Welcome to the Law School's course on Sports Law. I hope you find this class to be interesting and rewarding. In this memorandum, I will try to give you some idea of what this course is about and the nature of the material we will be studying. In addition, this Course Introduction contains most of the rules and procedures that will be in effect during the course. Please read this with care, because most of its contents will not be repeated in class.

There really is no substantive body of "Sports Law." Instead, a course on Sports Law involves the study of the application of traditional bodies of law within the context of amateur and professional sports. Specifically, we will study administrative and constitutional law (NCAA); contract law (coaches and professional athletes); anti-trust (NCAA & professional sports), labor law (professional sports); torts (e.g. premises liability, worker’s compensation); and discrimination law (coaches & athletes). When I was a student eons ago, I found the Sports Law course to provide an interesting setting in which to learn these areas of law. I hope you will too. I also hope that upon completion of the semester, you will have a general working knowledge of each of these areas of law. However, please remember that this is a survey course, intended only to introduce you to the major areas and issues of Sports Law. Lawyers working in the sports industry, whether at the amateur or professional level, must acquire a much greater familiarity with these different substantive areas of the law. You might find interesting the discussion of the Sports Law program at Florida Coastal School of Law which has a Center for Law & Sports and usually offers no less than 7 different sports law courses.

Covering all of the material in a single semester 2 credit hour course is a daunting task. Therefore, we will move rather quickly. Fortunately, I think you will find the cases a little easier to read just because the facts will be more interesting and familiar (at least until we cover anti-trust).

**Required Text:** You must obtain a copy of the following:


**Assignments:** As law texts go, this book is not very long. I will use many supplementary materials in the class. I will likely post these on TWEN. Thus, you must sign on to TWEN, and you must read the posted materials to prepare for class. Because this class is comprised of upper class students, I do not intend to conduct it as a first year class is conducted. We will learn the material by reading
it and discussing it in class. In order for a discussion format to work, you must be prepared for each class.

**Attendance:** I must take attendance. The rules of the law school require it. I will do so by circulating an attendance sheet during each class. Please be sure that you sign it. Your signature on the attendance sheet establishes your presence during that class period. Correlatively, the lack of such a signature conclusively establishes your absence. Therefore, be certain to sign the attendance sheet each day. Under the rules of the School of Law, you would normally be entitled to a number of absences equaling three times the number of credit hours. However, because this class meets only twice a week, you may accumulate no more than four (4) absences. More than four (4) absences will result in withdrawal from the class.

**Grading:** I have not yet decided how to grade this class. I'll probably use a take-home final of some kind.

**Office Hours:** I have not established formal office hours, although I may yet do so. I will likely be here most days. As you should already know, my office is Room 211, on the second floor. I prefer NOT to meet with students on Monday & Tuesday mornings, as I will need that time to make final preparations for class. Otherwise, feel free to stop in anytime.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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*Introduction*

Throughout the reading assignments, the text will provide questions and problems. You should consider them a part of your reading assignment and be prepared to discuss them when called upon. In addition, I will likely assign specific problems to specific students throughout the semester, with the expectation that the students prepare written responses and make brief presentations in class. If time allows, I think we should attend a sports event together, maybe a Cardinals game (Wrigley & U.S. Cellular are too far to drive). If someone can arrange tickets and transportation, the Super Bowl or the Masters would work as well. We'll see. In the meantime, let's play ball!!!

Now for the formal announcement:

*Emergency Procedures.* Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on
campus, available on BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. **It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.** The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

Mark Brittingham