

Proposed Modifications to Recruiting Calendar and Regulations

WBCA NCAA Division I Stewardship Working Group

Created through an expansion of the existing WBCA Legislative Working Group to provide quick responses to the NCAA during the COVID-19 pandemic. Members are:

- Tricia Cullop, Toledo (WBCA president)
- Cori Close, UCLA (WBCA vice president/president-elect; NCAA WBOC member)
- Courtney Banghart, North Carolina (WBCA vice president-elect)
- Jen Rizzotti, Connecticut Sun (outgoing immediate past president)
- Beth O'Boyle, VCU (WBCA DI Group 1 board member)
- Joni Taylor, Georgia (WBCA DI Group 2 board member)
- Jackie Carson, Furman (WBCA board member; NCAA WBOC member)
- Felisha Legette-Jack, Buffalo
- Lisa Bluder, Iowa
- Bill Fennelly, Iowa State
- Muffet McGraw, retired

Stewardship Working Group background, approach

- 6 of the 11 Stewardship Working Group members also were members of the WBOC
 Ad Hoc Working Group on Recruiting which developed the current recruiting calendar in 2016-17 (Banghart, Carson, Close, Legette-Jack, McGraw, O'Boyle).
- The Stewardship Working Group followed the same guiding principles used by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Recruiting as they developed these proposals, which include:
 - Well-being of PSAs and enrolled SAs.
 - Support work/life balance for coaches.
 - More time on campus for coaches to focus on current SAs.
 - Ample and equitable opportunity to evaluate.
 - Enforceable.

Rationale for modifications, fast-tracking adoption

- Health and safety.
 - In-person contact in confined areas (e.g., in-person home visits) remains a concern. We cannot know if PSAs and family members who may participate in the visit are vaccinated. Neither can we know if all coaches will be vaccinated. Virtual home visits proved successful. We propose they be permanent.
- Transfer portal.
 - More than 1,000 SAs have entered the transfer portal. Coaches must develop stronger relationships with players to have any chance of decreasing this number.
 Our proposals will provide coaches with more time on campus with SAs.
 - Recruiting person days are reduced due to the elimination of in-person home visits. This provides coaches with more time on campus.

Rationale for modifications, fast-tracking adoption (cont'd)

- International recruiting.
 - Most other countries do not have interscholastic athletics. Our current recruiting structure does not work because it applies scholastic conditions to a nonscholastic space. Proposed modifications correct this and provide greater flexibility.
- Work-life balance.
 - Coaches have learned how to work smarter during the pandemic and have achieved greater work/life balance. We prefer not to go back to business as usual.
- A new normal.
 - It is much easier for coaches to resume recruiting in a "new normal" (post-COVID) rather than to revert to the old normal (pre-COVID) for one year and then adjust to a new normal with the implementation of these modifications in August 2022.

Proposed
2021-22 and Future
Recruiting Calendars
(5/4/2021)

- Contact Period

- Evaluation Period

August 2021

Expansion of recruiting shutdown.

- Quiet Period

Current

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

AUGUST								
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	AUGUST									
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- Contact Period
- Evaluation Period
- Quiet Period
- Dead Period
- Recruiting Shutdown

September 2021

Proposed

- Evaluations at open gyms and fall leagues with high school teams.
- No in-person contacts and home visits.

	SEPTEMBER								
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Current

SEPTEMBER									
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October 2021

- Evaluation Period

- Quiet Period

Current

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

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- Contact Period

- Evaluation Period

November 2021

 Dead period around NLI signing eliminated.

- Quiet Period

Current

Proposed

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

NOVEMBER								
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December 2021

- Evaluation Period

- Quiet Period

Current

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

	DECEMBER								
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January 2022

- Evaluation Period

- Quiet Period

Current

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

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	JANUARY								
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February 2022

- Evaluation Period

- Quiet Period

Current

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

FEBRUARY								
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FEBRUARY								
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- Evaluation Period

March 2022

 Change contact to an evaluation period.

- Quiet Period

Current

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

MARCH								
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- Contact Period
- Evaluation Period
- Quiet Period
- Dead Period
- Recruiting Shutdown
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April 2022

- Make April 5-7 quiet.
- **Change the scholastic** evaluation period to nonscholastic eval period.
- **Eliminated dead period** around NLI signing.
- Eliminate the 2nd weekend.



May 2022

- Evaluation Period

- Quiet Period

Current

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

MAY								
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MAY								
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- Contact Period

- Evaluation Period

June 2022

 Create an evaluation period 3rd weekend of June (Thu-Sat; avoids Father's Day).

- Quiet Period

Current

Proposed

- Dead Period

- Recruiting Shutdown

JUNE								
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- Contact Period
- Evaluation Period
- Quiet Period
- Dead Period
- Recruiting Shutdown
- 30`

Current

JULY

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July 2022

- Create two four-day evaluation weekends.
- Remainder of July is quiet.



Proposed Modifications to Recruiting Regulations (5/4/2021)

In-Home Visits

- Discontinue in-person in-home visits. Replace them with virtual home visits.
- Contact with a PSA off campus may occur ONLY after the PSA has signed the NLI.

Official Visits

- Change first permissible date of official visits from Aug. 1 of senior year to Jan. 15 of junior year.
- Reduce maximum number of official visits a high school PSA may take from 5 to 4.
- Reduce maximum number of official visits a college transfer PSA may take from 5 to 3.
- Reduce time permitted for official visits from 48 to 36 hours with a 2-night maximum for lodging paid by institutions.
 - Exception: Institutions located in areas not served by airports with late-night outgoing flights may pay for a 3rd night of lodging if all activities otherwise related to an official visit cease after 36 hours.
 - Permit institutions to use discretion in reimbursing PSAs for actual documented expenses incurred as a result of an official or unofficial visit that is canceled.
- Permit on-campus evaluations at any time.

Recruiting Person Days/Evaluations

- Reduce the number of recruiting person days for scholastic evaluations from 112 to 60.
 - Days used during non-scholastic evaluation periods in April, May, June and July will not count against the 60. Days previously used for in-home visits will no longer be needed for that purpose.
- Reduce the number of recruiting opportunities/evaluations per PSA to 4.

International Recruiting

- May use any number of the 60 recruiting person days to recruit internationally.
- May attend any international scholastic or non-scholastic event following the same contact rules as apply domestically.
- May use 10 calendar days in the summer (June, July, August) to recruit internationally.
 - Not more than two countable coaches may recruit internationally during any one of these 10 calendar days.
 - The 10 calendar days do not count against the 60 recruiting person days.

Phone/Video Calls

- Permit calls to be made to a PSA beginning June 1 at the end of the PSA's sophomore year.
- Permit a non-coach staff member (limited to academic advisor, athletic trainer, athletic performance personnel) to participate on a telephone/video call with a PSA provided the call is initiated and monitored for its duration by a countable coach.
- Permit student-athletes to participate in recruiting phone/video calls with a coach and PSA or at the direction of a coach provided CARA regulations apply. [Current waiver permits through 2021-22 academic year. This would make permanent.]

Virtual Team Activities

- Permit a committed PSA to participate in virtual team activities after completion of high school graduation or of academic requirements if a transfer provided:
 - Such activity is limited to 1 hour per week during the period between graduation and the beginning of the summer access period; after which
 - The limit increases to 8 hours per week if the committed PSA does not attend summer school.
- Permit an uncommitted PSA to observe but not participate in virtual team activities on a limited basis as long as the current extended dead period remains in place. This opportunity will end once normal activities resume.

Virtual Camps and Clinics

 Permit a coach to participate in institutional and non-institutional virtual camps and clinics that do not include PSAs (participants must be below prospect age) and no recruiting activities occur. [Currently permitted through Summer 2021. This would make permanent.]

