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The following is the result of the investigation by the NCBA into Florida International University (FIU) playing a player that is not eligible for the 2014/15 season.

Investigation:

The NCBA was contacted by Florida Tech Club Baseball President, Andrew Todd, concerning an issue he suspected within the FIU Club Baseball team and their roster. Andrew contacted South Atlantic Regional Director Eric Curitore the Monday following their 3 game series with FIU. He was interested in protesting the 3 games due to one of FIU's players (Ubaldo Urrutia) not actually being eligible through NCBA rules, even though his profile on the NCBA site reflects he is. On the NCBA site, Ubaldo's profile states he initially enrolled in college full time at FIU in 2014.

Andrew referenced NCBA rule 7.09.0

7.09.0 Each student-athlete shall complete his five seasons of participation in intercollegiate baseball within six calendar years from the beginning of the semester or quarter in which the student-athlete first registered for a minimum full time program of studies in a collegiate institution, with time spent in the armed services, on official church missions or with recognized foreign aid services of the U.S government being excepted.

Florida Tech appropriately filed a protest the Monday following the series. They mentioned overhearing several FIU players talk about Ubaldo Urrutia's eligibility which initially raised a red flag to them. Soon after, Andrew Todd decided to look up Ubaldo Urrutia's Facebook profile and saw Ubaldo has been taking college classes since 2008. Per NCBA rule 7.09.0, Ubaldo's eligibility determined on when he initially enrolled full time to start his 6 year opportunity window to participate in the NCBA.

South Atlantic Regional Director Eric Curitore immediately called Gustavo Garcia, FIU Club Baseball President, to look into the situation. Gustavo wasn't 100% sure of Ubaldo's past academic history, so he provided Eric with Ubaldo's email and phone number.

After initially speaking with Ubaldo, he wasn't 100% clear of his academic status back at the College he was enrolled in 2008. Through multiple exchanges via email and phone through February 25th – March 2nd, official transcripts were finally received by the NCBA on March 2nd. Ubaldo's transcripts noted he enrolled in 12 credit hours back in the Spring of 2009, making him full time at that moment. Full time enrollment in Spring 2009 would put any player in their 7th year heading into the 2014/15 season – which violates NCBA rule 7.09.0

08/09 season – Year 1
09/10 season – Year 2
10/11 season – Year 3
11/12 season – Year 4
12/13 season – Year 5
13/14 season – Year 6
14/15 season – Year 7



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It is determined that Ubaldo Urrutia is ineligible to compete in the NCBA in the 2014/15 season and that FIU was playing an ineligible player in their games.

Florida Tech has provided the NCBA with copies of the scorebook from all 3 games, reflecting Ubaldo's participation in all 3 games.

Conclusion:

With this information the NCBA has laid out the following disciplinary action for FIU Club Baseball.

- Ubaldo Urrutia will NEVER be eligible to compete in the NCBA nor will he be able to hold "Officer" or "Coach" status with any club baseball program in the NCBA from this point forward.
- FIU will forfeit all victories achieved (3) that Ubaldo Urrutia participated in. Scores have been changed to 7-0, 7-0 & 9-0 forfeit victories and stats from these games have been removed.
- FIU club baseball team will be placed on Probation for the entire 2014-15 and 2015-16 seasons.

Eric Curitore
National Club Baseball Association
South Atlantic Regional Director