

## Amateurism

An amateur student-athlete is one who engages in a particular sport for the educational, physical, mental and social benefits. Only an amateur student-athlete is eligible for intercollegiate athletics participation in a particular sport. Furthermore, an individual's NCAA amateurism status may be lost as a result of activities prior to enrollment in College.

The NCAA rules related to amateurism are quite extensive. Below are the general definitions associated with amateur status and amateur status if professional in another sport. Please contact your coach or the Associate Athletic Director/Senior Woman Administrator if you have any questions.

### **NCAA Bylaw 12.1.1 Amateur Status**

An individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition in a particular sport if the individual:

- (a) Uses his or her athletics skill (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that sport;
- (b) Accepts a promise of pay even if such pay is to be received following completion of intercollegiate athletics participation;
- (c) Signs a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics, regardless of its legal enforceability or any consideration received;
- (d) Receives, directly or indirectly, a salary, reimbursement of expenses or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization based upon athletics skill or participation, except as permitted by NCAA rules and regulations;
- (e) Competes on any professional athletics team and knows (or had reason to know) that the team is a professional athletics team (per Bylaw 12.02.4), even if no pay or remuneration for expenses was received; or
- (f) Enters into a professional draft or an agreement with an agent (see also Bylaw 12.2.4.2.1).

### **NCAA Bylaw 12.1.2 Amateur Status if Professional in Another Sport**

A professional athlete in one sport may represent a member institution in a different sport. However, the student-athlete cannot receive institutional financial assistance in the second sport unless the student-athlete:

- (a) Is no longer involved in professional athletics;
- (b) Is not receiving any remuneration from a professional sports organization; and
- (c) Has no active contractual relationship with any professional athletics team. However, an individual may remain bound by an option clause in a professional sports contract that

requires assignment to a particular team if the student-athlete's professional career is resumed.