



LSU®



**RULES & REGULATIONS
FOR BOOSTERS**





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Dear Members of the LSU Family,

Thank you once again for your support of LSU athletics! It is an exciting time to be a member of the LSU Family, as we enjoy the unparalleled successes of our student-athletes both in the classroom and in competition. This success comes with a significant responsibility, which is to win gracefully and with integrity. It is my intention to build on the foundation entrusted to me and operate the LSU athletics department with the highest level of integrity in all areas.

A critical component of continuing our success is maintaining institutional compliance with NCAA and Southeastern Conference rules and regulations. Institutional compliance is a shared responsibility among the entire LSU Family and you share the same responsibility for your actions as do our coaches, student-athletes and staff.

The LSU Booster Guide is an important reference tool for athletics representatives. It includes some of the more commonly asked questions related to recruiting and interaction with our student-athletes. In addition, there are three basic rules an athletics representative should always remember:

- 1) Athletics representatives should not become involved in the recruiting process,
- 2) Athletics representatives should not provide a current student-athlete or the student-athlete's family or friends with any benefit or service without permission from the athletics department, and
- 3) An athletics representative should never hesitate to call a member of the athletics department staff with a question about NCAA or Southeastern Conference rules.

In conclusion, it takes a complete effort from everyone to maintain institutional compliance. I ask for your commitment in upholding this high standard in order to ensure that our student-athletes have the best possible experience at LSU.

GEAUX TIGERS!



Joe Alleva
Director of Athletics

INTRODUCTION

Louisiana State University, as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), is responsible for ensuring that its coaches, student-athletes, faculty and staff, donors, boosters, former students, fans, and friends abide by SEC and NCAA regulations.

This brochure is a quick reference to the many NCAA rules that apply to our former students, fans and friends of the University. Since all applicable situations cannot be covered in this pamphlet, please feel free to call if you have any questions. The University appreciates your interest and support, but reminds you that an inappropriate contact or an inadvertent action on your part can jeopardize the eligibility of a prospective student-athlete, an enrolled student-athlete and the University.

The University is proud to have your loyal support and continued interest in the athletic program. As we strive for continued excellence, we must always seek the highest standard of ethical conduct. With your assistance and cooperation, we believe we can accomplish these goals.

THE PRINCIPLE OF RULES COMPLIANCE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INSTITUTION

Each institution shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Association in the conduct of its intercollegiate athletics programs. It shall monitor its programs to assure compliance and to identify and report to the Association instances in which compliance has not been achieved. In any such instance, the institution shall cooperate fully with the Association and shall take appropriate corrective actions. Members of an institution's staff, student-athletes and other individuals and groups representing the institution's athletics interests shall comply with the applicable Association rules, and the member institution shall be responsible for such compliance. [NCAA Constitution 2.8.1]

AM I CONSIDERED TO BE A LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE OF ATHLETICS INTERESTS (BOOSTER)?

An individual is considered to be a representative of Louisiana State University's athletics interests (booster) just by being a former student, friend or fan. Once an individual is identified as an athletics representative, the person retains that identity indefinitely. By receiving a copy of this publication, you would most likely be considered to be a booster of Louisiana State University.

Q Is Louisiana State University responsible for the actions of its representatives (boosters) and their support groups?

A Yes. Representatives of athletics interests are subject to NCAA regulations and Louisiana State University is subject to penalties for any violation of NCAA rules by athletics representatives or their support organization.

Q What is considered recruiting?

A Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospect or a prospect's family (or guardian) by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution's athletics interests (boosters) for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletics program.

QUESTIONS RELATED TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES

Q Who is considered to be a prospective student-athlete (prospect)?

A A prospect is a student in the ninth grade or above, including students in prep schools and junior colleges and individuals who have officially withdrawn from four-year schools. Any student not yet in the ninth grade becomes a prospect if an institution provides him/her with any financial aid or other benefits that are not generally provided to prospective students.

Please note: In Men's Basketball, a prospect is a student in the seventh grade or higher.

Q How long is a prospective student-athlete considered to be a prospect?

A A prospective student-athlete remains a prospect even after committing to or signing a National Letter of Intent with Louisiana State University or any institution, and both the institution and the prospect continue to be governed by NCAA recruiting legislation regarding prospects until the prospect reports for regular squad practice or the prospect attends his/her first day of classes in any regular term, (or the prospect attends classes during the summer prior to his/her initial full-time enrollment).

Q Is it permissible to contact a prospective student-athlete or his/her parents or legal guardians?

A No. An athletics representative may not contact a prospect or his/her parents in person, by telephone or in writing. Contact may not be made with a prospect or his/her parents on or off the Louisiana State University campus.

Q Is this contact rule applicable to “established family friends” or neighbors?

A No. However, it must be understood that such contacts cannot be made for recruiting purposes and cannot be initiated or arranged by Louisiana State University coaching staff members. In addition, the established relationship between the booster and the prospect must have occurred prior to the friend or neighbor becoming a prospect.

Q What if a prospect calls an athletics representative?

A An athletics representative may have a telephone conversation with a prospect ONLY if the prospect initiates the call. An institutional staff member may not prearrange such a call and the athletics representative MAY NOT have a recruiting conversation with the prospect, but may exhibit normal civility. The athletics representative must refer any questions about the University’s athletics program to the Athletics Department.

Q What if a prospect knows that an athletics representative is a Louisiana State University graduate and contacts him/her to ask questions about Louisiana State University?

A If a prospect contacts an athletics representative, he/she may answer questions regarding various aspects of Louisiana State University as long as

NO discussion takes place regarding the Louisiana State University athletics program. If a prospect asks about Louisiana State University athletics, refer him/her to the Athletics Department.

Q What if unavoidable incidental contact is made with a prospect by an athletics representative?

A An unavoidable incidental contact with a prospect is permissible provided the contact is not prearranged by the athletics representative or an Athletics Department staff member, does not take place on the grounds of the prospect's educational institution or at the sites of organized competition and practice involving the prospect or the prospect's team, is not made for the purpose of recruitment of the prospect, and involves only normal civility. The athletics representative must refer any questions about Louisiana State University's athletics program to the Athletics Department.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to telephone or write a prospect once the prospect has committed to or signed a National Letter of Intent with Louisiana State University?

A Yes, however, approval must be granted by the Compliance Office. This applies to social media contact as well. Keep in mind that the restrictions related to material benefits still apply.

Q May an athletics representative contact a prospective student-athlete to discuss a summer job?

A Yes, but **ONLY AFTER** the prospect has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Louisiana State University. A prospective student-athlete may not be employed until the completion of his/her senior year in high school. Additionally, any such contact must receive prior approval from the Athletics Department. When a prospect is employed, he/she must be paid only for work actually performed and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services. All employment arrangements must receive prior approval from the Compliance Office.

Q May an athletics representative speak to a Louisiana State University coach if a prospect is with the coach?

A If a Louisiana State University coach is with a prospect, do not approach the coach until the prospect and family have gone elsewhere. Otherwise the coach will be placed in an awkward situation because he/she will not be able to introduce the prospect to the athletics representative. If a prospect approaches

an athletics representative on or off campus regarding the athletics program, explain that NCAA rules do not permit discussion of the athletics program. Refer the prospect to the appropriate Louisiana State University coach.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to contact an enrolled student-athlete from another institution for the purpose of recruiting?

A No. Student-athletes at other institutions are not allowed to be contacted for purposes of recruitment to Louisiana State University.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to bring to Louisiana State University's attention outstanding prospects from the representative's local area?

A Yes. An athletics representative may not, however, get involved in the actual evaluation of the talent of a prospect. In other words, an athletics representative may not contact a prospect's coach, principal or counselor nor visit the prospect's educational institution to pick up film or transcripts pertaining to the evaluation of the prospect's athletic or academic abilities. In addition, an athletics representative cannot contact the prospect for purposes of soliciting the prospect's enrollment to Louisiana State University and ultimate participation in athletics.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to accompany a Louisiana State University coach when he/she visits the local high school campus?

A No. If an athletics representative transports a Louisiana State University coach from the airport to a high school campus, the athletics representative may not enter the high school campus with the coach and may not observe prospects.

Q During recruitment or prior to an individual's enrollment, can an athletics representative be involved in making arrangements for a prospect, the prospect's relatives or friends to receive money, financial aid or equivalent inducements regardless if similar financial aid, benefits or arrangements are available to prospective students in general, their relatives or friends?

A No. Furthermore, it would NOT be permissible to make such arrangements for current student-athletes at Louisiana State University.

Q What are considered types of inducements that are prohibited for prospects, their relatives or friends?

A Types of inducements that are prohibited include, but are not limited to the following: cash or loans; promise of employment after college education; special discounts or payment arrangements on loans; employment of relatives or friends; involvement in arrangement for free or reduced charges for professional or personal services, purchases or charges; use of an automobile; providing transportation to or from a summer job or to any other site; signing or co-signing a note for a loan; the loan or gift of money or other tangible items (e.g., clothes, cars, jewelry, electronic/stereo equipment); gifts of any kind; guarantees of bond; purchases of items or services from a prospect or the prospect's family at inflated prices; providing directly or indirectly transportation to enroll in classes; financial aid other than that administered by Louisiana State University; the promise of financial aid for post graduate education; free or reduced cost housing arrangements; arrangement for or payment of transportation costs incurred by relatives or friends of a prospect; entertainment of a prospect or prospect's family on or off campus; benefits connected with on or off campus housing (e.g., television sets or stereo equipment, specialized recreational facilities); tickets or expenses (e.g., typing costs, course supplies, use of a copy machine); or registration fees for summer sports camps.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to reimburse the coach of a prospect for expenses incurred in transporting a prospect to visit campus?

A No.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to entertain high school, preparatory or junior college coaches at any location?

A No. However, it is permissible for Louisiana State University to provide two complimentary admissions to the coaches to (LSU) home athletics contests.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to provide transportation to or from campus or free admission to the institution's athletics events on or off campus to prospects, their friends or relatives?

A No.

Q Can an athletics representative assist in the fundraising efforts of a high school or two-year college?

A A representative of an institution's athletics interests may provide funding to benefit a high school athletics program located in the community in which the athletics representative resides, provided:

- Ⓐ The representative acts independently of the institution;
- Ⓑ The funds are distributed through channels established by the high school or the organization conducting the fundraising activity; and
- Ⓒ The funds are not earmarked directly for a specific prospect.

[Note: this restriction does not apply to alumni of the high school or two-year college or the parents of a student that currently attends the high school or two-year college. The earmarking restriction still applies.]

The following four questions apply to the Tiger Athletics Foundation. Athletics booster organizations are not permitted to be involved in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes.

Q Can a prospect receive a Tiger Athletics Foundation scholarship?

A No. The only exception to this would be if the scholarship is granted based on academic achievement or financial need, and is awarded on a basis unrelated to the individual's athletics ability. Extracurricular activities may not be considered as part of the criteria in the awarding of the scholarship.

Q What involvement can the Tiger Athletics Foundation have with a prospect?

A Prospects from the area may be invited to Tiger Athletics Foundation functions as long as they are not singled out to be the only students included in the function. If all students invited to the function are receiving a complimentary meal, it would be permissible for prospects recruited to Louisiana State University for athletics to receive a complimentary meal also. In the same manner, because prospects cannot be contacted, invitations to Tiger Athletics Foundation functions must be given in the same manner that they would be given to all students participating in the function. Invitations may be sent to the high schools or advertised in the newspaper in the area indicating what the invitation entails. The invitation may be sent to all high school seniors in the area, seniors who are interested in attending Louisiana State University, seniors who have been accepted to Louisiana State University, etc., but cannot

be issued only to prospects who will participate in athletics at Louisiana State University. Treat prospects in the same manner that all other students are treated.

Q What if the Tiger Athletics Foundation function is open to the general public and prospects attend the function?

A Prospects may attend Tiger Athletics Foundation functions that are open to the general public as long as the prospects pay for their own meal and entertainment and provide their own transportation to attend. An exception to this would be if the function and meal were free to all high school seniors from the local community, as stated in the previous answer. The same restrictions would still apply after a prospect commits to or signs a National Letter of Intent with Louisiana State University. A Louisiana State University signee must be treated the same as any other high school student.

Q Can a prospective student-athlete be announced or introduced at the Tiger Athletics Foundation function?

A No. A prospective student-athlete may not be singled out and must be treated in the same manner as any other high school senior in attendance.

QUESTIONS RELATED TO CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETES

A student-athlete is a student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletics program. Any other student becomes a student-athlete only when the student reports for an intercollegiate squad that is under the jurisdiction of the athletics department. A student is not deemed a student-athlete solely on the basis of prior high school athletics participation.

Q Can student-athletes be provided a benefit not available to the general student body?

A No. Under NCAA rules, an extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a representative of the institution's athletics interests to provide a student-athlete or the student-athlete's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Receipt of a benefit by student-athletes or their relatives or friends is not a violation of NCAA legislation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the institution's students or their relatives or friends or to a particular segment of the student body (e.g., foreign students, minority students, etc.) determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability.

Q What are some examples of benefits an athletics representative may not provide to student-athletes, their relatives or friends?

A Types of benefits that are prohibited include, but are not limited to the following: cash or loans; special discounts or payment arrangements on loans; employment of relatives or friends of a student-athlete; involvement in arrangement for free or reduced charges for professional or personal services, purchases or charges; use of an automobile; providing transportation to or from a summer job or to any other site; signing or co-signing a note for a loan; the loan or gift of money or other tangible items (e.g., clothes, cars, jewelry, electronic/stereo equipment); gifts or awards of any kind; guarantees of bond; purchases of items or services from a student-athlete or the student-athlete's family at inflated prices; providing directly or indirectly transportation to enroll in classes; any financial aid other than that administered by Louisiana State University; the promise of financial aid for post graduate education; free or reduced cost housing arrangements; arrangement for or payment of transportation or other costs incurred by relatives or friends of a student-athlete to visit the student-athlete or to attend any contest; entertainment of a student-athlete's family on or off campus; benefits connected with on or off campus housing (e.g., television sets or stereo equipment, specialized recreational facilities); tickets or admission to an athletics, institutional or community event; educational expenses (e.g., typing costs, course supplies, use of a copy machine); payment of any registration fees (e.g., tuition and fees, summer camps, etc.); payment to a student-athlete for use of his/her complimentary admissions; receipt of payment for complimentary admissions sold to a third party when designated as the recipient of a complimentary admission by a student-athlete; use of or pay for long distance telephone calls, or the purchase of athletics apparel or awards from a student-athlete.

Q Is it permissible for a student-athlete to sell his/her complimentary tickets?

A No. Student-athletes may not receive payment for complimentary admissions nor exchange them for any item of value. This action jeopardizes the eligibility of the student-athlete.

Q Is it permissible to use the name or picture of an enrolled student-athlete to advertise, recommend or promote sales or use of a product or service of any kind?

A No.

Q Is it permissible for a student-athlete to receive any expenses for speaking to a booster club or civic organization?

A A student-athlete may only accept transportation and meal expenses in conjunction with participation in a luncheon meeting of a booster club or civic organization, provided the meeting occurs within a 30-mile radius of the institution's main campus and no tangible award is provided to the student-athlete. In order to participate in such a function, the organization must receive prior approval from the Compliance Office.

Q Is it permissible for student-athletes to be involved in any type of promotional activities?

A It is permissible for student-athletes to be involved in promotional activities for institutional, charitable, educational or nonprofit agencies provided the request is approved by the Compliance Office.

Q Is it permissible for an athletics representative to employ a student-athlete?

A Yes, a student-athlete may be employed, however both the student-athlete and the employer must sign a written statement prior to beginning any employment. Please note that student-athletes may be compensated only for work actually performed and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services. If you employ student-athletes, you must contact the Compliance Office to complete information regarding the employment.

Q Is it permissible for a representative of athletics interest to provide meals to a student-athlete?

A A student-athlete may receive an occasional family home meal from a representative of athletics interest on infrequent or special occasions under the following conditions:

- Ⓐ The meal must be provided in an individual's home (as opposed to a restaurant), on campus or at a facility that is regularly used for home competition;
- Ⓑ Meals must be restricted to infrequent and special occasions; and
- Ⓒ A representative may provide local transportation only if the meal is at the home of the representative.

However, it is against NCAA rules to provide food and/or alcohol to student-athletes at restaurants or any event that takes place outside of the home.

An occasional meal form must be filled out and approved by the Compliance Office PRIOR to the event. This form is available at www.compliance.lsu.edu.

Q What must be done to obtain autographs from student-athletes and coaches?

A Autographs of student-athletes and coaches should be obtained for personal use only. Items that are brought to "fan days" and other institutional sponsored events will be personalized to the recipient. Obtaining autographs with the intent to sell or donate to a high school is prohibited by the NCAA. Additional information and autograph request form are located at www.compliance.lsu.edu.

Q What action should an athletics representative take if he/she becomes aware of a rules violation?

A The athletics representative should contact the Compliance Office or the Athletics Director's Office to report and/or discuss the information pertinent to the violation. If the athletics representative wishes to remain anonymous, he/she can contact the Compliance Office or Athletics Director's Office to provide information without giving a name. The Compliance Office will review the information and process it as necessary.

Q How can one obtain PRIOR approval to ensure they are following rules and not jeopardizing a student-athletes eligibility?

A In order to ensure compliance with NCAA, SEC and institutional policies, prior approval should be obtained for securing autographed items, providing occasional meals and inviting student-athletes to make appearances. Please contact the Compliance Office at 225-578-3891 or visit compliance@lsu.edu to obtain the required prior approval.

Q What should an individual do if he/she has a question about involvement with prospects, student-athletes or coaches, or has any other NCAA or SEC rules question?

A Contact the Compliance Office at 225-578-7997 or compliance@lsu.edu.



compliance.lsu.edu



@LSUCompliance



LSU Athletics Compliance



LSU Compliance

If you have any questions, please contact the LSU Compliance Office at (225) 578-7997 or visit our website at <http://compliance.lsu.edu>.

Thank you for your support of LSU Athletics.

