2006-2007
DIVISION I
ATHLETICS
CERTIFICATION
SELF-STUDY
INSTRUMENT
The University of Alabama conducts meetings regarding compliance policies/issues and participates in NCAA and Southeastern Conference seminars and workshops as part of its rules-education efforts.

* The athletics compliance office conducts the coaches’ compliance meetings. The coaches’ compliance meetings have been implemented to provide all coaches and athletic staff with a comprehensive working knowledge of NCAA, Southeastern Conference and institutional rules and regulations. Education is the foundation of the athletics compliance program and all staff must make a regular and concerted effort to remain updated on the changes in governing regulations. The NCAA views a strong, ongoing rules education program as essential to maintaining rules compliance as an institutional priority as well as a necessary element of institutional control. The coaches’ compliance meetings are held once a month for all coaches, excluding the football program. The football program meets separately from other sports on a weekly or regular, on-going basis, outside recruiting periods. The first scheduled meeting each year begins in August and runs through May. All senior athletics department staff members and the Faculty Athletics Representative attend these meetings. Other departmental staff members are invited to attend when issues relevant to their area of operation are discussed.

* Created a compliance link on www.rolltide.com.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance implemented a comprehensive rules orientation for all new coaches and sport specific staff members covering institutional and departmental policies and procedures, forms, responsibilities of coaching/support staff members, duties of athletics compliance office personnel, and the www.rolltide.com compliance website.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance, Assistant Director of Compliance, Compliance Coordinator, Faculty Athletics Representative, and the Assistant Athletic Director for Student Services attend the NCAA Regional Compliance Seminar and the Southeastern Conference Compliance Seminar Summer Workshop. Staff members from the registrars’ office, undergraduate admissions, and student financial aid also attend these and other professional meetings that cover NCAA rules.

* The Faculty Athletic Representative attends three (3) Faculty Athletic Representative annual meetings reviewing rules annually.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance, Assistant Director of Compliance, and the Compliance Coordinator meets with each team at the start of the preseason practice to review relevant NCAA, Southeastern Conference, and departmental rules and regulations. Prior to engaging in any practice-related activities, student-athletes complete required eligibility paperwork. Student-athletes review and update relevant forms throughout the year as needed.

* Meetings are held with certain teams (e.g., those whose sport charges admission to events) to review complimentary admissions policies and procedures with student-athletes. Such meetings are held just prior to the sport’s first contest of each year.

* Student-athletes also attend additional meetings throughout the year to address specific topics (i.e., sports agents, gambling issues, etc.)

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance meets each year with tutors employed by the department of intercollegiate athletics to address compliance issues related to their involvement with student-athletes.

* The Assistant Director of Compliance sends out bi-annual letters with attached NCAA initial eligibility information (i.e., standards, core course review, etc.) to all state of Alabama private and public high schools for training purposes and remains available to speak at the discretion of county or state high school events.

* The Assistant Director of Compliance, in conjunction with the Assistant Athletic Director for Student Services, conducts monthly compliance educational meetings with Center for Academic Student Services staff.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance established a Professional Sports Counseling Panel to begin the sport agent educational process for our coaches, student-athletes and parents. The President selected four (4) faculty and a member from the department of intercollegiate athletics, while the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and the Director of Football Operations serve as liaisons to the panel. This faculty panel was established in accordance with the NCAA Constitution and will be composed of faculty in sports law, financial and career counseling. These individuals advise and counsel our student-athletes and the student-athletes parents, relatives, or legal guardians on a continuing basis in order to assist them with the proper selection of an agent.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance provides a weekly article or educational document on sport agents/professional sports education in the football junior and senior student-athletes locker room. Documents are provided starting with the beginning of preseason practice through the bowl game.
* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance established a Student-Athlete panel. The President selected three (3) faculty members, while the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and the Assistant Director of Football Operations (no longer employed) served as liaisons to the panel. This faculty panel was formed to provide information, resources, and materials that would help assist student-athletes in the decision making process to turn professional early or to stay in school and receive their college degree. The panel has been included as part of the Professional Sports Counseling Panel.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance established a University Gambling Action Team to begin the gambling educational process for our coaches, student-athletes, student body, and the University Faculty and Staff.

The University of Alabama actively promotes rules-education through other activities or practices:

* All full-time coaches, graduate assistant coaches, and sport-specific operations staff are required to attend a rules review administered by the Southeastern Conference during the month of May and are required to take and pass the NCAA rules certification test.

* At least one senior athletics department administrator serves as an athletics department liaison to each sport booster club. The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and the athletics business office oversee activities of all booster clubs for compliance and fiscal integrity.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance speaks at various alumni gatherings and other groups/organizations about compliance-related issues.

* The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance conducts annual/biannual workshops and provides NCAA legislative specific packets to the following athletic department support staff:
  o Administrative assistant for football and basketball workshop
  o Tutor education workshop - co-directed by the Assistant Athletic Director for Student Services
  o Ticket office staff workshop
  o Support staff workshop (i.e., clerical staff)
  o Business office staff workshop
  o Media relations staff workshop
  o Sports marketing staff workshop
  o Fund-raising staff workshop (i.e., Development Office)
  o Multi-media rights holder workshop (i.e., Crimson Tide Sports Marketing)
  o Strength and conditioning staff workshop
  o Athletic training staff and student trainer workshop(s)
  o Equipment room staff and team manager workshop(s)
  o Registrars' office, undergraduate/international admissions, and student financial aid workshops
  o External media and non-institutional publications/websites workshop

Representative of Athletics Interests and Fans

* The University of Alabama Guide to NCAA Rules (booster brochure) is sent to season ticket holders and members of the Tuscaloosa Chamber of Commerce (on a case-by-case basis).

* The University of Alabama Guide to NCAA Rules (booster brochure) distributed to faculty and staff at new faculty orientation.

* The University of Alabama Guide to NCAA Rules (booster brochure) distributed to employers of student-athletes and those individuals who are solicited by the department of intercollegiate athletics to employ student-athletes.

* The department of intercollegiate athletics recipients of complimentary admissions (e.g., car dealers, vendors) is sent a letter annually reminding them of NCAA legislation regarding proper use of such admissions.

* Car dealers that provide vehicles for departmental staff and coaches are sent a letter annually reminding them of NCAA legislation regarding extra benefits and NCAA rules.

* Rental property managers for current student-athletes are sent a letter annually reminding them of legislation regarding extra benefits and NCAA rules.

* Compliance information for representative of athletics interest is included within the football and men's basketball media guides and game programs.
Governance and Commitment to Rules Compliance

- The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance speaks to various alumni groups and outside organizations regarding compliance related topics on an annual basis.

- The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance addresses The University of Alabama national alumni association during the annual convention in July. Topics include: alumni events involving prospective student-athletes, NCAA and Southeastern Conference recruitment rules, and scholarships.


- Booster/alumni/local merchants/faculty link at www.rolltide.com, includes the following links:
  - Procedures for Approval of Athletic Booster Club Expenditures
  - Booster Club Expenditure Request Form
  - Fan and Booster Newsletters
  - Information for Media and Private Internet Sites
  - Information for Alumni Organizations
  - Information for Board of Trustees Members
  - Information for Local Merchants
  - Employment of Student-Athletes
  - Information for Rental Property Managers
  - Information for University of Alabama Faculty
  - Institutional Memorabilia Requests/Form
  - Know the Rules Booster Guide
  - Pre-Existing Relationships with Current and Prospective Student-Athletes
  - Promotional Activities involving Student-Athletes/Legislation/Form

- Established "Question of Week" rules education forum representative of athletics interest (boosters) located at www.rolltide.com under the Compliance link.

- Established "Ask the Compliance Staff" link located at www.rolltide.com under Compliance link. Questions concerning initial eligibility, undergraduate admissions to The University of Alabama, transfer eligibility or financial aid are directed to the Assistant Director of Compliance. All other questions concerning NCAA or Southeastern Conference rules compliance are directed to the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance.

- Review NCAA legislation on representative of athletics interest with student-athletes at beginning and end of year team meetings.

- Provide reminders/brochures/articles on representative of athletics interest (booster) issues at various times of the year within student-athlete lockers.

- Prohibited representatives of athletics interest (former student-athletes) from travelling with teams during team travel in the sport of football during the recent probation period.

- Prohibited representatives of athletics interest (former student-athletes) from attending closed practice sessions in the sport of football during the recent probation period.

- Prohibited representatives of athletics (former student-athletes) during home or away football contests from being located on the playing field or within the tunnel area/locker room during the recent probation period. The Associate Athletic Director for Compliance monitored these areas prior to, during, and after contests.

Copies of forms, newsletters, brochures, publications and meeting materials will be available to the Peer-Review Team.

10. Indicate the individual or individuals responsible for conducting the institution's rules-compliance evaluation. Further, describe the process used in selecting this authority outside of athletics to ensure the individual or individuals do not have day-to-day compliance responsibilities for the institution's athletics department and are knowledgeable in NCAA legislation and rules-compliance practices. Also, provide the date of the institution's most recent rules-compliance evaluation.

The Southeastern Conference conducts regular comprehensive compliance reviews of all its member institutions. The auditors are selected and remunerated by the Southeastern Conference. The most recent reviews were