

Best Practices for Division III Enhancing the Student Athlete Experience

These are suggestions made at the Saturday morning workshop.

Faculty and Coach Relationship

- *FAR send e-mail to all faculty about game schedules
(shows faculty interest)
- *invite AD, and coaches from time to time to faculty meetings
- initiate contact with contacts for specific student-athlete problem
- *request to be part of search committees for coaches
- *assist in recruiting process, be included as a stop on prospect's campus tour when available
- *make sure some coaches are included on athletic advisory committee if present
- *FAR and faculty visible at athletic events as schedule allows
- *faculty be aware of how teams are doing (FAR communication)
- *FAR send notes to comment on season or wish good luck for play offs

Missed Class Policies

- *Assist in developing a policy on your campus for any student involved in an activity where they might miss a class while representing the institution
- *work with the AD and coaches to establish schedules where the same days are not always missed
- *ask athletics to provide faculty with updates on postponed contests, and make-up schedules
- *have all student-athletes provide their instructors with schedules for the semester that includes departure times for away games
- *assist in providing procedures for exams "on the road"
- *have AD provide schedule and departures for teams involved in playoffs, and roster
- *use Blackboard or other online medium to assist students in keeping up with class material

Scheduling

- *make sure all student-athletes are aware of their earliest registration day/time
- *request that departments scheduling multiple sections always have an early section
- *have athletic department provide faculty with game schedule for upcoming semester to better assist their advisees in selecting sections
- *ask the AD to remind conference to take into consideration long travel times during week when scheduling
- *request priority scheduling for student-athletes to at least schedule ahead of their own class in order for them to access the early sections

Assisting Faculty to Understand the Demands on Student-Athletes, and Appreciate Their Efforts and Responsibility as Students First

- *provide team GPA averages
- *announce scholar-athlete awards, Academic All-Americans, conference academic awards, etc (see if they can be announce at Academic Honor's Convocation)
- *have academic recognition luncheon, have each senior invite one faculty member
- *promote SAAC activities

*select a “bench” faculty for each home game

*join Chi Alpha Sigma (academic honor society for student-athletes), announce student recipients

www.NCAHS.org National Student Athlete Honor Society