

**Bellarmino University Athletic Department  
2005-06 Student-Athlete Handbook**

**Section 5: Student-Athlete Compliance**

**14.01.2 Academic Status**

To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletic competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, be in good academic standing and maintain satisfactory progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree. A waiver of the minimum full-time enrollment requirement may be granted for a student enrolled in the final term of the baccalaureate program. Also a student may represent the institution while enrolled as a graduate or professional student or while enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate degree at the same institution.

**14.01.3 Compliance with Other NCAA and Conference Legislation**

To be eligible to represent the University in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Association and all rules and regulations of the University and the conference(s) of which the institution is a member. Specific attention is called to legislation affecting eligibility in the following areas.

**14.01.3.1 Amateurism.**

A student-athlete shall not be eligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if the individual takes or has taken pay, or has accepted the promise of pay in any form, for participation in that sport, or if the individual has violated any of the other regulations related to amateurism set forth in Bylaw 12.

You cannot have signed or promised to sign with an agent, semi-professional or professional team or anyone else who offers to help manage your professional career. If you have received prize money, you may also be ineligible. Please contact Compliance Services if any of these things have occurred.

**14.01.3.2 Awards, Benefits and Expenses.**

Receipt by a student-athlete of non-permissible awards, extra benefits, or excessive or improper expenses not authorized by NCAA legislation violates the Association's amateurism principle and renders the student-athlete ineligible for athletics participation in the sport for which the improper award, benefit or expense was received.

**14.01.3.3. Ethical Conduct.** A prospective or enrolled student-athlete who is found to have engaged in unethical conduct shall be ineligible for intercollegiate competition in all sports. Unethical conduct consists of, but is not limited to:

- Fraudulence in connection with entrance or placement exam;
- Engaging in any athletics competition under an assumed name or with intent otherwise to deceive;
- Dishonesty in evading or violating NCAA regulations; or

- Knowingly furnishing the NCAA or the individual's institution false or misleading information concerning the student's involvement in or knowledge of matters relevant to a possible violation of NCAA regulations.

#### **14.1.3 Student-Athlete Statement**

Prior to participation in intercollegiate competition each academic year, a student-athlete shall sign a statement in a form prescribed by the Council in which the student-athlete submits information related to eligibility, recruitment, financial aid, amateur status and involvement in organized gambling activities related to intercollegiate athletics competition under the Associations' governing legislation. Failure to complete and sign the statement shall result in the student-athlete's ineligibility for participation in all intercollegiate competition. Violations of this bylaw do not affect a student-athlete's eligibility if the violation occurred due to an institutional administrative error or oversight, and the student-athlete subsequently signs the form; however, the violation shall be considered an institutional violation per Constitution 2.8.1

#### **14.1.4.1 Drug-Testing Consent Form**

Each academic year a student-athlete shall sign a form prescribed by the Council in which the student consents to be tested for the use of drugs prohibited by NCAA legislation. Failure to complete and sign the consent form prior to practice or competition in Divisions I and II sports in which the Association conducts year-round drug testing and prior to competition in all other sports in Divisions I, II and III shall result in the student-athlete's ineligibility for participation (i.e., practice and competition) in all intercollegiate athletics. Violations of this bylaw do not affect a student-athlete's eligibility if the violation occurred due to an institutional administrative error or oversight, and the student-athlete subsequently signs the form; however, the violation shall be considered an institutional violation per Constitution 2.8.1

#### **13.7.1.2.3.2 NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse**

The Clearinghouse is an agency which provides initial-eligibility certification for all freshmen wishing to compete at the Division I and II levels. All prospective student-athletes who plan to enroll in college as a freshman must register and be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. All walk-ons have to be certified before representing the institution in athletic competition. More information on the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse can be found at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net).

#### **National Letter of Intent**

The National Letter of Intent (NLI) is designed to reduce and limit recruiting pressure on student-athletes and to promote and preserve the amateur nature of collegiate athletics.

- By signing the NLI, a prospective student-athlete agrees to attend the designated college or university for one academic year. Participating institutions agree to provide the student-athlete with financial aid for one academic year provided he/she is admitted to the institution and is eligible for financial aid under NCAA rules.
- The NLI has advantages to both the prospective student-athlete and participating educational institutions.

- Once a National Letter of Intent is signed, prospective student-athletes are no longer subject to further recruiting calls and contacts.
- Student athletes are assured of an athletics scholarship for one full academic year.
- Institutions can be certain that once the student-athlete has signed a NLI, there is not need to continue recruiting for that position.
- The NLI emphasizes the student-athletes' commitments to educational institutions, not particular coaches or teams. The program promotes student-athletes' academic objectives and helps to sustain the amateur nature of college sports.
- There are consequences for failing to attend the designated college or university for one academic year. More information on the National Letter of Intent can be found at [www.national-letter.org](http://www.national-letter.org).