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Sports Management Newsletter

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FAQs

[Q: Are there Title IX athletics program assessment instruments or guides available online?](#)

[Q: Does a "dress code" make sense for athletics departments or organizations conducting physical activity programs?](#)

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Dear Management Professional,



This issue focuses on two current issues -- sexual harassment and significant challenges facing college basketball. Then, on the leadership development front, we address the requirements for political success, because we know that every athletics manager must engage in the art of influencing others. Each free monthly SMR newsletter covers similar timely management topics plus a selection of frequently asked questions (FAQs). Feel free to submit an FAQ for the next issue. Click on the button to the left to subscribe.

Title IX and Sexual Harassment



Title IX isn't just about equal sports participation opportunities and providing equal treatment and benefits for female student-athletes. Schools and colleges also have an obligation under Title IX to establish and publicize sexual harassment policies and procedures, a significant concern on college campuses. While policies and grievance procedures fulfill the letter of the law, only the regular conduct of educational programs for staff members and athletes will be effective in changing behaviors, thereby fulfilling the spirit of this legislation. [Learn more.](#)

College Basketball -- Significant Challenges Facing Athletics Managers



The Final Four may be over, but we're right in the middle of basketball recruiting and considerable debate on the challenges facing this sport. It's a good time for athletics administrators to take a hard look at some of the [top issues facing college basketball](#) -- from recruiting 10th graders to mechanisms that might address reducing the pressures facing players and coaches. Whenever significant dollars are at stake, trouble is not far behind. All of these issues will undoubtedly be addressed by NCAA legislation in the near future.

Ten Commandments for Political Success



Politics is nothing more than the art of influencing others to believe or act in a certain way. In the case of sports, every athletics manager "politicks" daily with donors, the media, institutional staff members and their administrative superiors to get the resources needed for the success of their programs. While "politicking" requires good communications skills, it also requires so much more with regard to preparation and relationship building. Check out this [top ten list](#) for managers wanting to achieve political success.

Most athletics departments are understaffed. When you consider just the workloads involved in hosting hundreds of athletics events each year to protecting institutional integrity, ensuring rules compliance and executing a myriad of other responsibilities, it's hard to get to the additional demands of evaluating existing practices, performing gender equity assessments or rules compliance audits or even getting that strategic plan done. That's where getting the help of a consultant provides the short term, cost effective extra set of hands that may make the difference between a good program and a great one. Feel free to call 203-371-8577 to explore how SMR might help and check out the [SMR Library](#) for other information and resources or the [SMR Blog](#) for opinions on current scholastic and collegiate sports issues as well as general management topics. Suggestions for future newsletter topics are always welcome.

Sincerely,

Donna A. Lopiano, President
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