contact the account owner via the information provided on the user account. ECAG will NOT typically contact the person associated with the account by other

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means (phone, mail, overnight delivery service, fax, etc.) even if an email is sent and is returned as undeliverable.

## 3-4-2. Financial Requirements.

## 3-4-2-1. Same/Similar Entry Fees.

Admission fees charged to all event/league participants must be similar.

#### 3-4-2-2. Reduced Participant Entry Fee Program.

Event/league operators and host organizers are prohibited from granting free entry or reduced entry to select participants based on athletics ability or reputation. An event/league operator or host organizer may offer participants a reduced entry fee provided the following conditions are met. The reduction is:

- 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.).

## 3-4-2-3. Participant Employment Program for Reduced Entry.

Admission fees charged to all event/league participants must be similar. Event/league operators and host organizers are prohibited from granting free entry or reduced entry to select participants based on athletics ability or reputation. An event/league operator or host organizer may offer participants an employment program for reduced entry provided the following conditions are met. The participant employment program is:

- 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.

## 3-4-3. League and Nonscholastic Event Application Procedures and Deadlines.

## 3-4-3-1. 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.

## 3-4-3-1-1. Application Fee.

ECAG reserves the discretion to charge registration and/or fees for other ECAG services, considering the administrative burden on ECAG staff, the number of applications and volume of submissions received, and the adequacy of existing resources to carry out its mission.

## 3-4-3-2. Required Submissions.

The applicant will be asked to provide information relating to the NCAA legislated requirements for NCAA-certified summer leagues and nonscholastic events including, but not limited to providing the following information:

- a. Event/league information including event/league name, participant gender and age, schedule, facilities, fees, sponsors, awards, gifts/benefits, staff, and for events, information regarding Division I coach attendance;
- b. Insurance information including carrier, policy number and copy of the policy as proof of insurance that is compliant with the NCAA requirements;
- c. Applicant must agree to attestations of compliance with NCAA requirements.

## 3-4-3-3. Application Processing Procedures.

- a. **Review NCAA Requirements and Access Application.** Information about NCAA-certified summer leagues and nonscholastic events and BBCS access is available on <a href="http://www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification">http://www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification</a>.
- b. **Apply.** Operator must complete the application within the BBCS no later than 45 days prior to the first requested date of certification. Failure to submit the required information by the appropriate deadline will result in the denial of the application. ECAG's decision to approve or deny an application is final and not subject to further review.

- c. **NCAA Review.** The NCAA reviews the application and will identify any inadequacies with the application in the BBCS.
- d. **NCAA Request for Additional Information.** In its review and consideration of any application, ECAG may request the applicant to provide additional information, documents or materials, or may conduct whatever additional investigation it deems appropriate, including requiring a conference with the applicant by telephone or in person. If additional information is required to process an application to completion, ECAG will change the status of the application to information requested resulting in an online alert and auto-generated email to the operator.
- e. **Submission of Requested Information.** Operator must respond to the requested information in the BBCS no later than 10 days after the BBCS email was sent. The specific date is visible in the BBCS. Failure to submit the requested information by the appropriate deadline will result in the denial of the application.
- f. **Process to Completion.** NCAA reviews the additional information for compliance to determine the proper certification decision.
- g. **NCAA Issues a Decision.** When the NCAA posts the decision in the BBCS, the operator receives and email notification and a BBCS alert. If approved, the event/league will be included on the appropriate approval list posted on <a href="http://www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification">http://www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification</a>.
- h. **Reminder: PERF (Events Only).** Event operators must submit information upon the conclusion of the event providing information about the operation of the event and the event's participants. See section <u>3-3-7-1. PERF Procedures and Deadlines</u> in the Requirements Specific to NCAA-Certified Nonscholastic Events section.

#### 3-4-3-4. 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.

## 3-4-3-5. Status Designations Defined.

The review status of the application submission will be accessible through the BBCS and may be updated as follows:

a. **Not Submitted.** Additional steps must be taken by the operator before being given the opportunity to submit. Although all the required information may be entered,

- applications with the Not Submitted designation WILL NOT be reviewed/processed by ECAG. Eventually, events/leagues with the Not Submitted designation will be posted as denied, closing the application history.
- b. **Submitted.** Operator has successfully submitted the application to ECAG for processing. If the status indicates Submitted and was done so by the appropriate deadline, it has been submitted and will eventually be processed.
- c. **Info Requested.** If ECAG requires additional information to process the application to completion, the status will show as Info Requested. The operator will also receive an email notification and an online alert when this status is changed to Info Requested. The information requested will be documented and visible within the application.
- d. **Operator Responded.** Once an operator has responded to the ECAG request for additional information and resubmitted the application, the status will appear as Operator Responded. This is an indication that a response has been logged and is awaiting ECAG review.
- e. **Approved.** The application has been approved. For applications, specific dates of certification will be identified. All certified events and leagues will be posted on the <a href="https://www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification">www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification</a>.
  - (1) **Conditionally Approved.** ECAG may, at its sole discretion, grant conditional approval to an event. For example, if the event is historically compliant, but a violation occurs that is administrative in nature, the event may be conditionally approved. In these instances, the event will essentially operate as an approved event, but the host/operator may be required to submit a plan for ensuring similar violations do not occur in the future or other documentation of compliance. If an event is conditionally approved more than one time, the event may be scrutinized further or even be denied certification of future events.
- f. **Denied.** The application has been denied. The reason for the denial is posted to the BBCS.
- g. **Cancelled (Before Approval).** The activity was cancelled by the event/league operator prior to the application having been processed to completion.
- h. **Cancelled (After Approval).** The activity was cancelled by the event/league operator after the application was processed and posted as approved. To avoid penalties, cancellations must be reported to ECAG via the "Request Change or Cancellation" feature no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled start of the event/league.

i. Cancelled (Missed 48 Hour). The activity was cancelled by the event/league operator after the application was processed and posted as approved, but not early enough to avoid penalties. Cancellations must be reported to ECAG via the

scheduled start of the event/league.

j. **Change Request.** Operator has submitted information via the "Request Change or Cancellation" feature in the BBCS to make edits to the information initially submitted on the application.

"Request Change or Cancellation" feature no later than 48 hours prior to the

k. **Withdrawn.** The application was processed and posted as approved, but ECAG has withdrawn the certification based on supplemental information received.

#### 3-5-3-5-1. **Decision Final.**

ECAG staff has final authority to approve or deny an application to certify an event or league, and its decisions are not subject to further review.

#### **3-4-3-6.** Deadlines.

All deadlines 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/approval.

- a. **Application.** Forty-five days prior to the first requested date of certification.
- b. **PERF.** Two months after the last date of certification of the event.
- c. Request for Additional Information.
  - (1) **Applications** Ten days from the date of the request.
  - (2) **PERF** Twenty days from the date of the request.
- d. **Submission of Changes/Cancellations.** No later than 48 hours <u>prior</u> to the scheduled start of the event/league.

#### 3-4-3-6-1. 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.).

## 3-5. Requirements Specific to NCAA-Certified June Scholastic Events.

The criteria outlined in this document underscore the importance of maintaining an education-based focus on event formats and host sites. These policies and procedures are designed to help advance and maintain an education-based focus at NCAA-certified scholastic basketball events. The criteria were based on and align with the philosophies, fundamentals and processes used in the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) scholastic program for hosting events that take place during the June scholastic evaluation period. Information about June scholastic events is posted on <a href="https://www.ncaa.org/scholastic-events">www.ncaa.org/scholastic-events</a>. The list of approved events is accessible from the same web page.

The criteria below, specific to the NCAA certification process for June scholastic events, were approved by the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee to ensure alignment with recommendations from the Commission on College Basketball. Penalties for noncompliance with any of the criteria outlined in this document are at the discretion of the NCAA and pursuant to the applicable NCAA guidelines and/or operating procedures.

## 3-5-1. Organizations Eligible to Apply.

ECAG will only accept applications to host an NCAA-certified event from associations, organizations or entities that fall within one of the following categories:

- a. A National High School Basketball Coaches Association (NHSBCA) member;
- b. A state high school basketball coaches' association. If there is no such association specifically for basketball coaches, a state high school coaches' association; provided that the non-sport specific coaches' association has been<sup>1</sup>:
  - (1) established and active for at least one year prior to the time of application; or
  - (2) recognized by or members of their respective state high school athletics/activities association.
- c. A high school athletics association (e.g., state athletics association, metro area athletics association, regional athletics association or parochial athletics association) that:
  - (1) Is NOT a National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) member;
  - (2) Has been established and active for at least one year prior to the time of application;
  - (3) Is organized for the primary purpose of governing education-based athletics;
  - (4) Is licensed by and/or registered under appropriate state regulations or laws; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>ECAG may, in its discretion, approve an association that does not meet these requirements on a case-by-case basis;

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(5) Performs duties and functions consistent with other high school athletics governing bodies.

## 3-5-2. Procedures and Deadlines.

In order to request NCAA-certification of a June scholastic event and remain eligible for certification the following year, the following must occur:

## 3-5-2-1. Application Submission.

## 3-5-2-1-1. Host Organization Submits Application.

An event application<sup>2</sup> form must be submitted to ECAG by March 1 each year. Applications will be processed in the order received.

The applicant must type information directly in the fields provided on the application form and utilize the "submit" button on the form to email it to ECAG. If problems occur with the submit button, the applicant can save the form as a PDF and email the editable form via the <a href="ECAG">ECAG</a> Contact Form</a> (email via <a href="https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/contactForm">https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/contactForm</a>). Failure to submit the required information by the appropriate deadline will result in the denial of the application. ECAG's decision to approve or deny an application is final and not subject to further review.

The application will ask the operator/host organization to provide information relating to the NCAA legislated requirements for June scholastic events including, but not limited to providing the following information:

- a. Event information including event name, format, schedule, facilities, invited states, fees, sponsor information; fees, awards, gifts, and staff;
- b. Insurance information including carrier, policy number and copy of the policy as proof of insurance that is compliant with the NCAA requirements;
- c. Host organization information including name, address, website, phone number, organization authority and their contact information, first date of the organization's existence, state tax ID number, and;
- d. Applicant must agree to attestations of compliance with NCAA requirements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ECAG reserves the discretion to charge registration and/or fees for other ECAG services, considering the administrative burden on ECAG staff, the number of applications and volume of submissions received, and the adequacy of existing resources to carry out its mission.

## 3-5-2-1-2. Required Supplements to Application Form.

The following documents must accompany the application<sup>3</sup>:

- a. An estimated budget of revenues and expenses,
- b. Support for any fee waiver request,
- c. Copy of the required insurance policy,
- d. Articles of Incorporation for the host organization;
- e. If the host organization is a high school association, an organization chart or description of structure identifying all of its membership schools must also be submitted.

## 3-5-2-2. NCAA Review of Application.

ECAG will review the submission to determine whether the submission is enough to process the application.

#### A. If "Yes"

- 1) **ECAG Renders a Decision**. ECAG will process the application and render an "approved" decision.
- 2) **Decision Communicated.** The approval will be communicated via email and posted to the Approved June Scholastic Events List on <a href="https://www.ncaa.org/scholastic-events">www.ncaa.org/scholastic-events</a>. The specific deadline date for the required post-event review form (PERF) will be identified in the application approval decision email.

#### B. If "No"

ECAG Requests Additional Information. In its review and consideration, ECAG may request the host to provide additional information, documents or materials, or may conduct whatever additional investigation it deems appropriate, including requiring a conference with the applicant by telephone or in person. A request for additional information is sent to the applicant identifying all insufficiencies, clarifications or omitted documents that the application must submit for the application to be processed. Deadline for response is ten calendar days from the date of the email request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ECAG reserves the discretion to charge registration and/or fees for other ECAG services, considering the administrative burden on ECAG staff, the number of applications and volume of submissions received, and the adequacy of existing resources to carry out its mission.

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- 2) **Host Organization Responds to App Request**. The applicant for the host organization submits the information requested.
  - a) **After the Deadline Adverse Actions Apply.** The failure to respond to a request for additional information by the designated deadline may result in a denial of current or future certification or other penalties per the ECAG adverse actions guidelines.
  - b) **Before Deadline NCAA Review.** ECAG will review the submission to determine the appropriate decision.
- Decision Communicated. ECAG staff has final authority to approve or deny an application to certify an event and its decisions are not subject to further review. The final decision will be communicated via email and if approved, the event is posted to the Approved June Scholastic Events List on <a href="www.ncaa.org/scholastic-events">www.ncaa.org/scholastic-events</a>. The specific deadline date for the required PERF will be identified in the application approval decision email.

## 3-5-2-1. Compliant Event Operation.

The expectation of certification is that the event must then be operated in compliance with the NCAA requirements.

#### 3-5-2-2. Submission of Changes/Cancellations.

Applications are reviewed based on the information submitted in the application. Any changes (names, location, dates, fees, times of games, etc.) or cancellations made by the host organization post-approval must be reported to ECAG in writing no later than <u>48 hours prior</u> to the scheduled start of the event. Failure to report changes by the deadline may render the applicant ineligible for approval the following year.

## 3-5-2-3. PERF Submission.

If event certification was granted and Division I coaches were given the opportunity to attend and observe PSAs, the operator from the host organization must submit a PERF and required supporting documents no later than 60 days from the last certified event date. PERFs will be processed in the order received.

The PERF is required even if zero Division I coaches attended. Failure to submit the required information by the appropriate deadline will result in the denial of the PERF rending the event ineligible for certification during the same season the following year. ECAG's decision to approve or deny a PERF is final and not subject to further review.

#### 3-5-2-3-1. Host Organization Submits PERF.

The operator/host organization must type information directly in the fields provided on the PERF form and utilize the "submit" button on the form to email it to ECAG. If problems occur with the submit button, the applicant can save the form as a PDF and email the editable form via the <a href="ECAG">ECAG</a> Contact Form</a> (email via <a href="https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/contactForm">https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/contactForm</a>). Failure to submit the required information by the appropriate deadline will result in the denial of the application. ECAG's decision to approve or deny an application is final and not subject to further review.

Host organizations will be asked to provide information relating to the NCAA legislated requirements for June scholastic events and the operation of the event.

## 3-5-2-1-2. Required Supplements to PERF Form.

In addition to the PERF form, the operator for the host organization must submit the following:

- a. Name and high school of each participating PSA.
- b. Name, high school and email address of each participating coach.
- c. Name and institution of each NCAA collegiate coach in attendance.
- d. A copy of the event schedule/event results (identifying which teams played at which times).
- e. A copy of the event/coaches' packets created for NCAA coaches in attendance.
- f. Must identify each staff member including, but not limited to, the administrative staff, clock and stat personnel, scorekeepers, officials/referees, ticket takers, concessions, the required medical personnel/trainer, etc. Identify each staff member by name and role they fulfilled at the event. Further, for each primary staff member, identify the association with which each person is associated, and their role in that association.

#### 3-5-2-4. NCAA Review of PERF.

ECAG will review the submission to determine whether the submission is enough to process the PERF.

#### a. If "Yes"

- 1) **ECAG Renders a Decision**. ECAG will process the PERF and render an "approved" decision. A PERF approval is an indication that the event is eligible for NCAA certification the following year.
- 2) **Decision Communicated.** The approval will be communicated via email.

## b. If "No"

- 1) NCAA Request for Additional Information. In its review and consideration, ECAG may request the host to provide additional information, documents or materials, or may conduct whatever additional investigation it deems appropriate, including requiring a conference with the applicant by telephone or in person. If additional information is required to process an application to completion, ECAG will request additional information via email. A request for additional information is sent to the applicant identifying all insufficiencies, clarifications or omitted documents that the application must submit for the PERF to be processed.
- 2) **Host Organization Responds to PERF Request.** The applicant for the host organization submits the information requested.
  - a) After the Deadline Adverse Actions Apply. Applicant must provide the requested information no later than 20 calendar days after the NCAA has sent the email request. The failure to respond to a request for additional information by the designated deadline will likely result in the denial of the PERF rending the event ineligible for certification during the same season the following year. Failure to submit the requested information by the appropriate deadline may result in a denial of current or future certification or other penalties per the ECAG adverse actions guidelines.
  - b) **Before Deadline NCAA Review.** ECAG will review the submission to determine the appropriate decision.

3) **Decision Communicated.** ECAG staff has final authority to approve or deny a PERF and its decisions are not subject to further review. The final decision will be communicated via email. A PERF approval is required for the event to remain eligible for NCAA certification the following year.

## 3-5-2-5. Submission of PERF Changes.

PERFS are reviewed based on the information submitted and information submitted is expected to be accurate. If the host organization submits the PERF and discovers errors that need to be corrected prior to processing, the host organization must submit that request to ECAG in writing utilizing the <u>ECAG Contact Form</u> (https://web3.ncaa.org/bbcs/contactForm).

## 3-5-2-6. Application/PERF Status Designations.

There are varying stages of the application/ PERF review process as outlined below. As identified below, certain stages will be communicated to the applicant via email. Decisions are final. ECAG staff has final authority to approve or deny an application to certify an event and its decisions are not subject to further review.

- a. **Submitted.** Operator has successfully submitted the application/PERF to ECAG for processing via email. If submitted by the appropriate deadline, the application PERF will eventually be processed.
- b. **Info Requested.** If ECAG requires additional information to process the application/PERF to completion, the operator will receive an email notification outlining the information required and the deadline for submission.
- c. **Operator Responded.** Once an operator has responded to the ECAG request for additional information and the deadline has passed, ECAG will review the information submitted and determine if a decision can be rendered.
- d. **Approved.** The application/PERF has been approved. For applications, specific dates of certification will be identified in the approval email. All certified events will be posted on the <a href="https://www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification">www.ncaa.org/basketballcertification</a>.
  - (1) **Conditionally Approved.** ECAG may, at its sole discretion, grant conditional approval to an event. For example, if the event is historically compliant, but a violation occurs that is administrative in nature, the event may be conditionally approved. In these instances, the event will essentially operate as an approved event, but the host/operator may be required to submit a plan for ensuring similar violations do not occur in the future or other documentation of compliance. If an event is conditionally approved more than one time, the event may be scrutinized further or even be denied certification of future events.

- e. **Denied.** The application/PERF has been denied. The reason for the denial will be communicated in the denial email.
- f. **Application Cancelled (Before Approval).** The activity was cancelled by the event operator prior to the application having been processed to completion.
- g. **Application Cancelled (After Approval).** The event was cancelled by the event operator after the application was processed and posted as approved. To avoid penalties, cancellations must be reported to ECAG in writing no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled start of the event. To avoid confusion, rather than deleting these events from the list of NCAA-certified events, these cancellations will be posted online.
- h. **Application Withdrawn.** The application was processed and posted as approved, but ECAG has withdrawn the certification based on supplemental information received. To avoid confusion, rather than deleting these events from the list of NCAA-certified events, these withdrawals will be posted online.

#### **3-5-2-7. Deadlines.**

All deadlines 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.

- a. **Application.** Prior to March 1 each year (no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern on the last day of February).
- b. **PERF**. No later than 60 days of the last certified event date.
- c. Request for Additional Information.
  - (1) **Applications** Ten days from the date of the request.
  - (2) **PERF** Twenty days from the date of the request.
- d. **Submission of Changes/Cancellations.** No later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled start of the event.

## 3-5-2-7-1. Deadline Verification.

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.).

**3-5-3. Event Format.** The National High School Basketball Coaches Association (NHSBCA) represents the collective expertise of coaches from across the country and it has identified five event formats it deems appropriate for June scholastic events. These formats are posted online as the "Blueprint of NHSBCA Event Models". The NCAA strongly recommends that associations/organizations interested in hosting a June scholastic event select one or a combination of these five models as the format for its June scholastic event(s). For more information about the NHSBCA go to <a href="https://www.NHSBCA.org">www.NHSBCA.org</a>.

## 3-5-4. Applicant/Participation Requirements.

## 3-5-4-1. Staff Requirements.

## 3-5-4-1-1. Primary Event Staff Requirements.

All primary event staff must be members/staff of the host association, school personnel of the host association, and/or approved state coaches association members who are currently active and in good standing. Individuals associated with host-school facilities or participating schools (e.g., athletes; students; alumni; parents of athletes, students, or alumni; community members or family members of host association members/staff) are not acceptable as primary staff.

**3-5-4-1-1. Primary Event Staff Defined**. Primary event staff includes anyone involved in conducting/administering the event such as site director, gym supervisors, organizers, coordinators, coaches, etc. Primary event staff does not include officials, medical personnel, security, concessions, clocks/score table workers, parking attendants or janitorial services.

#### 3-5-4-1-2. Required Medical Personnel.

Qualified medical personnel must be present at EACH facility utilized by the event.

## 3-5-4-1-3. Accredited Officials.

Game officials should be members of an accredited officials' association, such as National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, Inc. or equivalent.

## 3-5-4-2. Participating Coach Requirements.

All coaches must be:

- 1) Employed (paid or unpaid) by the participating high schools, or
- 2) A member in good standing with one of the following:
  - a) NHSBCA,

- b) State high school basketball coaches' association (or state coaches' association if a basketball specific organization does not exist), or
- c) host athletics association.
- 3) Must complete all school and state certification requirements, including background checks, prior to coaching in the event. For individuals/coaches not subject to school or state certification requirements, including background checks, such individuals/coaches must hold an active USAB Gold License.

#### 3-5-4-2-1. USAB Gold License.

The USAB Gold License requires completion of educational modules and includes a criminal background check.

## 3-5-4-3. Felony Conviction Restrictions for Event/Team Staff.

The host organization is responsible for ensuring that neither the event nor any participating team shall have on its staff any individual who has been found guilty or pleaded guilty in a court of law to a felony.

## 3-5-3-4. Participating Athlete Requirements.

## 3-5-3-4-1. High School Teams or Individuals.

Host organizations are responsible for ensuring that high schools and prospective student-athletes are eligible to participate in NCAA-certified June scholastic events. All participating prospective student-athletes must be currently enrolled in a high school that meets the eligibility requirements below, regardless of whether his high school is participating. High schools may participate in NCAA-certified scholastic events if the school:

- a. Is not a member of an NFHS state high school association;
- b. Is governed by a high school athletics association that has existed for at least one full academic year and is organized for the primary purpose of governing education-based athletics, is licensed by and/or registered under appropriate state regulations or laws, and performs duties and functions consistent with other high school athletics governing bodies;
- c. Has been in continuous operation for at least one full academic year, with enrolled students who have completed at least two semesters of classes; and
- d. Has gone through the NCAA High School Certification Review process and have either been cleared, are in review or undergoing extended evaluation by the NCAA Eligibility Center. Instructions for Checking EC Evaluation Status are posted on www.ncaa.org/scholastic-events.

- e. It is suggested that all participants (individuals, teams, etc.) be finalized by June 1 so that the event can promote who will be participating so that NCAA coaches can make the best decisions about which events they need to attend.
- **3-5-4. Fees/Finances at NCAA June Scholastic Events.** Fees charged by host organizations to event participants and certain attendees shall be subject to the following provisions:

## 3-5-4-1. Participant Entry Fees.

Entry fees must be similar for all participants. Team event entry fees shall not exceed \$250 per team/school. Individual event entry fees shall not exceed \$50 per participant.

## 3-5-4-1-1. Excess Entry Fees for Participants.

Entry fees in excess of \$250 per team/school and \$50 for individual participants must be justified by documented expenses and may be considered <u>if submitted with the organization's certification application for advance approval</u>. pursuant to the applicable NCAA guidelines and/or operating procedures. These documented expenses may include, but are not limited to, security fees, insurance costs, facility fees, staffing expenses, etc. Any such excess fee charged by an organization without advance approval must be disclosed with other PERF information and may affect the organization's future eligibility to participate in NCAA-certified June scholastic basketball events.

- **3-5-4-1-2. Reduced entry fees.** Host organizations are prohibited from granting free entry or reduced entry to select participants based on athletics ability or reputation. A host organization may offer participants a reduced entry fee provided the following conditions are met:
- If offered, reduced entry fees must be made available to all qualifying participants and must be based on some objective criteria that is unrelated to a participant's athletics ability or reputation.
- Any reduced entry fee program must be publicized in advance. Host
  organizations will need to identify during the application process how
  participants will be notified/informed that such a program exists (on
  registration form, event flyers, website, etc.).

#### 3-5-4-2. Nonparticipant Entry Fees.

Event admission charges for nonparticipants shall not exceed \$10 per day.

## 3-5-4-2-1. Excess Admission Charges for Nonparticipants.

Admission charges in excess of \$10 per person must be justified by documented expenses and may be considered <u>if submitted with the organization's certification application for advance approval</u>. These documented expenses may include, but are

not limited to, security fees, insurance costs, facility fees, staffing expenses, etc. Any such excess fee charged by an organization without advance approval must be disclosed with other PERF information and may affect the organization's future eligibility to participate in NCAA-certified June scholastic basketball events.

#### 3-5-4-3. Event/Coaches' Packets.

Host organizations that produce coaches' packets are expected to follow NCAA guidelines identified in this section.

#### 3-5-4-3-1. Event/Coaches' Packet Price.

The cost to an institution to purchase a packet shall not exceed \$150 for the event unless the institution's coaching staff desires to have more than one packet. If the staff from the same institution share a packet, the cost should not exceed \$150 for the packet and each additional coach would need to pay the event admission fee (not to exceed \$10).

## 3-5-4-3-2. Information Required for Event/Coaches' Packets.

Packets must contain substantive information relevant to the observation and evaluation of participating PSAs, including but not limited to:

- a. Event schedule.
- b. Location of all sites where NCAA coaches can observe PSAs.
- c. Participant information (either individually or on a team roster) that includes:
  - (1) Name of prospect.
  - (2) Prospect's direct contact information.
  - (3) Jersey number.
  - (4) Graduation year (e.g., 2019, 2020, etc.).
  - (5) Scholastic institution.
  - (6) Name and contact information for scholastic coach.

#### 3-5-4-3-3. Price Disclosed in Advance of Event.

The price of event packets must be disclosed on the event application and must be publicized in advance. This price will be posted on the list of approved events available on <a href="http://www.ncaa.org/governance/june-scholastic-boys-basketball-events">http://www.ncaa.org/governance/june-scholastic-boys-basketball-events</a>.

3-5-4-3-4. Same/Similar Fees for All NCAA Coaches.

While the cost of a coaches' packet may not exceed \$150, it is permissible for a host organization to charge different amounts for the produced coaches' packets, but the price must be made available to all qualifying coaches, must be based on some objective criteria (division, number of days attending, etc.) and must be publicized in advance. All packet options are required to be disclosed on the event application and will be posted on the list of approved events available on <a href="http://www.ncaa.org/governance/june-scholastic-boys-basketball-events">http://www.ncaa.org/governance/june-scholastic-boys-basketball-events</a>. Host organizations cannot make changes at the event site nor can the operator make price adjustments based on his/her relationship with an NCAA coach.

## **3-5-4-4. Sponsors.**

Use of sponsors is permitted for actual and necessary expenses to operate the event (e.g., facility rental fee, food and beverage for participants and event staff, printing of credentials, etc.) and that it is my responsibility to ensure that any sponsorship accepted is not from an entity that would jeopardize the high school or NCAA eligibility of any event participant. Sponsors cannot organize, implement, or operate NCAA-certified June Scholastic Events; cannot influence selection of participants (players, teams or coaches) nor shall they determine event format.

## 3-5-5. Location Requirements and Restrictions.

See also 3-2-2-1 Sports Wagering Establishments; 3-2-2-2 Division I Campus Facilities; and 3-2-2-3 Unfettered Access that apply to all NCAA-certified events.

#### 3-5-5-1. Nonscholastic Facilities.

NCAA June scholastic events may only be conducted at a location that is physically situated on or at an educational institution. Examples of permitted sites include elementary, middle or high schools, two-year institutions or any four-year college or university that is not a Division I NCAA member institution. A host association may, however, appeal to ECAG for an exception to the rule so that the event can utilize a nonscholastic facility.

## 3-5-5-2. Multiple Sites.

June scholastic events may be conducted at multiple event locations if each secondary location is compliant with all location requirements applicable to NCAA-certified events (both scholastic and nonscholastic).

## 3-5-6. Division I Coach Requirements.

#### 3-5-6-1. Separation of NCAA Coaches.

The purpose of Division I coach attendance at an event is for evaluation only. Division I coaches are NOT permitted to have contact with PSAs, family members of PSAs, or Individual's Associated with a Prospect (IAWPs).

#### 3-5-6-1-1. IAWP Definition Clarification.

As applicable to ECAG, the definition of IAWP generally includes parents, legal guardians, handlers, personal trainers, recruiting/scouting service employees or operators and coaches. For purposes of NCAA certification, IAWP also includes:

- a. A nonscholastic coach is considered an IAWP regardless of whether their team is participating in the event.
- b. A two-year college coach is an IAWP regardless of whether their team is participating in the event.
- c. Individuals associated with a recruiting/scouting service are an IAWP.
- d. Media members that trigger IAWP status (e.g., media members employed by, or working in partnership with, a scouting service or recruiting service) would be subject to the limitations noted above and would not be allowed to sit in the designated seating section for NCAA coaches.

## 3-5-6-2. Required Precautions.

NCAA-certified June scholastic events should be conducted in a manner that allows NCAA coaches to attend the event and evaluate PSAs with minimum opportunity for contact violations, allowing the coach to focus on evaluations. Event operators are responsible for having staff/volunteers to monitor and remove nonNCAA coaches from designated NCAA-coach areas. The following precautions are required:

- **3-5-6-2-1. Identification of NCAA Coaches.** Operators are expected to have a system in place to distinguish NCAA Division I coaches from other attendees (e.g., arm bands. lanyards, etc.)
- **3-5-6-2-2. Signage.** Operators must clearly identify all separate NCAA coaches' areas.
- **3-5-6-2-3. Separate Seating.** Operators/host organizations must provide NCAA coaches with a designated seating section that is free of those individuals with whom NCAA coaches are prohibited to have contact per NCAA bylaws.
- 1) Monitoring NCAA Coaches. Operators are expected to remove unauthorized participants or attendees are from designated NCAA coach areas. However, if an NCAA coach elects to engage with an IAWP or attempt an impermissible contact, the event operator is not responsible for the coach's behavior. ECAG encourages operators to remind NCAA coaches of their responsibilities and of the enhanced penalties for contact violations at certified events but are not expected to enforce NCAA recruiting requirements on individuals subject to NCAA bylaws.

2) **Media.** The prohibition on seating for certain individuals with NCAA coaches does not apply to bona fide news media. However, media members that trigger IAWP status (e.g., media members employed by, or working in partnership with, a scouting service or recruiting service) would be subject to the limitations noted above and should not be allowed to sit in the designated seating section for NCAA coaches.

**3-5-6-2-4. Hospitality Rooms.** If a hospitality room is being provided for college coaches, the room must be designated for college coaches only. Operators are expected to remove unauthorized participants or attendees from designated NCAA coach areas keeping it free of those individuals with whom NCAA coaches are not permitted to have contact under NCAA bylaws. If the operator desires to provide a hospitality room for participating team coaches, athletes or any other group it must be separate from the college coaches hospitality room.

#### 3-5-6-3. Encouraged Precautions.

Event operators/host organizations should implement reasonable precautions to separate NCAA coaches from participants and spectators. When possible, operators are encouraged to provide NCAA coaches with separate entrances, check-in locations, bracket postings, bathrooms, parking lots, concessions, etc.

## 3-5-7. Permissible Scheduling of Activities.

#### 3-5-7-1. Dates.

June scholastic event dates are governed by Division Recruiting Calendar legislation 13.17.2-(g).

## 3-5-7-2. Athletically Related Activities Limitations.

In compliance with the USAB/NBA Youth Guidelines, a PSA may participate in <u>no more than two games</u> on any one day and no more than <u>14 hours</u> of athletically related activities in one week. In addition, the requirements outlined in the USAB/NBA Youth Guidelines should be considered by host organizations as best practices.

Athletically related activities may NOT begin prior to 8 a.m. and the last athletically related activity may not begin later than 10 p.m.

#### 3-5-7-3. Division I Coach Attendance Restrictions.

NCAA Division I men's basketball coaches may not begin evaluating athletes at an event until 12:00 p.m. on the Friday opening the evaluation period or past 6 p.m. on Sunday, the final day of the evaluation period. The event may begin or end outside of the noon to 6 p.m. requirements, but Division I coaches are only permitted to attend within that time frame. If the event is scheduled outside the permissible noon to 6 p.m. period, the operator will need to submit an explanation for how they intend to prohibit NCAA coaches from

entering prior to noon Friday and/or how they intend to make sure the facility is free of NCAA coaches by 6 p.m. Sunday.

#### 3-5-8. Recommendations.

- A. Use NFHS/high school or NCAA playing rules.
- B. Use USAB/NBA Youth Guidelines for grades nine through 12, including those limiting the number of games in a weekend. usab.com/youth/development/youth-guidelines-rules-andstandards.aspx
- C. Include an educational component for participants and high school coaches as part of the event.
- D. Net revenues should be designated to host future events or invested in direct student-related programs (e.g., student leadership conferences, sportsmanship summits, college information educational materials, etc.).

## Chapter 4 ECAG Adverse Actions

# 4-1. Authority for Enforcement of Certification/Approval Legislation, Guidelines and Requirements.

#### 4-1-1. Administrative Authority.

See description of <u>Administrative Authority</u> in Chapter 1, section 1.4.

## 4-1-2. Participant Agreement to NCAA Compliance.

As a condition of certification, approval or participation, all operators or individuals who are involved in operating or managing of an NCAA-certified event; individuals involved in coaching activities at an NCAA-certified nonscholastic event; operators of an NCAA-certified league or a recruiting/scouting service; or who have obtained NCAA agent certification<sup>4</sup> expressly agree:

- a. To terms and conditions regarding NCAA Requirements and Non-NCAA Members;
- b. To operate their event/league, team, service or agency in compliance with NCAA legislation and ECAG requirements;
- c. To be subject to the procedures and possible penalties set forth in ECAG operating procedures as the exclusive means of resolving all disputes arising from or relating to NCAA certification/approval, including without limitation the denial of initial certification/approval, the suspension or withdrawal of an existing certification/approval and the propriety of any penalty authorized hereunder; and
- d. That the NCAA is not responsible for any actions taken by another governing body (USAB, NBPA, etc.), state regulatory bodies, professional associations or other third-parties arising from or relating to administration of the NCAA certification/approvals policies, procedures, adverse actions and/or penalties, and that by agreeing to participate in ECAG programs (basketball certification, agent certification, recruiting/scouting service approvals) the operator, coach, or agent accepts the foregoing risks.

## 4-1-2-1. Subject to Adverse Actions and Penalties.

As a condition of participation, each operator, coach, or agent agrees to be subject to adverse actions or penalties for failure to comply ECAG policies and/or NCAA legislation.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> After this mention, identified as "operator, coach, or agent".

## 4-2. Conduct Subject to Adverse Actions/Penalties.

An operator, coach, or agent's failure to comply with ECAG certification/approval policies and procedures, any terms or condition or attestations agreed to when applying or completing other ECAG processes, commission of violations of state or federal law all constitute disqualifying and/or impermissible conduct. ECAG may deny an application/PERF if the applicant fails to meet any of the foregoing requirements for certification/approval.

#### 4-2-1. Disqualifying Conduct or Event.

Disqualifying conduct includes any conduct that would have warranted denial of the operator, coach, or agent's original application. ECAG has the sole and final authority to determine whether the operator, coach, or agent has engaged in the disqualifying conduct or whether a disqualifying event has occurred. If the violation is minor, inadvertent, or based on a factual error, the operator, coach, or agent may request reconsideration of the decision. Disqualifying conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Failure to properly complete the application/PERF, including the required attestations;
- b. Failure to meet any ECAG deadline. All deadlines are strictly enforced;
- c. Failure to cooperate with the NCAA in its processing of an application/PERF;
- d. Failure to meet the NCAA background check requirements;
- e. Failure to meet the NCAA educational requirements. For agents, this would include failure to achieve a passing score on the NCAA agent certification examination.

## 4-2-1-1. Additional Disqualifying Conduct for Agents.

#### 4-2-1-1. Loss of NBPA Certification.

An NCAA-certified agent who loses his or her NBPA certification for any reason automatically forfeits NCAA certification and is subject to such other and further actions prescribed in these IOPs. In such event, in its sole discretion, ECAG may impose additional requirements or restrictions on the agent's further eligibility to reapply for NCAA certification.

#### 4-2-1-1-2. Violations of State or Federal Law.

The NCAA may also withdraw certification/approval or impose other discipline on any agent found to have violated laws governing athletic agents including but not limited to violations of state law (e.g., UAAA/RUAAA) or SPARTA [15 U.S.C. 7801-7807] In such event, in its sole discretion, ECAG may impose additional requirements or restrictions on the agent's further eligibility to reapply for NCAA certification.

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## 4-2-2. Impermissible Conduct.

Impermissible conduct is conduct that is intentional, deceptive, contrary to the NCAA's core mission or which may adversely affect the interest or well-being of SAs. Impermissible conduct may result in adverse actions and penalties in accordance with ECAG's enforcement procedures, including withdrawal of certification/approval and permanent ineligibility to reapply for NCAA certification/approval. The presumed penalty for the most severe violations is withdrawal of current certification and/or denial of certification/approval the following year. Impermissible conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Failure to comply with the following Terms and Conditions:
  - 1) Unethical Conduct and/or Participation in a Violation;
  - 2) Responsibility to Cooperate;
  - 3) Restrictions on Involvement;
  - 4) False Representation of NCAA Certification;
  - 5) Improper Use of the NCAA Brand and Trademarks; and
  - 6) False or Misleading Information.
- b. Failure to abide by the impermissible gifts, benefits and/or inducements Requirements described in these IOPs in the Requirements for ALL NCAA-Certified Events and Leagues and Requirements for NCAA-Certified Agents sections.
- c. Failure to act or participate in activities that result in or considered to be a violation of NCAA legislation.
- d. Misappropriating funds or engaging in specific acts of financial malpractice such as embezzlement, theft or fraud, which would render him/her unfit.
- e. For agents, engaging in other conduct that significantly impacts adversely his or her credibility, integrity or competence to serve in a representative capacity on behalf of a SA (PSA representation is not permitted until high school students are eligible to enter the NBA draft).

#### 4-2-3. Additional Grounds for Adverse Actions/Penalties.

Additional grounds for denial include, without limitations, the following:

a. **Failure to Comply with NCAA Requirements.** Failure to comply with NCAA legislation, guidelines and requirements, can be classified as either <u>Disqualifying Conduct</u> or Impermissible Conduct.

- b. **Failure to comply with ECAG Terms and Conditions.** Failure to comply with any of the ECAG terms and conditions can be classified as either <u>Disqualifying Conduct</u> or <u>Impermissible Conduct</u>.
- c. **Applicant Qualifications.** Information has come to the attention of the NCAA that calls into question the applicant's qualifications.
- d. **Not Consistent with NCAA Interests and Mission.** Approval is not in the best interests of the NCAA's mission and/or certification program.
- e. **Negative Impact to NCAA Integrity and Public Confidence.** Participation and/or involvement with conduct detrimental to the integrity and public confidence in the NCAA.

#### 4-3. Adverse Actions and Penalties for Violations.

ECAG may impose the following range of adverse actions for Disqualifying Conduct and Impermissible Conduct: fines, formal reprimand, suspension of certification/approval for a prescribed period, withdrawal of current or denial of future certification/approval with or without conditions, or a lifetime ban.

## 4-3-1. NCAA Right to Withdraw or Deny.

The NCAA reserves the right to withdraw current or deny future opportunities to participate in or benefit from the NCAA-certification and approval programs for any individual who fails or refuses to comply with NCAA legislation, ECAG guidelines, policies and procedures, terms and conditions outlined in section 1.6, or attestations agreed to when applying or completing any of the ECAG online processes or other ECAG applications.

#### 4-3-2. Adverse Actions.

#### 4-3-2-1. Formal Reprimand/Warning.

A single instance or isolated failure to comply with ECAG policies and/or NCAA legislation may result in ECAG issuing a formal reprimand. Failure to achieve compliance and/or repetition of the same violation may elevate the reprimand to extended evaluation or ECAG may impose a penalty.

## 4-3-2-1-1. Corrective Action.

A formal reprimand or written warning may include request for corrective action to an operator, coach, or agent. Corrective action does not constitute a penalty and may not be appealed.

## 4-3-2-1-2. Not a Required First Step.

ECAG is not required to provide a formal reprimand, written warning or request for corrective action prior to initiating an investigation or review determining that the operator, coach, or agent engaged in impermissible conduct.

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#### 4-3-2-2. Extended Evaluation.

ECAG may place an operator, coach, or agent on extended evaluation status, in which case they will be presumed ineligible to apply for future certification/registration/approval unless the individual 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.

#### 4-3-3. Penalties for Violations.

ECAG may also assess penalties for violations of NCAA policies and legislation, including the withdrawal of an existing certification/approval and deeming the operator, coach, or agent ineligible to apply for certification/approval and disqualified from further participation for a specified time period or until such time when the individual/organization is compliant and/or has cooperated.

## 4-3-3-1. Types of Penalties.

ECAG may impose the following range of penalties: fines, suspension of certification/approval for a prescribed period, withdrawal of current or denial of future certification/approval with or without conditions or a lifetime ban.

#### 4-3-3-2. Duration of Penalties.

The most severe penalties are reserved for violations of <u>Impermissible Conduct.</u> For such violations, ECAG may deem the operator, coach or agent ineligible indefinitely or until such time when the individual/organization is compliant and/or has cooperated. Heightened 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. For such violations, ECAG may deem the operator, coach or agent ineligible to reapply for a period of up to five years.

#### 4-3-3. Factors Considered when Determining Penalties.

In assessing a penalty, ECAG will consider the following factors:

- a. Prior history of compliance/non-compliance.
- b. Whether the failure to comply was knowing or intentional.
- c. Any mitigating information offered by the operator, coach or agent.
- d. Whether the violation was isolated or continuing.
- e. The involvement, if any, of an IAWP, booster, institutional coach, or in some cases an agent.

f. The extent of cooperation with the NCAA.

g. Any other fact or circumstance deemed relevant to determining the appropriate penalty to be imposed.

## 4-3-3-4. Penalties Applicable to teams.

Penalties for athlete address/residency requirement violations or associations with an agent are applicable to all coaches associated with the participating team and/or organization of teams. Further, these violations also subject the event operator for the event(s) where the team participated or the associated agent to ECAG Adverse Actions. Similarly, penalties resulting from financial disclosure issues for a team or organization are applicable to all coaches associated with the participating team and/or organization of teams.

#### 4-3-3-5. Statute of Limitations for Penalties.

Adverse action and penalties for violations of NCAA legislation and impermissible conduct shall be limited to prohibited conduct occurring not earlier than four years before ECAG places the operator, coach, or agent on written notice of the potential violation. The following conduct shall not be subject to the four-year limitation: (a) conduct involving violations affecting the eligibility of a current SA or PSA; (b) violations in which information is developed to indicate a pattern of willful violations on part of the operator, coach, or agent involved, which began before but continued into the four-year period; or (c) conduct that involves an effort to conceal the occurrence of the prohibited conduct.

## 4-3-3-6. Requirement for NCAA-Certified Agents to Disclose Violations/Penalties to Clients.

If uncontested or following exhaustion of review of the penalty by the NCAA, an NCAA-certified agent must disclose the violation and nature of the penalty imposed to his or her clients within 30 calendar days.

#### 4-4. ECAG Procedures for Enforcement.

#### 4-4-1. Notice of Investigation Not Required.

At any time, subsequent to granting certification/approval, the NCAA may, based upon information brought to its attention or acting on its own initiative, initiate enforcement proceedings against an operator, coach, or agent who is alleged to have engaged in impermissible conduct. Neither NCAA nor ECAG is required to provide advance notice to the operator, coach, or agent of the fact or nature of the investigation.

## 4-4-2. Application of Relevant NCAA Legislation.

The operator, coach, or agent agrees and acknowledges that the questions involving the application of NCAA legislation to specific facts may require ECAG to request a legislative interpretation by AMA and that any such determination is conclusive for purposes of ECAG's administration of the ECAG certification/approval programs.

#### 4-4-4. Initial Decision by ECAG.

The determination whether an operator, coach or agent has engaged in impermissible conduct shall be made in the first instance by ECAG. ECAG will provide the operator, coach or agent with written notice via email of (a) the nature of violation(s) and supporting rationale; and (b) the adverse action or penalty to be imposed, if any. The operator, coach or agent's failure to timely respond to the initial notice or subsequent requests for additional information by ECAG shall constitute waiver of further review or appeal (where applicable) of ECAG's determination.

## 4-4-3. No Stay or Extension of Application Period.

An applicant's denial shall not be stayed pending reconsideration and/or appeal, nor will an applicant be given additional time to complete the certification process (e.g. exam) as a result of seeking reconsideration or appeal. The applicant must wait and reapply during the next certification/approval cycle if his or her request for reconsideration and/or appeal extends beyond the annual certification/approval period.

#### 4-4-4.1. Contested Violations.

If the operator, coach or agent contests the violation and/or the penalty, he or she shall respond in writing via email (or online) not more than 10 calendar days after receipt of ECAG's initial decision. The response should either admit or deny each factual allegation, provide supporting documentation for facts denied, state whether there is additional relevant information or mitigating circumstances the operator, coach or agent believes should be considered, and provide the operator, coach or agent's rationale for contesting the violation and/or penalty. In addition, ECAG may ask the operator, coach or agent to provide additional information. This information collectively constitutes the case record. After ECAG has completed review, it will provide the operator, coach or agent a final written decision via email.

#### 4-4-5. Reconsideration of a Denial.

If the denial is a result of <u>Disqualifying Conduct or Event</u> and/or the denial is based on a factual error, the applicant may correct the omission or error and request reconsideration [or] resubmit the application provided the application period remains open. Any such request must be made in writing to ECAG and submitted no later than 10 calendar days following notification of the original decision. The failure to timely request reconsideration will result in the waiver of the right to appeal ECAG's decision on all grounds.

The individual who submitted the application, PERF, Justification, Athlete Address/Residency Exception Request Form or who is involved in the violation may ask ECAG to reconsider its decision ONLY if the individual submits new relevant information.

For Justifications and Athlete Address/Residency Exception Request Forms, requests with new relevant information are still subject to the timeline requirements of the initial request. Late requests may not be considered and could be denied entirely on the lack of time available for processing and the team's/athlete's reaction, which is within ECAG's authority.

Denials of requests for reconsideration are final and not subject to further review or appeal. If denied, ECAG is authorized to impose all penalties proscribed in these IOPs, including withdrawal of current or denial of future certification/approval.

## 4-4-6. Appeal of a Denial.

If the denial is a result of Impermissible Conduct, the following rights to appeal are available to the operator, coach or agent:

#### 4-4-6-1. Appeals for Basketball Certification Decisions.

ECAG staff has sole authority to determine violations and impose appropriate penalties and such decisions are not subject to appeal. If, however, the denial is based on a factual error, the individual may complete steps for Reconsideration of a Denial.

## 4-4-6-2. Appeals for Recruiting/Scouting Service Approval Decisions.

ECAG staff has sole authority to determine violations and impose appropriate penalties and such decisions are not subject to appeal. If, however, the denial is based on a factual error, the individual may complete steps for <u>Reconsideration of a Denial</u>.

## 4-4-6-3. Appeals for Agent Certification Decisions.

The agent may appeal ECAG's decision to the appropriate NCAA committee authorized to hear the appeal (or his or her designee). To appeal, the application must submit a notice of the desire to appeal in writing to ECAG within 10 calendar days following receipt of the denial of reconsideration. No later than 10 calendar days thereafter, the applicant must submit to ECAG a written statement of the grounds for appeal. The statement must include: (a) a summary of relevant facts; (b) a statement of the issues being appealed; (c) a supporting argument or rationale; and (d) a request for a discretionary telephonic hearing if one is desired. Within 10 calendar days thereafter ECAG may, but is not required to, prepare a response in support of its decision. ECAG will then forward all submissions and information received relating to the applicant to the Chairperson of the NCAA committee authorized to hear the appeal (or his or her designee). If no hearing has been requested, the Chairperson will review and determine the appeal based upon the case record and parties' written submissions.

## 4-4-6-3-1. Appeal Procedure.

An agent may appeal ECAG's determination that the agent engaged in impermissible conduct, the nature of the penalty imposed, or both. To appeal, the agent must submit a request for an appeal via the process stipulated by ECAG on the agent certification website accessible on <a href="https://www.ncaa.org/ecag">www.ncaa.org/ecag</a>. The filing of an appeal will not stay the penalty imposed by ECAG.

#### 4-4-6-3-1-1. Initial Submission of Appeal Request.

No later than 30 calendar days after submission of the notice of appeal, the agent must submit to ECAG a written statement of the grounds for appeal (initial submission). The initial submission must include: (a) a summary of

relevant facts and, if the agent believes there are disputes of material fact or factual errors material to ECAG's determination, a statement of all such facts; (b) a statement of the issues being appealed; (c) a supporting argument or rationale; and (d) a request for telephonic hearing if one is desired. Within 14 calendar days thereafter ECAG may, but is not required to, prepare a response to the agent's initial submission and statement in support of its final decision, at which time the case record is complete and ECAG will transmit it to the appropriate NCAA appeals committee [TBD] designated to hear the appeal.

## 4-4-6-3-1-2. Case Record Only.

The appeals committee shall consider only the information contained in the case record before ECAG, the parties' submissions on appeal and arguments presented during the telephonic hearing if one is conducted.

## 4-4-6-3-1-3. New Evidence Consideration for Appeal.

If an agent seeks to introduce new information during the appeal process, the appeals committee shall determine the new information or evidence is relevant, material and could not have reasonably been ascertained and previously submitted to ECAG. If so, the appeals committee may stay the appeal and remand the matter to ECAG conduct further review as may be necessary to address whether the information affects ECAG's prior decision and to amend the decision, if necessary.

## **4-4-6-3-1-4.** Appeal Hearings.

All appeals in which a hearing is requested will be docketed in the order received and heard at the next regularly scheduled committee meeting. Hearings will be conducted on the record and the applicant, his or her counsel (if any) and ECAG staff member[s] may participate. Telephonic hearings before the appeals committee will be conducted on the record. The agent, his or her counsel, if any, and an ECAG staff member(s) may all participate. The format is intended to be informal, providing the parties an opportunity to answer questions from the committee and direct its attention to the most relevant portions of the record and significant issues. Unless otherwise directed, the agent and ECAG staff will each be allowed 15 minutes for an opening presentation. The applicant may not present any new information or arguments which he or she failed to provide to ECAG in the application process or in support of a request for reconsideration. If no hearing has been requested, the appeals committee will review and determine the appeal based upon the case record and parties' written submissions.

## 4-4-6-3-1-5. Standard of Review of Appeal Request.

ECAG's initial decision that one or more violations occurred, and the proposed penalty, if any, shall not be set aside on appeal except on a showing by the agent that: (a) ECAG made an erroneous determination of material fact that is clearly contrary to the information presented to the appeals committee; and (b) the facts found by ECAG do not constitute a violation of NCAA Bylaws, agent certification legislation or related policies and procedures. If the appeals committee affirms ECAG's finding that a violation occurred, it shall not overturn, change or modify the penalty unless it concludes the penalty was not authorized by or imposed in accordance with ECAG policies and procedures.

## 4-4-6-3-1-6. **Appeal Decision**.

After considering the appeal and deliberating privately, the appeals committee shall prepare a written decision and provide a copy to the parties. All decisions of the appeals committee shall be final, binding and conclusive, and shall not be subject to further review.

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