

# COLLEGE RECRUITING PROCEDURES

Many high school athletes have the skills and ability to play in college but do not know what steps they need to take in order to give themselves the best chance to play at the next level. The following outline will provide the steps necessary to help determine the reality of playing in college.

- A. Grades Unless student athletes maintain a solid GPA, their chances of playing in college are minimal. Most colleges will look at an athlete's GPA, ACT and SAT test scores first before considering recruiting an athlete. It is recommended that an athlete take the ACT and SAT tests no later than spring of his/her junior year.
- B. Identify Typically, during an athlete's freshman and sophomore years, coaches will identify athletes who they believe have the potential to play at the next level. Coaches spend the most time with athletes and have the greatest knowledge about their talent.
- C. Reality Check Often athletes need an honest assessment about their skills and athletic ability. The input from coaches and other third party observers should be used to help evaluate an athlete's potential to play at the next level.
- D. Getting Noticed "If you build it, they will come" is a quote from the movie Field of Dreams. In the recruiting process, that quote could be changed to "if you perform, they will come". At any classification, whether it is 1A or 5A, if an athlete consistently performs at a high level, that athlete will have a good chance of receiving attention from college recruiters. In addition to being noticed while competing for their high school teams, the chance of gaining attention greatly increases if an athlete plays on a club team, plays in summer leagues, attend camps held at a college campus etc. Most college coaches or their representatives' scout at club tournaments, summer league games and camps, hence creating more exposure for an athlete.
- E. Choose Colleges Create three lists by picking the top five schools, the second five and the third five schools where you wish to play. Refer to section "C" above and ask your coach and/or knowledgeable third parties to review your lists and provide you with an evaluation of your choices and possibly create a new list. Note: Many athletes may already have been contacted by colleges if they were noticed pursuant to section "D". Additionally, your high school coach may have college contacts and knowledge of schools where an athlete would be a good fit.
- F. Contact Colleges When an athlete has compiled a list of colleges for which he/she wishes to play, the athlete, not the parent, should contact the college by letter, email or phone expressing interest in playing for the school. Where appropriate, a DVD containing 45 to 60 seconds of highlights and the athlete's best game should be prepared in the event a college would like one sent to them. College Athletic Departments receive hundreds of DVD's every year, so do not send them one unless they request one to be sent.
- G. NCAA Clearing House If an athlete is considering a Division I or Division II school, the athlete needs to register with the NCAA Clearing House by the beginning of his/her junior year. This can be done by going to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). This website will provide you with all the information you need to process with a Division I or Division II school. The athlete should also be in contact with their high school college counselor at this time. If you are looking at Division III or NAIA schools, you should contact the schools in which you have an interest and discuss with them their requirements.
- H. College Recruiting Services There are many services that offer to help athletes find a college at which they can play. Be sure to do your research if you are considering employing one of these services.
- I. Recruiting References There are numerous publications that help you through the process of college recruiting. A couple of sources you can reference are America's Complete Sports Scholarship Guide by Mark Bercik and The Athletic Recruiting & Scholarship Guide by Wayne Mazzoni.