

CASE SUMMARY

Former Iowa State Staff Members Violated Sports Betting Rules

Sports betting violations occurred at Iowa State when five former staff members placed impermissible online bets on professional and collegiate games, including Iowa State men's and women's basketball contests. The former staff members are Chase Clark, former assistant director of football equipment operations; Michael Dryer, former assistant equipment manager; Jace Heacock, former graduate assistant football coach; Kyle Highland, former football recruiting operations assistant; and Mason Williams, former associate for athletics equipment operations. The case was processed via negotiated resolution and was approved by the Division I Committee on Infractions.

Iowa State and the enforcement staff conducted a collaborative investigation that revealed the following betting activity:

- Clark placed 2,305 bets totaling approximately \$18,676 on professional and collegiate sports, including 46 bets on Iowa State men's and women's basketball teams.
- Dryer placed 1,182 bets totaling approximately \$11,536 on professional and collegiate sports, including 25 bets on Iowa State men's and women's basketball teams.
- Heacock placed 787 bets totaling approximately \$55,359 on professional and collegiate sports.
- Highland placed 509 bets totaling approximately \$6,365 on professional and collegiate sports, including eight bets on Iowa State men's and women's basketball teams.
- Williams placed 1,455 bets totaling approximately \$11,679 on professional and collegiate sports, including 12 bets on Iowa State men's and women's basketball teams.

The investigation confirmed that Iowa State provided the staff members with sports betting rules education, and the five individuals all admitted knowing their activities violated NCAA sports betting rules.

In October 2024, NCAA rules went into effect allowing sports betting violations that do not compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or involve lack of institutional oversight to be processed at different levels for the involved individual and school. Based on the nexus to college sports and bets on the involved individual's own school for Clark, Dryer, Highland and Williams, and the number and total dollar amount of bets for Heacock, the case has been classified as Level II-Standard for the individuals. The school's portion of the case has been processed separately as a Level III violation.

Clark, Dryer, Heacock, Highland and Williams each agreed to the following penalties:

- A one-year show-cause order in which any employing institution must require the involved individual to attend the annual NCAA Regional Rules Seminar at his own expense.
- A two-week suspension during the first year of employment within the show-cause period, in which the involved individual cannot participate in any athletics activities, which includes being present or communicating with equipment or athletics staff members or student-athletes.

Members of the Committee on Infractions are drawn from the NCAA membership and public. The panel members who reviewed this case are:

- Rich Ensor, former commissioner of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference and chief hearing officer for the panel.
- Vince Nicaastro, deputy commissioner of the Big East Conference.
- Norman Bay, attorney in private practice.