

NCAA POSITION ON SPORTS WAGERING

The NCAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering. Sports wagering has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and the intercollegiate athletics community. Sports wagering demeans the competition and competitors alike by sending a message that is contrary to the purposes and meaning of "sport." Sports competition should be appreciated for the inherent benefits related to participation of student-athletes, coaches and institutions in fair contests, not for the amount of money wagered on the outcome of the competition.

For these reasons, the NCAA membership has adopted specific rules prohibiting athletics department staff members and student-athletes from engaging in gambling activities as they relate to intercollegiate or professional sporting events.

Please note the following basic guidelines which NCAA game officials should adhere:

- Do not ever bet on a game—with anyone. All kinds of tactics will be used by gamblers to encourage your involvement.
- Do not associate with known or suspected bettors.
- Do not offer any opinions about any game to anyone—before or after a game.
- Do not put yourself in a compromising position through any personal misconduct.
- Do not accept favors or gifts from suspected or known bettors.
- Do not furnish any information about a game, players, coaches or officials to anyone except when following your conference's procedures.
- Do not hesitate to discuss any suspicious person(s) with your coordinator, who will notify investigative authorities. If necessary, a confidential investigation can be conducted. Always inform your coordinator and law enforcement officials any time an individual suggests (even apparently in fun) that you accept money to affect the outcome of a game.

Gambling not only is big business—it is dangerous. Your cooperation in the fight to combat it will not only protect intercollegiate competition from its harmful influences but will place one of your most important assets—your personal integrity—above reproach.

For further information, please contact Mark Strothkamp, NCAA associate director of enforcement, at 317/917-6222.