



DEVELOPING PLAYERS FOR LIFE.

## The Recruiting Process

The college recruiting process is a once in the lifetime experience. If not properly prepared, it can be a confusing and intimidating process. Follow these steps to better prepare yourself for the recruiting process. IDENTIFY SCHOOLS BEFORE THEY IDENTIFY YOU:

In other words, be proactive. Don't wait for schools to contact you. Identify 15 schools that you are interested in learning more about. Divide them up into 3 sections of 5 schools each.

**1st Five: The Home Run** -- These schools possess a combination of athletics and academics that will stretch the student-athlete to his/her abilities.

**2nd Five: The Sweet Spot** -- These schools possess a combination of athletics and academics that the student-athlete feels best fits his/her academic and athletic abilities.

**3rd Five: The Safety Net** -- These schools will provide the student athlete with an excellent academic environment (core course gpa, SAT/ACT score) but might not quite be at the athletic level the student-athlete would prefer.

These 3 categories are constantly evolving. Upon further evaluation, you will find that some of these schools may move from The Safety Net to The Sweet Spot, and so on. Other schools will fall out of groups all together. Once a school is removed from a group, it is important to introduce a new school into the evaluation process.

It is also important to identify a school's athletic needs. Will you be able to set right into a playing situation? Does your style of play fit the schools style?

THE SCHOOL IDENTIFIES YOU:

One of the first steps a school will take when identifying its scholarship candidates is to mail out a questionnaire to a student athlete. This can take place as early as a student's freshman year, but generally does not take place until a student's junior year. Remember, first impressions go a long way. Make sure you

write neatly when filling these questionnaires out. Replying promptly is also a good way to make a solid first impression.

Throughout the recruiting process, recruits will receive letters and phone calls from prospective schools. Colleges are restricted to the times of year when they may contact a student.

Be prepared when a recruiter calls. Remember, while the coaches attempt to learn more about you, it is important for you to learn more about the coach and the college they represent.

#### IMPORTANT NCAA RULE CHANGE:

As of August 1, 2007 all student-athletes must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center prior to making any official school visits or receiving a written offer of athletically related financial aid.

## Recruiting Facts

### SCHOLARSHIP FACTS

- Did you know? There is no such thing as a "Full Ride." ALL scholarships are 1-year renewable deals.
- Only 3% of high school student-athletes receive a scholarship.
- Less than 1% of high school student-athletes receive a 4-year Division I scholarship.
- 83% of scholarship opportunities are NOT on the Division I level.
- 90% of the 2,000+ colleges and universities in America DO NOT play sports on a Division 1 level. So, you if you focus on "going D1," you are missing out on 90% of the opportunities to play sports in college.
- Are you sure you run a 4.40 forty? Only 3 of the 329 players invited to this year's NFL Combine posted a 40 speed of 4.40 or better.
- Men's Division I football and basketball and women's Division I volleyball, basketball, tennis and gymnastics are the ONLY scholarships which may NOT be divided (this, however, does not guarantee 100% funding for each scholarship). ALL other scholarships for all other sports and divisions may be sub-divided, and most commonly are.
- 80% of financial assistance is realized AFTER January 1 of the senior year.

## Questions to ask Recruiters

College coaches and recruiters will ask you plenty of questions during your recruiting process to learn more about you. And, it is just as important that you ask them questions too. Just as recruiters are trying to find players that best fit their program, you need to find out which schools best fit you.

The NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has developed a list of questions that you can ask recruiters to help you choose the best school for you.

### ATHLETIC QUESTIONS

1. What position will I play on our team?
2. Can you describe the other players competing at my position?
3. Can I "redshirt" my freshman year?
4. What are the physical requirements each year?
5. How would you best describe your coaching style?
6. What is your game plan?
7. When does the contract of the head coach expire?
8. Please describe the preferred, invited and uninvited walk-on situation.
9. How many make it, compete and earn scholarships?
10. Is medical insurance required for my participation?
11. If so, is it provided by the college?
12. If I am serious hurt while competing, who is responsible for my medical expenses?
13. What happens if I want to transfer to another school?

### ACADEMIC QUESTIONS

1. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the academic department I choose to major in?
2. Describe your academic support program.
3. What percentage of players on scholarship graduate in 4 years?
4. If I am diagnosed and documented with a disability, what kind of academic services are available?
5. Are there restrictions in scheduling classes around practice?

### COLLEGE LIFE

1. What is the typical class size?
2. What are the residence halls like?
3. Will I be required to live on campus throughout my athletic career?
4. What is a typical day for a student-athlete?

### FINANCIAL AID

1. What are the details of financial aid at your institution?
2. How long does a scholarship last? Year-to-year or is it a 4 year commitment?
3. If I am injured, what happens to my financial aid?
4. What are my opportunities for employment while I am a student?
5. How much financial aid is available for summer school?
6. Under what circumstances would my scholarship be reduced or cancelled?
7. Are there academic criteria needed to maintain my scholarship?
8. What scholarship money is available if I suffer an athletic career ending injury?
9. What scholarship money is available after eligibility is exhausted to help me complete my degree?
10. Will my scholarship be maintained if there is a change in coaches?

# Recruiting Rules

## *Summary of Recruiting Rules for Division II*

### **Sophomore Year**

Recruiting materials -- You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires.

Telephone Calls -- You may make calls to coach at your expense only. College coach cannot call you. (Ice Hockey - if you are an international prospect, a college coach may call you once in July after sophomore year.)

Off-campus contact -- none allowed

Official visits -- none allowed

Unofficial visits -- You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.

### **Junior Year**

Recruiting materials -- You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year.

Telephone Calls -- You may make calls to the coach at your expense. College coaches may call you once a week starting July 1st after your junior year. (Ice Hockey - if you are an international prospect, a college coach may call you once in July after sophomore year.)

Off-campus contact -- Allowed starting July 1 after your junior year. For gymnastics - allowed after July 15 after your junior year.

Official visits -- none allowed

Unofficial visits -- You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.

### **Senior Year**

Recruiting materials -- Allowed

Telephone Calls -- You may make calls to the coach at your expense. A college coach may contact you once per week.

Off-campus contact -- Allowed

Official visits -- Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Divisions I and II colleges.

Unofficial visits -- You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.

Evaluations and contacts -- Up to seven times during your senior year.

Off-campus contact -- A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians not more than three times during your senior year.

## ***Summary of Recruiting Rules for Division II***

ALL SPORTS

Recruiting materials -- A coach may begin sending you printed recruiting materials September 1 of your junior year in high school.

Telephone Calls -- A college coach may call you once per week beginning June 15 between your junior and senior year. You may make calls to the coach at your expense.

Off-campus contact -- A college coach can have contact with you or your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus beginning June 15 after your junior year. A college coach is limited to three in person contacts off campus.

Official visits -- You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year. You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Divisions I and II colleges.

Unofficial visits -- You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.

## ***Summary of Recruiting Rules for Division III***

ALL SPORTS

Recruiting materials -- You may receive printed materials anytime.

Telephone Calls -- No limit on number of calls or when they can be made by the college coach. You may make calls to the coach at your expense.

Off-campus contact -- A college coach may begin to have contact with you and your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus after your junior year.

Official visits -- You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year. You may make only one official visit per college.

Unofficial visits -- You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.

## **Social Media Recruiting Rules**

### **Divisions I and II**

NCAA rules do not allow comments about possible recruits on an institution's social media page or a page belonging to someone affiliated with the institution. In addition, these pages cannot feature photos of prospects and messages cannot be sent to recruits using social media technologies other than through their e-mail function. All electronically transmitted correspondence including, but not limited to, text messaging, Instant Messenger, chat rooms or message boards [e.g., a user's wall] within a social networking Web site or through other services or applications is impermissible.

Coaches may use Twitter as long as they are not using it to contact individual prospective student-athletes and are abiding by the standard recruiting rules such as not discussing specific recruits.

### **Division III**

Division III allows coaches and schools to utilize social networking sites to advertise their programs, but prohibits them from using the site for direct person-to-person contact with an individual potential student-athlete. Any member of the general public must be able to access the site and become a member of the group to which the electronic transmission is sent and electronic transmissions must be the same for each group. A "follower" or "friend" does not count as direct contact.

## **Do-It-Yourself Recruiting Service- Using CoreCourseGPA.com**

The overwhelming opinion of athletic high school administrators is that recruiting services are very often an unnecessary, underachieving, and expensive means to manage the recruiting process. For that reason, CoreCourseGPA.com has developed a step-by-step, "Do-It-Yourself" recruiting service. Follow the steps below to have the person who best knows your son/daughter manage their recruiting...you!

YouTube - Upload your child's highlight video on [YouTube](#). (Do NOT add background music - it will only drive the college coaches nuts.)

Student-Athlete Profile - Use MS Word to create your child's profile summary and save as a PDF. The profile should include name, address, phone number(s), email address, academic and athletic accomplishments. Be honest when creating the profile. If your daughter is 5'5", list 5'5", not 5'9". If your son runs a 4.70 forty, list a 4.70 forty, not 4.50. The college coaches know better and could potentially hold it against you later.

CoreCourseGPA.com Initial Eligibility Report - Save the PDF version of your CoreCourseGPA.com status report to attach to your emails.

Email Coaches - Thanks to modern technology, the days of mailing "recruiting packets" are over. Locate the email address of the college coach of your choice using the [College Links](#) feature. Include the YouTube video link(s) in the email and attach your child's profile and CoreCourseGPA.com Eligibility Report.

Follow up with a phone call - Keep in mind, the college coach may or may not be able to take your call, or even return your phone call, depending on the time of year. Make sure you check your sport-specific [Recruiting Calendar](#).