



Professional Football Education Program Agent Policy

West Virginia University (“WVU”) strives to educate and assist its student-athletes who desire to pursue a professional career in sports. WVU provides counseling and information concerning compliance with NCAA Bylaws to maintain athletic eligibility while a student-athlete at WVU, evaluation of a potential professional sports career, understanding how to become a professional athlete, evaluation and selection of a sports agent or financial advisor, understanding the terms of agent and professional contracts, and enhancing financial management knowledge and skills.

To accomplish the aforementioned and to ensure that relevant NCAA Bylaws¹ are not violated, the WVU Athletic Compliance Office has established the WVU Professional Football Education Program (the “Education Program”), to provide for the only permissible opportunity for an Agent to meet with a football student-athlete at WVU.

Section I: Definitions

- A. "Agent" means an individual, directly or indirectly, recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agreement in which the student-athlete authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or an endorsement contract. The term includes an individual who represents to the public that the individual is an athlete agent; or any individual who works with, for, or on behalf of any other individual who represents to the public that the individual is an athlete agent. The term does not include a spouse, parent, sibling, grandparent, or guardian of the student-athlete or an individual acting solely on behalf of a professional sports team or professional sports organization.
- B. "Student-athlete" means an individual who engages in, is eligible to engage in, or may be eligible in the future to engage in, any intercollegiate sport.

Section II: Agent Registration

To participate in the Education Program and to comply with this policy, an Agent must:

- A. Fully comply with the Uniform Athlete Agents Act, W. Va. Code §§ 30-39-1 to 21, and successfully obtain a Certificate of Registration from the W. Va. Secretary of State.

¹ **NCAA Bylaw 12.3.1 General Rule.** An individual shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if he or she ever has agreed (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent for the purpose of marketing his or her athletics ability or reputation in that sport.

NCAA Bylaw 12.3.1.1 Representation for Future Negotiations. An individual shall be ineligible per 12.3 if he or she enters into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations that are to take place after the individual has completed his or her eligibility in that sport.

NCAA Bylaw 12.3.1.2 Benefits From Prospective Agents. An individual shall be ineligible per 12.3.1 if he or she (or his or her relatives or friends) accepts transportation or other benefits from any person who represents any individual in the marketing of his or her athletics skill. The receipt of such expenses constitutes compensation based on athletics skill and is an extra benefit not available to the student body in general.

- B. Apply for registration with the WVU Athletic Compliance Office (See Appendix A), and agree to the conditions of this policy.

Section III: Agent Benefits

An Agent registered under this policy will be:

- A. Identified as an approved agent with WVU in materials provided to football student-athletes and their families; and
- B. Eligible to meet with football student-athletes in-person beginning May 1 following completion of the student-athlete's junior season of eligibility and in accordance with the Agent Contact Policy (See Appendix B).

Section IV: Agent Responsibilities

An Agent registered under this policy agrees to:

- A. Abide by the state, NCAA, Conference and University rules and regulations (including this policy), which cover agent-related activities and conduct.
- B. Agents must be properly licensed by the state of West Virginia.
- C. Send all written correspondence directly to the WVU Athletic Compliance Office for distribution to the respective student-athlete. A copy of all correspondence will be kept on file in the compliance office.

Section V: Agent Violations

- A. An Agent who is determined by WVU to be in violation of any part of this policy, or has otherwise disrupted the normal educational operations and functions of the university, will have his/her registration revoked by the WVU Athletic Compliance Office.
- B. If an Agent's institutional registration is revoked, WVU will take reasonable actions to discourage contact between its student-athletes and the Agent. The Agent will no longer be authorized to be in or on the property of WVU associated with the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics or any other property of WVU for the purpose of seeking to represent a student-athlete. Additionally, WVU will deny any request(s) for holding an in-person meeting with current WVU student-athletes. WVU may notify the appropriate organization(s), institution(s), players association(s), league(s), W. Va. Secretary of State, other applicable state regulatory bodies, University Police Department, and/or other applicable members of the university community of its decision to revoke an agent's registration.

Please direct questions surrounding WVU's Professional Football Education program to:

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