

NCAA Eligibility Issue - Amateurism

If you are participating in the AFW ELITE competition tour *and will not participate in NCAA athletics* you are under no restrictions and these rules and this document are not applicable to you.

If you plan on competing at the collegiate level, ***you are allowed to fund-raise*** for the direct expenses relative to this tour. You can have family, friends, neighbors, local businesses, high school booster clubs, colleagues of your parents, etc. – anyone who believes in the opportunity for you – donate on your behalf, with two restrictions:

1. Relevant NCAA Bylaw 12.1.1.1.4.3: “An individual may not receive expenses from an outside amateur sports organization ***in excess*** of actual and necessary travel, room and board expenses and apparel and equipment for competition and practice held in preparation for such competition.” This means: *you can only receive direct benefit from donations on your behalf up to the direct cost of the trip to you.* (i.e. you need to bring your own ‘spending money’.)
2. *A representative of athletic interests from an institution you are considering attending may contribute to an amateur organization through properly established channels if the contributions are not ‘earmarked’ for a specific prospect. (Italics added for emphasis)*
*Apparent Practical Impact: If a **BOOSTER** of an institution (usually DI and DII scrutiny) makes a contribution for the expenses of this trip it cannot be in your name or on your behalf but must be shared and distributed equally by the organization. You will still benefit from this type of donation but not dollar-for-dollar. In sum, this should have no effect on you nor limit your ability as a potential future DI or DII player to play in this game in France.*

A third consideration for NCAA bound athletes is the potential limitation of playing in only two post-senior year all-star game competitions.

Clarifications:

- Under no circumstances can you accept, nor will our organizations provide, funding that exceeds the cost of participation (i.e. the cost of the competition tour).
- Under no circumstances should you accept funds or benefits including payment for this trip in lieu of your word or commitment to attend a particular NCAA or NAIA institution to participate in athletics.
- If you contribute and fund-raise more than the amount that is required to cover the actual and necessary expenses of this tour, the funds will be distributed as AFW and/or the AFW Education Foundation see fit for tour needs and program development.
- *Disclaimer: American Football Worldwide will not be responsible for your college eligibility following your participation on this trip/tour. If you have additional questions in this regard, consult with the NCAA (www.NCAA.org) or NAIA regarding any future eligibility concerns. For more information, contact Jim Barnes and/or reference <http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf>*

Beyond what is stated above, you are free to put as much effort into fund-raising as you can in order to realize the benefits of this once-in-a-lifetime international athletic tour.

If you have additional questions, please contact Jim Barnes at 309-781-7274