

The following pertains to volunteer coaches working in local sports clubs and providing private lessons:

Educational Column--Volunteer Coach Involvement with Local Sports Clubs and Provision of Private Lessons (I)

Date Issued: Mar 23, 2007

Interpretation:

NCAA Division I member institutions should note that pursuant to NCAA Bylaw 13.11.2.3, it is permissible for a volunteer coach in a sport other than basketball to be involved in any capacity (e.g., as a participant, administrator or instructional or coaching activities) in the same sport with a local sports club or organization located in the institution's home community, provided all participating prospective student-athletes are legal residents of an area within a 50-mile radius of the institution and there is no institutional sponsorship of the club. A prospective student-athlete who resides outside the 50-mile radius of the institution may be a member of the local sports club without impacting the involvement of the institution's volunteer coach, provided the institution documents that the local sports club is the closest opportunity for the prospective student-athlete to participate in the sport. Further, it is important to note that a prospective student-athlete who relocates to within a 50-mile radius of an institution on a temporary basis (e.g., to participate on a club team or attend an institution while maintaining a permanent residence outside of the 50-mile radius) would not be considered a legal resident of the area of the institution for purposes of the local sports club legislation.

However, it is not permissible for a volunteer coach to conduct any physical activity at which one or more prospective student-athletes reveal, demonstrate or display their athletics ability except as provided for in Bylaws 13.11.2 and 13.11.3. Therefore, a volunteer coach is prohibited from teaching private lessons to any prospective student-athlete in the coach's sport, except women's golf and equestrian. A volunteer coach in women's golf or equestrian may teach private lessons to a prospective student-athlete in the respective sports, provided the following conditions are met:

- The prospective student-athlete resides within a 50-mile radius of the institution's main campus;
- The coach makes lessons available to the general public;
- In women's golf, lessons are only provided to female prospective student-athletes and the coach is a teaching professional certified pursuant to the Ladies Golf Professional Association and/or Professional Golf Association certification program;
- Fees charged to the prospective student-athlete are at a rate commensurate with fees charged to all individuals;
- Fees charged to the prospective student-athlete are not paid by individuals or entities other than the prospective student-athlete or his or her parent or legal guardian; and
- The institution keeps on file in the office of the director of athletics documentation of the fee charged for the lessons and the name of any individual receiving any portion of the fee.

Please contact the compliance office if you have any questions.