

BADGER



ATHLETICS

Spring Hill College is a Division II member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). As a member, Spring Hill College is accountable for the actions of coaches, student-athletes, faculty and staff, alumni, donors and friends to ensure that NCAA rules and regulations are followed.

The recruitment of any prospective student-athletes is the **sole responsibility of Spring Hill College coaches**. Any representatives of Spring Hill College athletic interests (boosters) cannot be involved in the recruiting process.

Compliance with NCAA rules is crucial, as any violations may affect the eligibility of prospective student-athletes and current student-athletes. Penalties could be imposed as a result of any violations, leading to restrictions on your involvement with Spring Hill College athletics programs.

ARE YOU A "REPRESENTATIVE OF SPRING HILL COLLEGE ATHLETIC INTERESTS"?

You are a representative of Spring Hill College Athletics interest, more commonly known as a "booster," if you meet any of the following conditions:

- You are a member of any organization that promotes Spring Hill College athletics program (e.g., Badger Club).
- You have made a financial contribution to the Spring Hill College Department of Athletics or any of its booster organizations.
- You have ever assisted in the recruitment of prospects for Spring Hill College.
- You have provided benefits (e.g., summer jobs or occasional meals) to enrolled student-athletes.
- You have ever, in any way, promoted the athletics program at Spring Hill College.

NOTE: Please remember that once you become a booster, you retain that identity indefinitely.

Who is a "Prospective Student-Athlete"?

A prospective student-athlete, commonly known as a "prospect," is any individual who has started classes for the 9th grade. In addition, individuals enrolled in preparatory schools, or two-year colleges are considered prospects. Ultimately, a student remains a prospect until enrollment at a four-year collegiate Institution.



WHAT IS PERMISSIBLE AND IMPERMISSIBLE?

Common Questions:

Q: Can a booster purchase items when in attendance at an event for current student-athletes (shirts, hats, other merchandise or gear)?

A: NO. Boosters cannot provide an extra benefit to any student-athlete at any time. We do however, encourage our boosters to donate to their sport of interest through the Badger Club.

Q: Can boosters purchase a meal for either a team or any current student-athletes when accompanying them during team travel?

A: NO. Even though we appreciate our parents and booster for offering, a student-athlete or group of student-athletes cannot directly receive a financial benefit from a booster. We would ask the booster to donate the value of the meal through the Badger Club to their sport of interest.

Q: May a booster provide a meal in conjunction with a home event (e.g. BBQ following the game)?

A: YES. A booster can provide a meal on an OCCASIONAL basis whether it is in their home or on campus following a home event.

Q: May a student-athlete's name, picture, or appearance be used in a promotional activity?

A: It depends on the situation. Please contact the Compliance Office at 251-380-4077 with your specific scenario.

The general rule to remember is if you cannot provide that same benefit to every student on campus, you cannot provide it to a student-athlete.

If you have questions regarding a compliance related issue, please contact the Spring Hill College Department of Athletics Compliance Office.

As always, please remember to ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!



Permitted Actions vs. Prohibited Actions

Permitted Actions of Boosters:

- Providing an occasional family home meal to a student-athlete or an entire team.
 - This meal must take place in a home, not a restaurant and may be catered.
 - Requests for these meals must be approved in advance by the compliance office.
- Employing a student-athlete under certain circumstances with prior approval from the athletics department.
 - Both the student-athlete and the employer must sign a written statement prior to employment during the academic year and compensation can only be for work actually performed at a rate equal to the going rate for similar services.
- Notifying coaches about prospects in the area but may not contact the prospects.
- Attending high school or 2-year college athletic contests or events where prospects may compete, but **cannot** contact prospects or their relatives in any way.
- Continuing pre-existing relationships with prospects provided no recruitment takes place.
 - Any questions from the prospect about Spring Hill College athletics should be directed to coaches or the athletic department.
- Conversing with a prospect via phone only if the prospect initiates the call.
 - Such a call may not be prearranged by any staff member or booster.

Prohibited Actions of Boosters:

- Use the name or picture of a student-athlete to directly or indirectly advertise, recommend or promote the sale or use of a commercial product or service.
- Provide extra benefits to a student-athlete or their family.
- Provide free or reduced rate housing for a student-athlete or family.
 - Student-athletes are especially not allowed to house-sit for boosters.
- Contact prospects or their families in any way (in-person, by phone, or in writing).
 - This includes e-mail, message boards, or any messenger service.
- Provide PSAs or their family and friends with any extra benefits.
- Send any materials to prospects, including newspapers, media guides, posters, programs, e-mails, etc.
- Contact a PSA's school in order to evaluate a prospect.

