

## BOOSTER FAQ

Q: May a booster purchase a ticket to the Beanpot from a student-athlete's allotment of complimentary admissions?

A: Boosters cannot purchase complimentary admissions from a student-athlete's NCAA-permitted allotment without affecting his/her eligibility.

Q: May a booster purchase an autographed ball or championship ring from a current student-athlete?

A: Boosters cannot purchase memorabilia that a student-athlete received due to athletics participation from a student-athlete without affecting his/her eligibility.

Q: May a booster provide a discount on clothing, food or car rentals (or any other product or service) to student-athletes or prospects as part of his/her business?

A. No. A discount provided specifically to a student-athlete or prospect is considered an extra benefit and against NCAA rules. If the same discount is available to all BU students or the general public, a student-athlete or prospect could receive the discount.

## ASK BEFORE YOU ACT

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Dear Faculty, Staff, Alumni and Friends,

One of the important cornerstones of the Boston University athletics program is the loyalty and enthusiasm of Terrier fans who have demonstrated their interest in our teams by their attendance at events, through their phone calls and letters and by their gifts of support to our teams and programs.

Boston University Athletics appreciates the fan support which stimulates and encourages our student-athletes and energizes our entire organization.

We must be mindful, however, not to let our enthusiasm for athletics lead us into conflict with the very specific rules and regulations of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the Patriot League or Hockey East.

The NCAA definition of a Boston University "representative of athletics interest" or "booster" is very broad and encompasses many of our supporters who are regular attendees at our events. If you fall into this category, there are a number of activities regarding contact with student-athletes and recruits that could put the University at risk for NCAA sanctions.

We need your help. This brochure is intended to provide basic information regarding NCAA rules that apply to a Boston University "representative of athletics interest" and highlights rules concerning situations encountered by faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Boston University. It does not include all applicable situations.

If you have questions concerning prospective or enrolled student-athletes, please direct your inquiry to the Athletic Department Compliance Office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Drew Marrochello  
Director of Athletics



## COMPLIANCE GUIDE FOR FACULTY, STAFF, ALUMNI AND FRIENDS 2017-18

**Boston University  
Department of Athletics  
Compliance Office**



### **INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITY**

It is incumbent upon each NCAA member institution to control its intercollegiate athletics program and conduct that program in compliance with the rules and regulations of the NCAA. This includes having responsibility for the actions its staff members and for the actions of any other individual or organization engaged in activities promoting the athletic interests of the institution.

### **DEFINITIONS YOU SHOULD KNOW**

#### **Prospective Student-Athlete (PSA)**

A PSA is anyone who has started classes for the ninth grade. A student does not have to be recruited or involved in athletics to be considered a PSA. A student at a two- or four-year college becomes a PSA as soon as permission to contact has been granted. All NCAA recruiting rules apply until a PSA reports for team practice or attends classes as a full-time student, whichever comes first.

#### **Enrolled Student-Athlete (ESA)**

An ESA is anyone who is on the roster for a varsity sport at the institution. This includes students who are medically disqualified from participating but still receive an athletics scholarship and those who may have exhausted eligibility but are still enrolled at the institution.

#### **Recruitment**

Recruitment is any solicitation of a PSA or a PSA's parents, guardians, relatives or friends for the purpose of securing enrollment and/or participation of that PSA in athletics at BU. Recruiting activities include any correspondence, e-mail, faxes, telephone calls, text messages or social media contact as well as in-person contact occurring on- or off-campus. These regulations are very specific and only specified BU staff members are allowed to recruit.

#### **Extra Benefit**

An extra benefit is any gift or arrangement provided to a PSA, an ESA or his/her parents, guardians, relatives or friends that is not expressly permitted by the NCAA. Extra benefits include, but are not limited to, cash, gifts, loans, transportation, housing, meals, clothing, entertainment and any kind of preferential treatment/special arrangement (reduced rates, preferred seating, restricted parking, event tickets) not available to the general public.

Receipt of an extra benefit will affect the eligibility of the PSA or ESA. A PSA or ESA may accept financial assistance, gifts or benefits only from a family member or as specifically permitted by NCAA legislation.

Exceptions are sometimes allowed if a pre-existing relationship exists but not if the relationship exists solely due to athletics participation. If you have a question, please contact the BU Compliance Office to determine if you have a pre-existing relationship with a PSA or ESA.

#### **Representative of Athletics Interests**

An individual becomes a representative of BU athletics interests if he or she:

- Has been a member of any organization promoting BU athletics.
- Has made a donation of money, gifts or services to any BU athletics fund.
- Has helped to arrange employment for a PSA or ESA.
- Has been involved in promoting BU athletics in any way.
- Has been a member of a varsity team at BU.
- Is the parent or guardian of a current or former BU student-athlete.

Once you become a representative of BU's athletics interests, you retain that status forever. You are bound by the rules and regulations of the NCAA, Patriot League, Hockey East and Boston University. Boston University is responsible for your actions!

### **DO'S & DON'TS FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF ATHLETICS INTERESTS**

#### **Do:**

For a prospective student-athlete:

- Continue to have contact with an established family friend or neighbor who may be a PSA, as long as the contact is not for recruiting purposes and is not initiated by a member of the BU Athletics Department.
- Bring outstanding PSAs to the attention of BU coaches.
- Assist a PSA who has signed a National Letter of Intent with employment during the summer prior to enrollment at BU. The Compliance Office must approve this in advance.

For an enrolled student-athlete:

- Have contact with an ESA on-campus.
- Invite an ESA or team for a home meal and provide transportation to that meal. The meal may be catered but should be limited to infrequent and special occasions.
- Invite an entire team for a meal when they are visiting a city in conjunction with an away-from-home competition. Only when the team is on the road is it permissible to provide this meal at a restaurant.
- Assist an ESA with summer or post-graduate employment.
- Contribute to any of the athletic or other support groups at BU.

#### **DON'T:**

- Provide a PSA, ESA or their parents, guardians, relatives or friends with an extra benefit of any kind.
- Engage in any recruitment of PSAs on- or off-campus.
- Have any on-campus contact with a PSA other than an exchange of greeting.
- Contact a high school coach or administrator in an attempt to evaluate a PSA.
- Provide or co-sign a loan for a PSA or ESA.
- Provide or arrange employment for a PSA before completion of the senior year of high school.
- Provide or arrange employment for a PSA or ESA without first receiving written permission from the Compliance Office.