



## ALL ABOUT BOOSTERS

5 Conditions Make You A "Representative of Athletics Interest" of **Middle Tennessee State University** in a word.... **"BOOSTER"!**



You participate in or are a member of an agency or organization (SunTrust Bank) that promotes in any way the intercollegiate athletic programs at MTSU.



You have made financial contributions to entities like the Middle Tennessee Athletics Department, BRAA or the Varsity Club.



If you have assisted or have been requested to assist, by a member of MTSU athletics, in the recruitment of a prospect.



If you are assisting or have assisted in providing (benefits to student-athletes) or members of their families enrolled at MTSU.



If you have in any way been involved in promoting MTSU's athletics program.

**NCAA BYLAW 13.02.13**

Once you are identified as a representative of athletics interests (BOOSTER- someone who has met one or all of the 5 conditions above) you retain that identification indefinitely. **NCAA BYLAW 13.02.13.1**

**HENCEFORTH, NOW AND FOREVERMORE**



**YOU ARE A BOOSTER!!**

### RECRUITING IS THE JOB OF MTSU COACHES!!

Boosters shall not engage in recruiting activities except as permitted in limited Bylaw 13 legislation. Contacts, telephone calls, evaluations and other correspondence shall be limited to certified coaching staff members. ALL in-person, on- or off-campus recruiting contacts with a prospect or prospect's parent(s) or legal guardian shall be limited to authorized Middle Tennessee coaching staff members.....

**NCAA BYLAWS 13.01.4-13.1.2.1-13.1.2.4**

However, **MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY is RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIONS**

IF YOU VIOLATE AN NCAA RULE, MTSU will be subject to the penalties of the violation. Boosters violating NCAA rules can become disassociated with Middle Tennessee Athletics. **NCAA BYLAW 19.6.2.6**



## BOOSTERS ARE PERMITTED TO:



Watch a prospect's contest at own initiative; however, contact with a prospect is prohibited. You may notify an MTSU coaching staff member about the prospect.



Continue an established relationship with the family of a prospect, but recruiting that prospect is prohibited.



If a prospect initiates a call to a booster, the booster may speak to the prospect as long as no recruiting takes place. If the prospect asks about the MTSU athletic program, the prospect must be informed to notify the athletic department.



Once a prospect has both signed a National Letter of Intent and graduated from High School, a booster may contact a prospect by telephone to discuss summer employment opportunities.



An MTSU Booster organization may finance a season-ending recognition banquet for a particular team provided all expenses are paid through the MTSU athletic department, it is within 100 miles of campus, and no tangible award is provided to members of the team.



A booster may provide an occasional meal to a student-athlete or the entire team on infrequent or special occasions under the following conditions:

(a) The meal must be provided in an individual's home (as opposed to a restaurant) and may be catered; and

(b) The booster may provide reasonable local transportation to student-athletes to attend the meal function only if the meal function is at the home of that booster.

**NCAA BYLAWS 13.02.13, 16.1.6.1, 16.11.1.5**



## BOOSTERS ARE NOT PERMITTED:



**TO CONTACT PROSPECTS ON- OR OFF-CAMPUS**



**WRITE OR TELEPHONE PROSPECTS OR THEIR PARENT(S) OR LEGAL GUARDIANS**



**CALL, WRITE, E-MAIL, TEXT TO HS, PREP SCHOOL OR TWO-YEAR COLLEGE COACHES, PRINCIPAL OR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR ABOUT A PROSPECT**



**VISIT A SCHOOL TO PICK UP FILM OR TRANSCRIPTS TO ASSIST IN THE EVALUATION OF PROSPECTS**



**PROVIDE "EXTRA BENEFITS" TO HS, PREP SCHOOL, PRINCIPALS, GUIDANCE COUNSELORS OR PROSPECTS PROSPECT'S (S) OR LEGAL GUARDIAN(S)**



**ENCOURAGE THE TRANSFER OF STUDENT-ATHLETES AT OTHER SCHOOLS TO MTSU**



**PROVIDE TICKETS OR TRANSPORTATION TO PROSPECTS OR HS, PREP SCHOOL, OR TWO-YEAR COLLEGE COACHES**



**PROVIDE "EXTRA BENEFITS" TO STUDENT-ATHLETES.**

**AN EXTRA BENEFIT IS ANY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT BY A MIDDLE TENNESSEE EMPLOYEE OR BOOSTER TO PROVIDE A STUDENT-ATHLETE (AND/OR FAMILY AND FRIENDS) A BENEFIT NOT EXPRESSLY AUTHORIZED BY NCAA LEGISLATION. A VIOLATION DOES NOT OCCUR IF THE SAME BENEFIT IS GENERALLY AVAILABLE TO THE MTSU STUDENT BODY, THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OR IS AVAILABLE TO A SEGMENT OF THE MTSU STUDENT BODY DETERMINED ON A BASIS UNRELATED TO ATHLETICS.**

**NCAA BYLAW, ARTICLE 16 (16.01.1-16.12)**



**EXTRA BENEFITS WOULD INCLUDE:**

**MONEY**



**USE OF A CAR**



**A FREE OR REDUCED PRICE HAIRCARE SERVICES**



**CLOTHING**



**HOLIDAY OR BIRTHDAY GIFTS**



**TICKETS FOR ANY KIND OF ENTERTAINMENT**



**TELEPHONE OR**

**CALLING CARDS**



**LOANS OR COSIGNING OF LOANS**



A SPECIAL DISCOUNT, PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT, OR CREDIT CARD FOR A PURCHASE OR

SERVICE(i.e., laundry, dry cleaning)



REDUCED TRAVEL SERVICES



A MEAL AT A RESTAURANT AS YOUR GUEST



ROOM AND BOARD OR TRANSPORTATION

DURING THE SUMMER



SODA



COFFEE/LATTE



SCHOOL SUPPLIES



LOANS OR

COSIGNING OF A LOAN FOR A STUDENT-ATHLETE'S FAMILY OR FRIEND



THIS LIST IS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE BUT SHOULD GIVE BOOSTERS AN IDEA OF WHAT IS AN EXTRA BENEFIT – IN MANY CIRCUMSTANCES THE NCAA PROVIDES A PROCESS TO ASSIST STUDENT-ATHLETES IN THESE AREAS.

### RECRUITING TERMS:

**RECRUITING:** Any solicitation of a prospective student-athlete (*prospect*) or a prospective student-athlete's (relatives [or legal guardians] by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution's athletics interest for the purpose of securing the prospective student-athletes enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletics program.

**CONTACT:** Any face-to-face encounter between a prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's parents, relatives or legal guardian(s) and an MTSU institutional staff member or athletics representative during which any dialogue occurs in excess of an exchange of a greeting. *Any such face-to-face encounter that is prearranged (e.g., positions himself/herself in a location where contact is possible) or that takes place on the grounds of the prospective student-athlete's educational institution or at the site of organized competition or practice involving the prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's high school, preparatory school, two-year college or all-star team shall be considered a contact, regardless of whether any conversation occurs.* However, an MTSU institutional staff member or athletics representative who is approached by a prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's parents, relatives or legal guardian(s) at any location shall not use a contact, provided the encounter was not prearranged and the staff member or athletics representative does not engage in any dialogue in excess of a greeting and takes appropriate steps to immediately terminate the encounter.

**NOTE:** *As part of a 2002 major infractions case, the NCAA Committee on Infractions, in its public report, sent an unequivocal message that the custom of 'bumping' prospects during non-contact periods is a violation of NCAA rules no matter how widespread the practice, and coaches who continue to do so will be held accountable for their actions.*

**PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE:** A prospective student-athlete (prospect) is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if staff member provides such an individual (or the individual's relatives or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that a staff member does not provide to prospective student-athletes generally. An individual remains a prospective student-athlete until one of the following occurs (whichever is earlier):

- (a) The individual officially registers and enrolls in a minimum full-time program of studies and attends classes in any term of a four-year collegiate institution's regular academic year (excluding summer); or
- (b) The individual participates in a regular squad practice or competition at a four-year collegiate institution that occurs before the beginning of any term; or
- (c) The individual officially registers and enrolls and attends classes during the summer prior to initial enrollment and receives institutional athletics aid.

**RECRUITED PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE:** Actions by staff members or athletics representatives (boosters) that cause a prospective student-athlete to become a recruited prospective student-athlete at that institution are:

- (a) Providing the prospective student-athlete with an official visit;
- (b) Having an arranged, in-person, off-campus encounter with the prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's parent(s), relative(s) or legal guardian(s);
- (c) Initiating or arranging a telephone contact with the prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's parent(s), relative(s) or legal guardian(s) on more than one occasion for the purpose of recruitment.; or
- (d) Issuing a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of athletically related financial aid to the prospective student-athlete. Issuing a written offer of athletically related financial aid prospective student-athlete to attend a summer session prior to full-time enrollment does not cause the prospective student-athlete to become recruited.

**NCAA BYLAWS 13.02.3, 13.02.11, 13.02.12, 13.02.12.1**