The culmination of the recruiting process takes place when a prospect signs the National Letter of Intent (NLI) with their chosen institution. By signing the NLI, the prospect becomes officially committed to the institution they sign with. For many of our teams at the University of Miami, November 8th marks the first point in a prospective student-athlete’s career that he or she is able to sign an NLI. During the signing period in November, all sports except football are allowed to sign prospects to NLIs. During the NLI signing period, the University of Miami will be receiving NLI’s faxed, e-mailed or mailed by prospective student-athletes who are committing to participate in intercollegiate athletics at UM. This is a good time to examine some of the most frequently asked questions regarding a prospect who has signed a National Letter of Intent.

Q. How long is a prospective student-athlete considered to be a prospect?
A. A prospective student-athlete remains a prospect even after signing a NLI or financial aid agreement to attend the University of Miami. The prospect, the University, and boosters are all governed by the recruiting regulations until the prospect completes all high school graduation requirements or all transfer academic eligibility requirements.

Q. Is it permissible for boosters to contact a prospect who has signed an NLI?
A. No on- or off-campus contact (including cards, email, texts or telephone calls) may be made to prospects or their parents by boosters.

Q. Is it permissible for a booster to arrange summer housing for a prospect who has signed an NLI?
A. No. NCAA rules prohibit boosters from making housing arrangements for student-athletes or prospects, even if they have signed an NLI to attend the University of Miami. For example, it is not permissible to offer reduced-rate rental opportunities to prospects.

Q. Is it permissible for a booster to assist a prospect who has signed an NLI with precollege expenses?
A. No. Neither the University of Miami nor its boosters are permitted to offer, provide, or arrange financial assistance to cover a prospect’s expenses for any period prior to their enrollment. This applies even to those prospects who have signed an NLI or financial aid agreement to attend the University of Miami.

Please contact the University of Miami Athletics Compliance Department with any questions regarding NCAA, ACC or University of Miami rules or regulations at athleticscompliance@miami.edu or 305-284-8232.

Remember, always ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!