

*A Coach's Guide to the
Amateurism Clearinghouse*

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Disclaimer

The purpose of this presentation is to provide insight into the function of the Amateurism Clearinghouse (A-CH) beyond current written and published information.

This presentation will not discuss nor address any issues of NCAA Amateurism legislation.

Overview

- History/Facts
- Domestic vs. Non-domestic Situation
- A-CH Elements & Construct
- Effects on Recruiting
- Unofficial Reality
- Final Details
- Questions

History/Facts

- Ratified with the passing of NCAA Proposal 2005-37 - now known as Bylaw 12.1.1 "Validity of Amateur Status"
- Created in response to membership's concerns about
 - Comprehensive information review, and
 - Uniform application of amateurism legislation

- Part of the Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse certification process – one structure, two components
- Required of all prospective student-athletes (PSA) enrolling for the first time in an NCAA Division I or II institution after 1 August 2007
- Activated on-line –
Friday, 1 December 2006

Domestic vs. Non-Domestic Situation

Generally speaking...

- Domestic PSA has an understanding of amateurism
- Domestic professional sports organizations have reasonable understanding of amateurism
- Domestic support system (parents, teachers, academic advisors, etc) has basic understanding of amateurism
- Non-Domestic PSA has none of the above

A-CH Support

NCAA Proposal 2006-18: Ethical Conduct and Amateurism

- Bylaw 10.1: individual requirement to be thorough and forthcoming with information
- Bylaw 12.1.1: amended to include institutional culpability pertaining to complete discovery

Ethical conduct infractions are of the most severely punished violations

A-CH Function

Assess compliance with NCAA amateurism legislation by reviewing responses to four areas of inquiry – Level I

- Agent Issues
- Pre-Enrollment Information
- Post-Enrollment Information
- Organized Competitive History

Level II questions are triggered by Level I responses meriting additional information

A-CH System Features

- Allows PSA to access and update record at his/her convenience
- Provides assessed status:
 - "Preliminary" after registering and following routine update, and
 - "Final" at PSA request after 7 April prior to first-time enrollment
- Permits PSA to authorize information as complete and accurate (10.1)

A-CH Process

Information is reviewed each time record is accessed by PSA

Step 1 - Examination of responses

Step 2 - Alternative confirmation inquiry**

- Local networks
- National Governing Bodies
- League/Club officials
- Authorized contacts

A-CH Results

Status – Preliminary & Final

1. Certified
2. Under Review
3. Not Certified
4. Certified with Conditions

Amateurism Certification Case

Applied to address:

- Elements of Level II questioning
- Inconsistencies between responses in Step 1 and results of Step 2

Amateurism Certification Case

Phase 1 – Verification of facts: information is provided and additional requested – expected to be comprehensive

Phase 2 – Interpretation of facts: amateurism legislation applied to case

Phase 3 – Resolution of case

- Certified
- Not Certified
- Certified with Conditions

***Each phase is subject to appeals by institution only

Resolution of Amateurism Certification Case is the FINAL DECISION

However, should additional information surface at a later time, the case may be re-opened.

These cases are subject to broad scrutiny with regards to timing and substance of new information.

Recruiting Benefit

- Access to timely updates of prospect status – available through Institutional Request List (IRL)
- Procedure includes Amateurism Certification Case processing
- Results are known and applicable to all institutions of interest

Recruiting Challenge

- Encourage PSA to engage process early
- Urge complete disclosure of all related issues
- Partake in cursory research of PSA background
- Coordinate with compliance officer in the event of an Amateurism Certification Case

Unofficial Reality

- Institutions still have significant responsibilities in the process
- Coaches involvement will increase
- PSA has a more active role and more culpability
- Problems will continue to occur with certifying amateurism of PSA

Final Details

- Clearinghouse registration fee:
 - \$50.00 for domestic
 - \$75.00 for non-domestic/international
- Ineligible for competition until certified
- Financial Aid???
- Required for PSA enrolling in DI or DII for the first time after 1 August 2007

Questions?

**AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION
STUDENT REPORT**

Clearinghouse

Date Printed: 07-Dec-06

Name:

Record Date:

Address:

DOB: 17-Feb-88

Enrollment

Sport

1a. In any sport, have you ever authorized anyone (other than your parent, legal guardian or coach) to market your athletics skill or reputation?

1b. In any sport, have you ever accepted any benefits from an agent (or other individual who has marketed any individual's athletics skill)?

2a. Before ever attending classes full time at any college, in the sport(s) of have you ever competed in an event and accepted prize money?

2b. Before ever attending classes full time at any college, in the sport(s) of have you ever competed in an event where any part of your expenses were paid for by anyone other than your family, your team or the sponsor of the event?

2c. Before ever attending classes full time at any college, in the sport(s) of have you ever been paid to compete?

2d. Before ever attending classes full time at any college, in the sport(s) of have you ever agreed to compete on a professional sports team?

2e. Before ever attending classes full time at any college, in the sport(s) of have you ever competed on a team where anyone received more than their expenses to play on the team?

2f. Before ever attending classes full time at any college, in the sport(s) of have you ever had a professional sports team pay any of your expenses for a practice or tryout?

3. Have you ever attended classes full time at any two-year or four-year college?

4. After graduating from high school in May 2007, did/will you attend classes full time at any two-year or four-year college in FALL 2007?