MESSAGE FROM JAVELINA COMPLIANCE

It is a wonderful time to be involved with Javelina Athletics; however, we must be careful to ensure that our passion does not exceed the limits set by the NCAA. As you’ll see, most everyone associated with Javelina Athletics is seen as a "representative of the Javelinas' athletics interests" (commonly known as a booster). With this title comes responsibility to ensure your personal compliance with NCAA regulations. During this period of growth, we cannot afford to be set back through the overzealousness of those wishing to support us. Please review this informative piece regarding your involvement in compliance with NCAA rules. Above all, if you ever have any questions contact our staff and ask before you act. With your assistance and commitment to winning 'the right way,' our path to prominence will be that much more satisfying.

Hanna Lantz

NCAA Regulations

Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK) is responsible for ensuring that its various constituencies (e.g., University staff and faculty, coaches, student-athletes, alumni and friends) abide by NCAA rules and regulations. Under NCAA rules, all alumni, friends and employees of the University are categorized as "representatives of Texas A&M University-Kingsville's athletics interests."

The following website will direct you to NCAA roles and frequently asked questions:
http://www.ncaa.org/enforcement/role-boosters

Representatives of Texas A&M-Kingsville’s Athletics Interests

Who is a representative of Texas A&M University-Kingsville's athletics interests (i.e., a “Javelina athletics booster”)?

NCAA Bylaw 13.02.11 defines a “booster” as an individual who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to:

- Have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization, including corporate entities (e.g., apparel and equipment companies,) promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program;
- Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
- Be assisting or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
- Be assisting or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families; or
- Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution’s athletics program.

The NCAA stipulates that once an individual has been identified as a “representative” of Texas A&M University-Kingsville's athletics programs he or she retains this status forever. This is true even if the individual no longer contributes to the athletics program.

Prospects (Also known as “recruits”)

A student becomes a prospect once he/she starts classes for the ninth grade or receives any benefit from Texas A&M University-Kingsville or TAMUK boosters not available to all prospective students. Note that athletic ability is NOT a criterion used to identify prospects. A student remains a prospect (even after agreeing to attend TAMUK) until he/she either attends class as a full- time student or participates in an official team practice, whichever occurs first.
**Recruiting**
Off-campus, in-person recruiting contact with prospects or prospects relatives/guardians as well as recruiting phone calls to these individuals may be made only by authorized and certified athletic department representatives. Such recruiting activities by boosters are strictly prohibited. If you identify a prospect that you think we should know about, please contact the appropriate coaching staff with basic information (i.e. name, school, position, etc…) and they will proceed according to the rules and their discretion.

Boosters are allowed to have **on-campus** contact (e.g., during an official visit) with prospective student athletes and are also allowed to have written communication with prospects.

*There are some “common sense” exceptions to the prohibition against boosters contacting prospects. For example, boosters have friends and relatives that are prospects. Co-workers’ children are prospects and there are prospects that go to your church. Contact the Assistant Athletic Director for Academics & Compliance for details about specific exceptions to the rules or what*

**Extra Benefits are Prohibited**
Any material benefit or convenience provided to a student-athlete or prospect (relatives/guardians) must be either
1) authorized by NCAA rules, or
2) generally available to all students or prospective students.

*This is an easy rule to inadvertently break. The Kingsville community along with Texas A&M University-Kingsville alumni and boosters are, by nature, hospitable, generous, and supportive of the activities of young people. If you would like to provide assistance, please immediately contact Assistant Athletic Director for Academics & Compliance.*

**Alumni/Booster Events**
Refrain from bringing prospects to such events as they can easily be considered recruiting events—especially if coaches are present and the event is held off-campus. If you are organizing such an event, please do not bring or invite prospects and explain to parents the importance of prospects not attending.

**Employment of Student-Athletes**
All compensation from employment must be legitimate (for work actually performed) and commensurate (at a comparable rate as others are paid for the same work). The athletics reputation of a student-athlete may never be used to market the employer’s product or service.

**Commercial Endorsements**
The use of a student-athlete’s (team’s) name, picture, or likeness is permitted only if the advertisement is designed to recognize an individual/team accomplishment or to extend best wishes. In this case, only the name, address, and official logo of the business may appear in the ad. The use of student-athletes or teams to promote a commercial product or service is otherwise prohibited.

*Whom to Call with NCAA Questions*
It is extremely important for both you and Texas A&M University-Kingsville that you know and abide by all NCAA regulations. If you have any questions regarding NCAA rules, please contact Hanna Lantz (361-593-2155 or hanna.lantz@tamuk.edu) before doing something that may jeopardize a student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

*Remember to “Ask Before You Act!”*

Thank you for your support of the Javelinas and our efforts to follow all NCAA rules.