

ATHLETICS BOOSTER GUIDE

WHAT IS AN ATHLETICS BOOSTER?

An **Athletics Booster** is any individual who has participated in or is a member of an agency or organization that has been involved in promoting the athletics department; has made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of the institution; has assisted in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes or is assisting in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes without request from the athletics department; has assisted or is assisting in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or is otherwise involved in promoting the institution's athletics program.

PROHIBITED BENEFITS BY BOOSTER

1. A loan of monies
2. Guarantee of bond
3. Use of automobile
4. Signing or cosigning a note with an outside agency to arrange a loan
5. Preferential treatment for services for athletics reputation
6. Cash or merchandise
7. Free or reduced cost housing
8. Use of athletics equipment
9. Sponsorship of, or arrangement for, an awards banquet for athletes by an institution, or representatives of its athletics interests
10. May not serve as sponsors or families for student-athletes

EMPLOYMENT OF ATHLETES

Employing prospects is permitted, providing the employment does not begin prior to the completion of the prospect's senior year in high school.

Compensation may be paid to a student-athlete only for work actually performed, and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services.

TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

An institution or its representatives shall not provide an athlete or a prospect free transportation to and from a summer job unless it is the employer's established policy to transport all employees to and from the job site.

LOANS TO STUDENT-ATHLETES AND PROSPECTS

Arrangement of educational loans by an institution for an athlete or a prospect shall be permitted, provided the loan is not made prior to the completion of the prospect's senior year in high school. When permitted, such loans must be made from a regular lending agency and based on a regular payment schedule.

SUMMER HOUSING

An institution may rent dormitory space to a prospect during the summer provided it

is the institution's policy to make such dormitory space available on the same basis to all students.

ENTERTAINMENT

An institution's staff member or representative may entertain alumni or other friends of the institution in the hometown of the prospect provided those entertained are not friends of any particular prospect being recruited by the institution.

CONTACTING PROSPECTS

Such contact by representatives of an institution's athletics interests is **prohibited**.

WHAT IS RECRUITING?

Recruiting is any solicitation of the prospect or the prospect's family (or guardian) by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution's athletics interests for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment and participation in the institution's athletics program. Actions considered recruiting actions are:

- providing the prospect with an official visit
- having an arranged, in person, off-campus encounter with prospect or prospect's parents
- initiating or arranging a telephone contact with prospect on more than one occasion for recruiting purposes.



Francis Marion University and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

Thank you for your continued support of the Francis Marion University Swamp Fox Club. Your help provides deserving student-athletes with the opportunity to further both their academic and athletic careers. Your donation and continued support are critical to students and their pursuit of excellence in both areas. We cannot emphasize enough how much we appreciate your assistance.

As an institution, we are committed to complying with the rules and regulations of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). We need, however, your assistance to be successful in this effort. The NCAA has strict regulations concerning athletic boosters and/or representatives of athletic interests and their contact with prospective student-athletes. NCAA Bylaw 13.01.4 prohibits you, as a representative of Francis Marion University, from making in-person on- or off-campus recruiting contacts, or written or telephonic communications with a prospective student-athlete or the athlete's relatives or guardians. Any violation of this rule (or rules regarding

transportation, entertainment, meals or anything else of material value to enrolled student-athletes or their family members), despite your intentions, could result in penalizing our athletics program by the NCAA. In addition, you may be asked to disassociate yourself (temporarily or permanently) from our athletics program. Your support and assistance are important to our program, and we would not want this situation to occur.

On the back of this page, you will find information regarding NCAA rules. Your cooperation in complying with these rules is paramount to our success as an NCAA institution. While we want and need your continued support of the Swamp Fox Club, we must ask for your cooperation of these rules to ensure full compliance with the NCAA.

We thank you in advance for your continued support of this worthwhile scholarship fund and look forward to seeing you at a Patriot sporting event this year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Murray Hartzler".

Murray Hartzler
Director of Athletics