FACEBOOK UPDATE
Recently the NCAA issued an educational column further defining what is permissible regarding social networking websites. Effective immediately, although it is permissible for a prospect’s name and/or picture to appear on a coach’s profile page of Facebook to identify the prospects as a “friend” coaches may not initiate or accept a prospect’s friend requests until such time that it is permissible to send electronically transmitted correspondence to a prospect. This restriction does not apply to fan pages run by the Athletic Communications staff. In addition, please note that it remains impermissible for coaches to post pictures of prospects on their social networking website.

DEAD PERIOD REMINDER
During the month of December several sports have dead periods. Prospects may not receive complimentary admissions to MSU athletics events during dead periods. It is permissible for a prospect to travel to campus for an official visit during a dead period; however, the prospect may not begin his/her visit begin until the dead period is over.

HOLIDAY REMINDERS
Greeting Cards: It is not permissible to send traditional greeting cards to prospects, prospects’ family and friends, coaches of prospects and other individuals responsible for teaching or directing an activity in which a prospect is involved. The only permissible card you may send is an institutional note card which must follow NCAA guidelines (e.g., no pictures other than an institutional or athletics logo on the front).

Holiday Meals: Occasional meal legislation does apply to vacation periods. This includes team holiday parties. Anyone wishing to provide a student-athlete or an entire team with an occasional meal during the upcoming winter break must receive approval from the OCS prior to providing the meal.

Holiday Gifts: It is not permissible to give gifts to student-athletes as this would be considered an extra benefit.

COUNTABLE ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES REMINDER - FINAL EXAM PERIOD
For all sports (other than football) that are out-of-season (e.g., 8-hour weeks) during the time surrounding the fall exam period, all countable athletically related activities (e.g., practice, film, meetings, skill instruction, weight training and conditioning) are prohibited one week prior to the beginning of the final exam period through the conclusion of each student-athlete’s final exams. This prohibition applies regardless of whether a student-athlete requests instruction. Please note that the week prior to final exams begins Monday, December 7 and final exam week ends December 18.

OCS Website: http://www.msu.edu/user/msuncaa/