

February 22, 1941

Mr. W. B. Wilson
Chairman of Athletic Committee
Ottawa University
Ottawa, Kansas

Dear Professor Wilson:

In answer to your very good letter of the 14th instant concerning the attitude of the Big Six Conference to the A. A. U. and Ban Johnson teams which compete with our University squad, I beg to state that we are not permitted to schedule games with any athletic institution except schools giving Baccalaureate degrees with 120 hour requirements. We are not permitted to play Haskell or any junior college or anyone below our academic rank.

Doubtless the Big Six will make a rule similar to the one that the Big Ten has made and permit us to schedule games with army and navy athletic teams as was done in the last war. As yet the Big Six has not taken this step.

You are exactly right, but while they are not professional, they do not harmonize with our athletic set-up.

Here is our ruling, Professor Wilson. When an athlete is in school, he is not permitted to play in any outside competition during his enrollment in the institution even though he is not at that time competing on an athletic team. May I state it in another way? Ralph Miller who is now in school is not competing on any of our varsity teams, but if during the year that he is enrolled he would participate in any A. A. U. or outside team, he would be barred from further competition at the University.

Many of our schools do not have jurisdiction over their athletes when they are not enrolled in the school. But during the time that they are enrolled they are permitted to participate on no other team regardless of their athletic participation in this school.

Now regarding summer baseball. If any athletes desire to play summer baseball, it is necessary for them to secure permission from our faculty representative. They will state where they are to play and that they are not receiving monetary consideration from any organized baseball association. Of course, they could play with town teams and with the so-called industrial leagues. These are not frowned upon. This rule provides a way to keep track of the boys and see that they are not signed up with organized baseball play under an assumed name.