



## 2010-2011 STATEMENT REGARDING NCAA REGULATIONS AND THE NSSF GRANT PROGRAM

The National Scholastic Sports Foundation (NSSF) has received several inquiries regarding travel grants it awards to high school athletes under its Grants Program and the effect, if any, on the amateur eligibility of receiving athletes who plan on attending Division I or Division II colleges and universities. Some of these grants are used to assist athletes attend events the NSSF sponsors and hosts, such as the Nike Indoor Nationals and The New Balance Nationals, while other grants reimburse athletes for travel and accommodation expenses at other **Select Meets** of which the NSSF may be a contributing sponsor, such as the Simplot Games, Arcadia Invitational, and the Mobile Meet of Champions as well as to national championships hosted by our governing body, USA Track & Field.

NCAA Regulations permit reimbursement of actual and necessary travel and accommodation expenses incurred by an athlete attending competition sponsored by a non-professional organization such as the NSSF. It is important that the reimbursement be for specified and itemized expenses related to travel and accommodation of the athlete only. Recipients of our Grants receive a letter from the NSSF detailing the exact nature and amount of their travel grant.

While we are permitted to reimburse expenses for athletes, the same is not true of expenses of the parents or legal guardians of the athlete. Regulation 12.1.2.1.4.6 prohibits such reimbursement unless similar reimbursement is extended to the parents/legal guardians of *all* athletes attending the competition. We provide no reimbursement or other compensation for personal expenses of parents or legal guardians or coaches.

The foregoing statements are made in reliance on the following NCAA Rules reprinted from the NCAA Division I and Division II Manuals. Interested parties may contact the NCAA directly and reference **Call Log #671370** for further clarification and verification.

### 12.1.2.1 Prohibited Forms of Pay

“Pay” as used by Bylaw 12.2.1 above includes, but is not limited to, the following:

#### 12.1.2.1.4 Expenses and Benefits

Excessive or improper expenses, awards and benefits (see Bylaw 16 regarding permissible awards, benefits and expenses to enrolled student-athletes).

**12.1.2.1.4.3 Expenses from Outside Team or Organization.** Expenses received from an outside amateur sports team or organization *in excess of* actual and necessary travel, room and board expenses, and apparel and equipment (for individual and team use only from teams or organizations not affiliated with member institutions, including local sports clubs as set forth in Bylaw 13.11.2.3) for competition and practice held in preparation for such competition. Practice must be conducted in a continuous time period preceding the competition except for practice sessions conducted by a national team, which occasionally may be interrupted for specific periods of time preceding the competition. (*Revised: 1/10/90, 1/10/92*)

#### 12.1.2.1.4.4 Unspecified or Unitemized Expenses:

Payment to individual team members or individual competitors for unspecified or unitemized expenses **beyond** actual and necessary travel, room and board expenses for practice or competition.

#### 12.1.2.1.4.5 Expenses from Sponsor Other Than Parents/Legal Guardians or Nonprofessional Sponsor of Event.

Actual and necessary expenses or any other form of compensation to participate in athletics competition (while not representing an educational institution) from a sponsor other than an individual upon whom the athlete is naturally or legally dependent *or the nonprofessional organization that is sponsoring the competition.*

#### 12.1.2.1.4.6 Expenses for Parents/Legal Guardians of Participants in Athletics Competition.

Expenses received by the parents or legal guardians of a participant in athletics competition from a nonprofessional organization sponsoring the competition *in excess of* actual and necessary travel, room and

board expenses, or any entertainment expenses, provided such expenses are made available to the parents or legal guardians of all participants in the competition. (Adopted: 1/16/93, Revised: 1/11/97.