

Dear Penguin Fans,

Youngstown State University, a member of the Horizon League, Gateway Football Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association, is responsible for insuring that representatives of YSU's athletics interest abide with NCAA regulations. The information provided on this flier is a brief overview of the rules that apply to YOU, the booster.

YSU Athletics is proud to have loyal supporters of our athletics programs. As we strive for excellence, we must always do so with the highest standard of ethical conduct. With your assistance, we believe we can accomplish both goals.

Thank you for your continued support and, as always, GO PENGUINS!!

Yours in Sports,

Ron Strollo
Executive Director of Athletics

Who is a Representative of Athletics Interest
(Commonly known as a "booster")

You are a YSU booster if you are involved with YSU in any of the following ways:

- Member of the Penguin Club
- Former YSU student-athlete
- Financial contributor to YSU Athletics or the Penguin Club (i.e. season ticket holders)
- Corporate entity (i.e. apparel or equipment manufacturers, Loge owners, etc.)
- Individual assisting YSU athletic staff in permissible recruitment activities
- Individuals providing permissible benefits to current YSU student-athletes or their families
- Anyone promoting YSU Athletics

Once an individual or organization is identified as a booster, they retain that identity indefinitely.

Can a booster help recruit a prospective student-athlete (commonly known as a "recruit")?

What a booster CAN do is:

- Call a YSU coaching staff member about a potential recruit

What a booster CANNOT do is:

- Offer or arrange any financial aid or benefits to a recruit or recruit's relatives or friends. This can include but is not limited to: employment arrangement for a relative; gift of clothing; cosigning a loan; cash or like items; any tangible items; free or reduced-cost services or housing.
- Telephone, email, or contact in any way a recruit or the recruit's relative or friends about YSU athletics.
- Meet a recruit when the recruit is visiting YSU's campus (i.e. tailgate lots, lunch, half-time of a game, etc.)

** Receipt of a benefit by student-athletes or their relatives is not a violation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the institution's general students or families.

Can a booster assist current YSU student-athletes?

A booster CAN provide current YSU student-athletes:

- An occasional meal in your home, but only for special occasions (i.e. holiday, birthday, team championship meal)
- Employment for work actually performed and at a rate commensurate with the going rate for that service
- Athletic scholarships by joining the Penguin Club

A booster CANNOT provide current YSU student-athletes:

- Benefits or financial arrangements for the student-athletes or the student-athletes relatives or friends. Examples include, but are not limited to: loan of money or item, such as an automobile; any type of gift; entertainment (this includes providing a candy bar or soda); free use of a telephone; room or board for family or friends of a student-athlete; reduced or free professional services; etc.

Contact Elaine Jacobs, Associate Director of Athletics, at 330-742-2282 or ejacobs@ysu.edu for more information.

Can a booster financially assist the YSU Coaching Staff?

A booster CAN provide YSU coaches:

- A direct cash payment in recognition for a specific extraordinary achievement (i.e. conference or national championship, career contribution to YSU athletics, etc.) provided it is on conformance with YSU policy.

A booster CANNOT provide YSU coaches:

- A supplemental salary or direct cash payment for an unspecified achievement. A booster could donate funds to YSU and YSU could use such funds to supplement a coach's salary.

