



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL RECRUITING AD HOC WORKING GROUP
JULY 29, 2016, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **None.**

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Discuss responses to questions related to the football recruiting model. The NCAA Division I Football Recruiting Ad Hoc Working Group discussed a series of football recruiting calendar-related questions. Based on the discussion, at least 75 percent of the working group members who participated in the discussion support the following statements:

a. National Letter of Intent.

- (1) A National Letter of Intent early signing period for football should be established.
- (2) Football's NLI early signing period should be established in the late spring or early summer after a prospective student-athlete's junior year.

b. Official Visits.

- Official visits for football prospective student-athletes should be permitted to begin at some point during the spring semester of a prospective student-athlete's junior year.

c. Spring Evaluation Period.

- (1) Football should have an evaluation period in the spring.
- (2) The spring evaluation period should be expanded.

d. Fall Contact Period.

- (1) Football should have a contact period in the fall.

- (2) The fall contact period should not be shortened.
- e. Camps and Clinics.
 - (1) Institutions should have fewer days to be involved in football camps and clinics.
 - (2) Institutions should be permitted to be involved in up to 10 days of camps and clinics.
 - (3) The days institutions are permitted to be involved in camps and clinics should not be required to be consecutive days.

The working group agreed to consider its position on those statements as alternative models for the football recruiting calendar are developed. The working group also recognized that NLI signing periods are not regulated by NCAA rules and that any supported changes in the NLI signing periods need to be forwarded to the Collegiate Commissioners Association for consideration.

2. Discuss draft recruiting calendars based on different football National Letter of Intent early signing periods. The working group reviewed and discussed possible models for football recruiting based on options for a football early signing period for the National Letter of Intent. The discussion included a review of the current model for football camps and clinics. As a result of that review, the working group supported the following modifications to the current model for football camps and clinics:

- a. Institutions may designate not more than 10 days within the existing time period for camps and clinics for conducting or participating in camps and clinics. This time period includes institutional and noninstitutional, privately owned camps and clinics.
- b. Institutional camps and clinics may occur only on the institution's campus or in facilities normally used by the institution for practice or competition.
- c. Institutional camps and clinics must include education on NCAA initial-eligibility rules and compliance with other NCAA rules.
- d. Only permissible off-campus recruiters (i.e., 10 countable coaches) may be employed at noninstitutional, privately owned camps and clinics.
- e. Institutional coaches may only be employed at camps owned, operated and conducted by other NCAA member institutions.

- f. Participation in institutional and noninstitutional camps must be included in the institution's permissible evaluation days and a number of evaluation days that may be used during the permissible camps/clinics period (e.g., 100 evaluation days) should be established.
- g. Permit coaches who are employed at an institutional or noninstitutional camp or clinic to have recruiting conversations with participating prospective student-athletes during the camp or clinic.

As a result of the working group's discussion of the football recruiting model, four models were developed. Each model was developed around a different possible date for an early NLI signing period. One model was developed using a 72-hour early NLI signing period that begins on the last Wednesday in July. Highlights of the model include permitting prospective student-athletes to take official visits between March 1 and April 30 of their junior year; expanding the spring evaluation period to include March and expanding the Football Bowl Subdivision's existing late June and early July dead period by one week. A second model used the last Monday in August as a one-day early signing date. Highlights of that model include expanding the fall contact by one week in December; permitting prospective student-athletes to take official visits between March 1 and April 30 of their junior year; expanding the spring evaluation period to include March and expanding the FBS existing late June and early July dead period by one week. A third model was developed using the Monday after Thanksgiving as a one-day early signing date. Highlights of that model include only permitting prospective student-athletes who have not taken an official visit to the institution to sign with the institution on the early signing date; extending the existing dead period in December and January by one week in December and, for FBS, extending that dead period through the Thursday of the American Football Coaches Association annual convention. The fourth model developed by the working group uses a 21-day early signing period that begins February 1 of a prospective student-athlete's junior year and repeats each month through May of the prospective student-athlete's junior year. Highlights of this model include establishing a period in April and May when off-campus evaluations are permitted, but in-person contact on- or off-campus is prohibited; and expanding the FBS dead period in June and July by one week.

- 3. **Next steps.** The working group agreed to have a teleconference in August to discuss the models developed during the meeting and finalize a recommendation for the NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee to consider during its October meeting.

*Working Group Co-Chairs: Shawn Eichorst, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Big Ten Conference
 Dan Mullen, Mississippi State University, Southeastern Conference*
*Staff Liaison(s): Oliver Luck, Regulatory Affairs
 Kris Richardson, Academic and Membership Affairs
 Geoff Silver, Academic and Membership Affairs*

NCAA Division I Football Recruiting Ad Hoc Working Group July 29, 2016, Meeting
Working Group Attendees:
Todd Berry, American Football Coaches Association.
Ty Darlington, University of Oklahoma, Big 12 Conference.
Arthur Johnson, University of Texas at Austin, Big 12 Conference.
Austin Mack, The Ohio State University, Big Ten Conference.
Tommy McClelland, Louisiana Tech University, Conference USA.
Terry Mohajir, Arkansas State University, Sun Belt Conference.
Bill Moos, Washington State University, Pac-12 Conference.
Dan Mullen, Mississippi State University, Southeastern Conference.
Javon Patterson, University of Mississippi, Southeastern Conference.
Steve Perez, California State University, Sacramento, Big Sky Conference.
Danny Rocco, University of Richmond, Atlantic 10 Conference.
Jon Steinbrecher, Mid-American Conference.
Jennifer Strawley, University of Miami (Florida), Atlantic Coast Conference.
Ben Weaver, Boise State University, Mountain West Conference.
Danny White, University of Central Florida, American Athletic Conference.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Oliver Luck, Geoff Silver and Kris Richardson.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Scott Connors, Jennifer Fraser, Greg Johnson, Mark Lewis, Keith Martin, Eric Mayes and Dave Schnase.