SOCIAL MEDIA AND PROSPECTS
It is permissible to initiate and accept a prospect’s Facebook friend request at any time. In addition, it is permissible to follow a prospect on Twitter at any time. Additional communication via social networking websites is not permissible until:

- Men’s Basketball: June 15 following the prospect’s sophomore year in high school.
- Men’s Ice Hockey: January 1 of the prospect’s sophomore year in high school.
- All Other Sports: September 1 of the prospect’s junior year in high school.

Correspondence via social media must be sent directly to the prospect and must be private between the sender and the recipient. It is not permissible to post to a prospect’s “wall” or Twitter feed, like or share a prospect’s post/tweet or repost/retweet information about a prospect prior to them signing a National Letter of Intent or MSU’s written offer of admission and/or financial aid or before MSU receives the prospect’s financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

NEW LEGISLATION EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2015
The following autonomy proposals were adopted in January.

- Cost of Attendance: A full grant-in-aid will be defined as financial aid that consists of tuition and fees, room and board, books and other expenses related to attendance at the institution up to the cost of attendance. The denominator in a student-athlete’s equivalency calculation will be increased to the value of cost of attendance. Student-athletes may continue to receive the Pell Grant in addition to a full grant-in-aid. In addition, the individual limit on summer financial aid will be the cost of attendance figure for a summer term as determined by the institutional policies and federal guidelines applicable to all students at the institution.

- Reduction/Nonrenewal of Athletics Aid After the Period of Award: If a student-athlete receives athletically related financial aid in the academic year of his/her initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, athletics ability, performance or contribution to a team’s success; an injury, illness or physical or mental condition; or any other athletics reason may not be considered in the reduction or nonrenewal of athletically related financial aid for the following academic year or years of the student-athlete’s five year period of eligibility.

NEW INITIAL ELIBITILY REQUIREMENTS REMINDER
New initial eligibility standards go into effect August 1, 2016 which will affect the class of 2016. Students must complete 10 core courses prior to their 7th semester, seven of which must be English, math and natural/physical science. Grades earned in those courses will be locked-in for grade-point average calculation purposes. Current juniors have their 6th semester and upcoming summer to correct any deficiencies prior to the start of their senior year. Early transcript evaluations will be key to detect any deficiencies.

RECRUITING CALENDAR

BASEBALL
Quiet Period: Feb. 1-28

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Recruiting Period: Feb. 1-28

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Evaluation Period: Feb. 1-28

CROSS COUNTRY
TRACK & FIELD
Contact/Eval. Period: Feb. 1-28

FOOTBALL
Quiet Period: Feb. 1
Dead Period: Feb. 2-5
Quiet Period: Feb. 6-28

SOFTBALL
Contact/Eval. Period: Feb. 1-28

VOLLEYBALL
Contact/Eval. Period: Feb. 1-28

SOCCER
Dead Period: Feb. 2-5

NONCOACHING STAFF MEMBER REMINDER
Noncoaching staff members may initiate telephone calls to prospects as follows: 1) after the prospect signs a NLI or other written commitment; 2) after the institution receives a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission; 3) calls in conjunction with the prospect’s official visit transportation and during the official visit; and 4) calls regarding institutional camp/clinic logistical issues. It is not permissible for a noncoaching staff member to initiate calls to a prospect the five days preceding the prospect’s official visit.

RANDOM TRIVIA
The word “PEZ” comes from the German word for peppermint—PfeffErminZ