NCAA Compliance
Definitions and Guidelines

1. Prospective Student-Athlete (Bylaw 13.02.5) – A prospective student athlete is any student who has started classes for the ninth grade. Student-athletes enrolled in prep schools or two-year colleges are prospective athletes. An individual is considered a prospect until the first day of initial college enrollment or the first day he/she reports for practice, whichever comes first. All NCAA legislation governing prospects applies until this time.

Here are Some Helpful Tips Involving Contact with Prospects
You may:

• Attend games where prospects are competing, as long as no contact is made with the prospect or prospect’s parents. However, you may not have contact with the prospect’s coach, principal or counselor in an attempt to evaluate the prospect.

• Forward information, like newspaper clippings or online articles about outstanding prospects to the appropriate Illinois Wesleyan coach.

• Accept a phone call from a prospect, as long at the prospect initiates the call. Feel free to discuss IWU academic programs and campus life. No “recruiting discussions” can occur on the call; all questions regarding athletics should be directed back to the Athletic Department.

• Please be aware that the use of the internet is considered to be a form of communication, by means of e-mail, instant messenger services or chat rooms. These media should not be used to contact (directly or indirectly) a prospect, the prospect's parents or high school coaches.

2. Current Student-Athlete (Bylaw 13.02.3) – An individual becomes a student-athlete when he/she participates in an intercollegiate squad practice or contest that is under the jurisdiction of the athletics department.

3. Contact (Bylaw 13.02.2) – A contact is any face-to-face encounter between a prospective student athlete or the prospective student-athlete’s relatives, guardian(s) or individual of a comparable relationship and an institutional athletics department staff member or athletics representative during which any dialog occurs in excess of an exchange of a greeting. Any such contact that is prearranged or that takes place on the grounds of the prospective student-athlete’s educational institution or at the site of an organized competition or practice
involving the prospective student-athlete’s high school, preparatory school, two-year college or all-star team shall be considered a contact, regardless of the conversation that occurred.

4. Recruiting (Bylaw 13.02.6) – Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospective student athlete or a prospective student-athlete’s relatives [or guardian(s)] by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institutions athletic interests for the purpose of securing the prospective student-athlete’s enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution’s intercollegiate athletics program.

Actions by staff members or athletics representatives that cause a prospective student-athlete to become a recruited prospective student-athlete at that institution are:

• Providing the prospective student-athlete with an official visit;
• Having an arranged, in-person, off-campus encounter with the prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete’s relatives, guardian(s) or individual of a comparable relationship, or;
• Initiating or arranging a telephone contact with the prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete’s relatives, guardian(s) or individual of a comparable relationship on more that one occasion for the purpose of recruitment.

Who is permitted to recruit for Illinois Wesleyan University?

Only IWU coaches may be involved in the recruiting process. Representatives of athletics interests may not make any recruiting contacts. This includes letters, e-mail, telephone calls or face-to-face contact on or off campus with a prospect or prospect’s relatives [guardian(s)].

5. Representative of Athletics Interest (Bylaw 13.02.7) – A “representative of the institution’s athletics interests” is an individual who is know (or who should have been know) by a member of the institution’s executive or athletics administration to:

• Have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution’s intercollegiate athletics program;
• Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
• Be assisting or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
• Be assisting or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes, or
• Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution’s athletics program.
Note: Once an individual is identified as such a representative, the person retains that identity indefinitely (Bylaw 13.02.7.1)