

Provision of Complementary Items & Benefits

Operators are prohibited from providing any gift items to team coaches or participants.

Operators may provide a t-shirt to participants regardless of whether or not the participants pay to participate. These t-shirts can be donated to the operator. Operators can provide simple, low-cost, reversible jerseys can be provided to participants instead of the event/league t-shirt. Jerseys would have to have the same monetary value as a t-shirt; so, authentic jerseys could not be utilized.

The only complimentary (free/gifted) item that a participant or participating coach is allowed to retain after an activity is a T-SHIRT.

- **EQUIPMENT AND APPAREL:** A prospective student-athlete who attends an NCAA certified event can not retain any athletics equipment or apparel provided for his/her use at the event other than an event T-shirt. All other equipment and apparel (e.g., shoes, shorts, warm-up suits, backpacks, cinch bags, basketballs, mementos, etc.) may be retained only if the prospective student-athlete is charged the normal retail value of such items (as opposed to the event's cost in purchasing the items) and the items must be paid for separate from the event entry fee.
- **TRANSPORTATION:** Operators are prohibited from providing air or ground transportation to and/or from an event/league for participants, their coaches or relatives. However, an operator may provide local transportation to participants provided that the same transportation is available to all attendees. Example: between the activity site and the nearest airport, bus or train station.
- **REDUCED ENTRY FEES:** NCAA legislation requires that activity operators charge participants the same entry fee. Operators are prohibited from granting free entry or reduced entry to select participants based on athletics ability or reputation.
- **AWARDS:** Many operators provide awards during events/leagues (e.g., to the team that wins a tournament, to the best offensive or defensive player, three-point or slam-dunk contests, etc.). A participant may receive an award, as long as the following conditions are met:
 - The cost of the award is included in the participant's entry fee;
 - Cash, or the equivalent thereof; and
 - Awards are not donated.

If participants do not directly pay an entry fee, no awards may be provided.

Example: If a team sponsor pay the event entry fee for the team; the event operator could give a championship trophy to the team, but could not provide awards to the athletes because the athletes did not play to participate in the event.

If you are aware that an event operator is violating these requirements, please [Contact Enforcement Certification and Approvals Group](#) for follow up.