



To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Colleen Maguire, Executive Director

Date: May 3, 2024

RE: NCAA Recruiting Guidelines – Basketball and Football

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NJSIAA staff recommend the following updates to the Basketball NCAA Evaluation Period Guidelines and Football NCAA Open Recruiting Period Guidelines. NJSIAA staff continues to receive numerous inquiries regarding advertisement/promotion of these evaluation sessions and whether schools can join with a neighboring school when hosting these workouts.

These updates will allay any confusion and misunderstanding on the part of athletic directors and coaches moving forward – specifically regarding the use of social media to promote the evaluation sessions.

The proposed updates are underlined in each sport's guidelines below.

### **BASKETBALL NCAA EVALUATION PERIOD GUIDELINES**

The following guidelines are for member schools to adhere to during the NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Evaluation Period which occurs during the fall months prior to the start of the NJSIAA basketball season:

1. NJSIAA-member high schools may host no more than two basketball-specific evaluation sessions per week at the request of an authorized NCAA athletic department staff member. No evaluation session may occur without an authorized staff member in attendance. Any evaluation session without an authorized staff member in attendance is a direct violation of these guidelines.
2. These basketball-specific evaluation sessions may only occur on the premises of the member high school; they may not take place at a third-party facility.
3. High school coaches shall be permitted to be in attendance and administer these evaluation sessions in a manner requested by the authorized staff member.
4. High schools, and any member of its coaching staff, may create promotional materials to notify college coaches that they have prospects to be evaluated – this includes the use of social media. Promotional materials may include the head coaches' contact information in order to schedule evaluation sessions. However, the use of promotional materials shall not list predetermined dates and times of evaluation sessions that will be hosted.
5. High schools, and any member of its coaching staff, may use social media to thank college programs and college coaches for attending an evaluation session. However, any communications

that go beyond a courtesy thank you may be interpreted as promoting and advertising a school's program for recruiting purposes.

6. The workouts to be observed by the authorized staff member may include:
  - a. Strength training
  - b. Agility, speed, and endurance training
  - c. Drills to highlight specific position skills (see details below)
  - d. Small-sided, competitive games such as 3v3
  - e. No more than 15 minutes can be used for 4v4 or 5v5 scrimmaging
7. Drills to highlight specific skills, include shooting drills, ball handling drills, lay-up drills, rebounding drills and low-post drills.
8. The workouts SHALL NOT resemble any form of organized practice. Therefore, no diagramed plays may be executed, and no defensive shell drills or simulation of offensive plays are permitted.
9. Each onsite visit/workout may not exceed one hour in length.
10. High schools are NOT permitted to join with another high school nor comingle student-athletes from different schools for these evaluation sessions. High schools must independently host evaluation sessions at the request of a college coach.

**A high school coach that violates any part of these guidelines will receive an automatic four-game suspension, such suspension to be served during the first four regular season games during the immediate next season.**

#### **FOOTBALL NCAA OPEN RECRUITING PERIOD GUIDELINES**

The following guidelines are for member schools to adhere to during the NCAA Open Recruiting Period:

1. When a college coach is onsite at a NJSIAA-member high school, the high school coach shall be permitted to administer a football-specific evaluation session at the request of a college coach.
2. These football-specific evaluation sessions may only occur on the premises of the member high school; they may not take place at a third-party facility.
3. High school coaches shall be permitted to attend and assist with any workout observed by the college coach.
4. High schools, and any member of its coaching staff, may create promotional materials to notify college coaches that they have prospects to be evaluated – this includes the use of social media. Promotional materials may include the head coaches' contact information in order to schedule evaluation sessions. However, the use of promotional materials shall not list predetermined dates and times of evaluation sessions that will be hosted.
5. High schools, and any member of its coaching staff, may use social media to thank college programs and college coaches for attending an evaluation session. However, any communications that go beyond a courtesy thank you may be interpreted as promoting and advertising a school's program for recruiting purposes.
6. The workouts to be observed by a college coach may include:
  - a. Strength training
  - b. Agility, speed and endurance training
  - c. Position specific skills workouts (see details below)
7. Position specific skills workouts include, but is not limited to, throwing, blocking (with the use of bags, shields, and sleds only), running routes, kicking/punting, or defensive positioning.
8. The workouts SHALL NOT resemble any form of organized practice. Therefore, no diagramed plays may be executed, no individual skills training may occur, and no scrimmaging of any kind regardless of the number of players participating in the workout.
9. Each onsite visit/workout may not exceed one hour in length.

10. No player protective gear may be used. Protective gear includes, but is not limited to, helmets, shoulder pads, rib pads or thigh/knee pads.
11. THUD or live contact with another student-athlete is not allowed at any time. The only football-specific equipment that may be in use are blocking/tackling dummies, blocking/tackling sleds or hand-shields.
12. High schools are NOT permitted to join with another high school nor combine student-athletes from different schools for these evaluation sessions. High schools must independently host evaluation sessions at the request of a college coach.

**A high school coach that violates any part of these guidelines will receive an automatic two-game suspension, such suspension to be served during the first two regular season games during the immediate next season.**