

**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN**  
**RECRUITING POLICY**  
**Effective 8/16/04**

The purpose of this policy is to preclude activities, practices, or conduct that is inconsistent with NCAA Bylaw 13. Montana State University intends to investigate complaints or allegations of recruiting improprieties and to take immediate and appropriate disciplinary action if an abuse occurs.

This policy establishes guidelines for hosting Prospective Student-Athletes on official recruiting visits and pertains to all prospects, coaches, student-hosts, athletics administrators, and representatives of the institution's athletics interests.

All Montana State University employees, student-athletes, students, and representatives of athletics interests are responsible for ensuring recruiting abuses do not occur and must immediately disclose evidence of such behavior. Administrators and coaches are responsible for taking immediate corrective action to deal with alleged recruiting abuses.

**GUIDELINES**

**Air Transportation**

Air transportation is **limited to commercial airlines in coach class**.

Coaches may not accompany a prospect to or from an official visit when air travel is used, except as permitted in By-law 13.6.2.4

An institution may not arrange payment of the airline ticket to allow a prospect (or the prospect's relatives, friends or legal guardians) to take advantage of ticket bonuses, rebates, refunds, **upgrades** or other benefits. Example: Prospect submits an invoice to the Institution for reimbursement of airfare. In this situation, the prospect would receive all benefits of reserving the ticket.

**Excessive Entertainment**

**Only** institutional vehicles or those normally used by coaching staff members or student hosts may be used to transport a prospect. Vehicles belonging to a booster must not be used.

**Lodging** may not include special accessories (e.g. Jacuzzis, suites) that are not available generally to all guests residing at the establishment.

**Meals** must be comparable to those **provided to student-athletes** during the academic year. A reasonable snack (pizza, burger) may be provided in addition to three meals.

**Student Hosts**

The student host must be either a current student-athlete or a student designated in a manner consistent with the institution's policy for providing campus visits or tours to prospective students in general.

- Only an academically eligible student-athlete can serve as a host.
- Hosts may receive up to \$30 per day to entertain a prospect. They may receive an additional \$15 per day for each additional prospect they host during that time.
- When entertaining or transporting a prospect, any facilities visited must be within 30 miles of campus. If other student-athletes are present while entertaining a prospect, they must pay their own expenses.
- A prospect may participate in activities involving their sport while on an official visit, however this must be voluntary and not organized by a coach. Coaches may not be present during these activities.

### **Activities**

An institution may not arrange the following during an official visit:

- Personalized jerseys
- Personalized audio/video scoreboard presentations
- Permitting a prospect to engage in any game-day simulations (e.g. running onto the field with the team during pre-game introductions).

### **THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES, PRACTICES, AND CONDUCT BY ANY INSTITUTIONAL EMPLOYEE , STUDENT-ATHLETE, STUDENT, AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INSTITUTION'S ATHLETICS INTERESTS:**

- Use of escorts or exotic dancers.
- Trips to bars or any use of alcohol with under-aged prospects.
- Any use of illegal substances.
- Visits to adult entertainment facilities.
- Activities or events at any location that may cause a perception of impropriety.

### **Disciplinary Action**

Disciplinary actions for violating the Montana State University recruiting policy may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Termination of employment.
- Fines.
- Loss of athletics aid.
- Suspension from practice and/or competition.
- Temporary suspension of coaching duties.
- Increased recruiting restrictions.

### **Reporting a Suspected Violation**

Complaints and reports will be completely confidential and should be communicated through a written statement to the Associate Director of Athletics for Compliance and Student Services. The statement should detail the complaint including relevant dates, persons involved, and explain why the incident is possibly a violation of the recruiting policy. Full and accurate information will be collected concerning each incident with

particular attention to protecting the interests of all parties involved. Results of the investigation will be presented to the Recruiting Committee (Faculty Athletics Representative, Director of Athletics, Associate Director of Athletics for Compliance and Student Services) to determine if a violation did occur and the extent, if any, of disciplinary action.

### **Appeals Procedures**

If a violation of the Recruiting Policy is determined to have occurred, all persons involved will be notified in writing. Upon receipt of this notification, recipients will have 5 days to respond. This response should be directed to the Director of Athletics who will review the findings and arrange for a hearing with the Recruiting Committee within 5 days. Subsequent to the hearing, the Recruiting Committee will make a final determination on all information provided. The persons involved will be provided written notification of this determination. Any disciplinary actions will be initiated at this time.