PERMISSIBLE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED
Athletics representatives are permitted to host an occasional meal in their home for a specific team or group of student-athletes. All meals must be pre-approved by SMU Athletics as there are monthly and annual limits to the number of meals that can be provided. Transportation may also be provided for student-athletes eating such a meal at an athletics representative’s home. Athletics representatives may also provide employment opportunities for student-athletes as long as positions are filled using regular hiring procedures and student-athletes are paid a similar rate to others in that position for work they actually perform. All student-athlete employment must be pre-approved by SMU Athletics. Please contact us before providing a meal or arranging employment for our student-athletes!

POSSIBLE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF NCAA RULES
Violating any NCAA rule, including all those mentioned in this document, can pose serious issues for SMU Athletics and the individuals involved. Penalties are levied by the NCAA Committee on Infractions or Enforcement staff in an effort to eliminate any competitive advantage or benefit received by our institution, teams, athletics staff or student-athletes. These penalties reflect the severity of the violation, and may include actions such as:

- Complete disassociation from specific athletics representatives over a specified period of time;
- Discontinuing recruitment of a prospective student-athlete;
- Reduction in recruiting activities for the sport program (e.g., reduced number of official visits);
- Loss of eligibility for an enrolled student-athlete (e.g., withholding from games);
- Repayment of the value of an extra benefit by the student-athlete before regaining eligibility;
- Post-season competition ban;
- Coaching suspensions; or
- Institutional probation.

QUESTIONS?
NCAA, American Athletic Conference, and Southern Methodist University rules are extensive and complex, and as such, they cannot all be covered here. We encourage fans to contact us directly should you have questions or concerns about any issue which might involve future Mustangs - prospective student-athletes, our current student-athletes, coaches or staff. It is our job to protect the interests of Southern Methodist University and SMU Athletics, which we cannot fully do without your help as a part of our team.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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RECRUITING
Recruiting draws the interest of many fans, but may only be conducted by SMU Athletics coaches and staff and SMU faculty members. Members of the public, including athletics representatives, may not be involved in any prospect’s recruitment. The following sections provide a general overview of the basic recruiting rules that apply to those who meet the definition of an athletics representative.

OFFERS AND INDUCEMENTS
Athletics representatives may not directly or indirectly provide or arrange for any financial aid, benefits, or gifts for a prospect or their family members or coaches unless permitted by an exception to NCAA rules. These rules apply regardless of whether similar financial aid or benefits are available to members of the general public or to other students who are not involved in athletics. Specifically prohibited items include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Funding a prospect’s visit to SMU;
- Arranging for employment for a prospect’s relative;
- A gift of clothing, equipment or any tangible item;
- Co-signing a loan;
- Free or reduced-cost services, housing, loans, rentals or purchases of any type; or
- Sponsorship of, or arrangement for, an awards banquet for high school, prep school or two-year college student-athletes by Southern Methodist University, the Letterman’s Association, Mustang Club or any other booster group.

OTHER RECRUITING RULES FOR ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVES
Do you know of a prospect who might be a great fit for our SMU teams? Athletics representatives may communicate a prospect’s name and information to SMU Athletics coaches, but may not be involved in their recruiting process. Athletics representatives may only have general conversations with prospects as long as the content of their discussion does not involve recruiting that athlete to attend SMU and they are not directed to do so by SMU staff. This extends to interaction with prospects via social media for purposes of recruiting them to SMU. Similarly, athletics representatives are welcome to attend sporting events where prospects are competing as long as attendance is not directed by a member of SMU Athletics staff and no contact is made with a prospect to discuss any aspect of their athletic recruitment. This prohibition extends to contacts with the prospect’s coach, high school principal or teachers in attempts to discuss his or her collegiate choice, or to evaluate the prospect athletically or academically.

EXTRA BENEFITS AND PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETES
NCAA rules permit current student and former student-athletes to receive various benefits from SMU Athletics in addition to their scholarships, including academic counseling and tutors, apparel and equipment, transportation for practice and competition, medical services, and specific meals related to their participation. However, benefits provided by athletics representatives are considered “extra benefits,” which are impermissible under NCAA rules. An extra benefit is defined as any benefit, gift, or service provided to a student-athlete that is not otherwise available to other SMU students or members of the public. Some specific benefits that are generally prohibited include:

- Cash or loans of any amount;
- Co-signing or arranging for a loan;
- Gifts or free services (ex: airline tickets, restaurant meals, gift cards, summer storage, concert tickets, etc.);
- Rent-free or reduced cost housing;
- Employment of a student-athlete at a rate higher than the normal average for that position and type of work;
- Transportation (other than transportation provided locally for an occasional meal - see “Permissible Ways to Get Involved”)
- Promise of employment or payment after college graduation; or
- Invitations to your home or property for purposes other than an occasional meal (e.g., boating, hunting)

Note: Some exceptions can be made for established relationships, but they must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by SMU Athletics prior to the provision of any benefits to a student-athlete.