

**College Athletic Recruitment
Workshop
November 11, 2010**

If you wish to play collegiate sports, there are many opportunities available:

- The NCAA (Division I, II, III)
- The NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics)



One of the most important responsibilities that you have is to pick the level that fits you best

Probability of Competing in Athletics Beyond High School

Student-Athletes	M. Basketball	W. Basketball	Baseball	Ice Hockey	M. Soccer
HS S-A	552,935	449,450	478,029	36,667	383,561
HS Senior S-A	157,981	128,414	136,580	10,476	109,589
NCAA S-A	17,081	15,307	30,386	4,006	21,031
NCAA Freshman Roster Openings	4,880	4,373	8,682	1,145	6,009
NCAA Senior S-A	3,796	3,402	6,752	890	4,674
NCAA S-A Drafted	44	32	600	33	76
% HS to NCAA	3.1	3.4	6.4	10.9	5.5
% NCAA to Pro	1.2	0.9	8.9	3.7	1.6
% HS to Pro	0.03	0.02	0.44	0.31	0.07

***Note:** These percentages are based on estimated data and should be considered approximations of the actual percentages.

****All information and data is from the National Collegiate Athletic Association Website. www.ncaa.org**

Commitment

- In Season

- Max 20 hours per week
 - Compare to 8-10 in HS
- Max 4 hours per day
 - Compare to 2 in HS
- Must have 1 day off per week
 - Usually used for “video day” or “travel day”
- DOES NOT INCLUDE:
 - Pre-season, post-season, school vacation practice

- Out of Season

- Max 8 hours per week
- Must have 2 days off per week
- DOES NOT INCLUDE:
 - Practice held by players without coaches
 - Summer workouts (without coaches)

The starting line-self assessment

- **THE GOAL IS TO GET YOUR EDUCATION!!!**
- Academic, athletic and career goals
- Campus setting-east coast, west coast, urban, rural, large, small
- Talk to your coaches (Gerstell & outside) about your athletic ability level
- Begin to research the opportunities and commitment level at DI, DII, DIII—talk to friends/family who have played college athletics

COLLEGE COACHES LOOK FOR:

ATHLETICISM / LOVE OF THE GAME

- Sport-specific skills
- Competitiveness and physical/mental stamina
- Athletic ability (i.e. skills, size, strength, speed, agility)
- Potential to grow and mature (not potential to grow up and be mature)
- Team players—team goals supersede personal goals

CHARACTER

- Athletes who play hard on every play until the whistle is blown

ACADEMICS

“Can the student-athlete gain admission, graduate on time with a meaningful degree and project a positive image for the college while playing for us?”



Coaches--variety is the spice of life

Athletes should consider:



- Coaching style
- How does that coach motivate players?
- Coaches need players who will be academically eligible to play (studying and maintaining grades are important!)
- Coaches want players who will not be a disruption to the team/coaching staff. The student athlete must behave appropriately outside of athletics.
- Be honest with the coaches recruiting you; look for those being honest with you.
- The admissions office makes the decision. The coach will have some say (possibly a lot if you are a “blue chip”) in the process, however, it is the job of the admissions office to determine academic viability.

Some things to consider

- They don't own you, but they are investing time, effort, and money in you.
- If you are invited to campus for a visitation day or open house, and you are interested, you should be there. If not, why are you pursuing that school?
- College athletics is more demanding in terms of time commitment than high school athletics. This is a year-round commitment.
- The physical and mental expectations are much greater than high school.

THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

(Formerly the NCAA Clearinghouse)

- ❑ All student-athletes who have aspirations to play at the NCAA Division I or Division II levels must register (two steps):
 - ❑ Academic (initial eligibility)
 - ❑ Amateurism
- ❑ The Division I and Division II initial-eligibility requirements:
 - 16 core courses are required when entering a Division I institution.
 - Beginning with the Class of 2013, 16 core courses are required for DII institutions
 - You must graduate from high school with a minimum 2.0 GPA in your core courses.
 - You must have a minimum qualifying score on the SAT or ACT
 - DI – sliding scale; DII – 820 SAT, 68 ACT (sum of four ACT sections)
 - Must register prior to making official visits and in order to practice, compete and receive athletic financial aid in their first year of enrollment:
 - **At beginning of the junior year register at www.eligibilitycenter.org**
 - \$60 Fee
 - **Request official transcript be sent to NCAA after junior year**
 - Request final high school transcript be sent after graduating
- ❑ Amateurism:
 - Fill out Amateurism Questionnaire Online

THE RECRUITING PROCESS (DI/DII):

Step I – Prospecting/Initial contact

- At some point during the sophomore year.
- Recruiting letters/player profiles, sports resume.
- Inform your Gerstell coach of your interests/prospects
- Response from coach expresses interest.



Step 2 - Recruiting

- DI and DII must follow specific recruiting guidelines which can differ by sport
- Guidelines govern telephone calls, faxes, in person contacts, off campus contacts, email, texting, evaluation days, highlight films and more.

THE RECRUITING PROCESS:

Step 3 - Coaches Evaluate

- Recruiting contact between coach, athlete, high school coach, administrator, and college counselor

Step 4 - Campus Visit (Official / Unofficial)

- The athlete and family are invited to visit the school
- Division I & II for official visits
- Visits to DIII schools do not count as official visits

THE RECRUITING PROCESS:



Step 5 - Scholarship Offer

- Verbal offers (athletic scholarship) can be made prior to the senior year in high school. Verbal offers and verbal commitments are not binding on either the student athlete side or the college side. Giving your “Word”.

Step 6 - Commitment

- Some non-scholarship schools (DIII) offer “Early Decision” admissions programs. No letter of intent is signed, however, ED may be a factor in the recruiting process. Early Decision is a binding agreement with the admissions office.
- The National Letter of Intent (NLI) is a binding agreement between the Student Athlete & the college / university. www.national-letter.org

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS (DI/DII)

- Athletics Financial Aid (Scholarship) at Division I and II Institutions are:
 - based on athletic ability.
 - limited to one year and are renewable each academic year (there are no four year athletics scholarships).
 - awarded in a variety of amounts, ranging from full (tuition, room and board, books) to partial scholarships (books only).
- May be renewed, reduced, increased or canceled from year to year for almost any reason
- Each year the financial aid authority of the institution (not the athletic department) must inform the student-athlete in writing as to whether athletics financial aid will be awarded for the upcoming academic year. You have an opportunity to appeal a decision.

THE RECRUITING PROCESS: DIVISION III

The NCAA does not regulate the recruiting practices of Division III Institutions to the degree that it regulates those of Division I & II Institutions. In spite of this, the phases of the recruiting process remains very similar.

Student-athletes aspiring to participate at this level are not required to register with the Initial-Eligibility Center or complete the Amateurism Questionnaire. DIII schools are not bound by the National Letter of Intent. Typically DIII institutions set very high standards for their students and determine amateur status at the institutional level.

Given that Division III schools are not working with scholarship money (those qualified receive a financial aid package), the process is driven by demonstrations of interest on each side.

THE RECRUITING PROCESS: DIVISION III

PHASE I

Initial Contact: This typically comes in the form of a questionnaire (website or paper). Student sends introductory cover letters and player profiles.

PHASE II

Evaluation: If the student-athlete returns the initial questionnaire, many coaches will make contact (telephone or email) and (if the prospect appears to be interested) attend a regular-season game in order to evaluate whether this level of play is appropriate for the student-athlete's abilities.

PHASE III

Campus Visit / Application: Once the coaching staff has attended a couple of games (The more they want you, the more they'll see you), they will invite the student-athlete onto campus for a visit. The visit typically consists of a tour, lunch and a meeting with the head coach. Coaches may invite recruits for overnight visits—rooming with a current team member.

DIVISION III continued

PHASE IV

Financial Aid Package: Packages typically consist of grant, loan and work study monies. **AGAIN--ACADEMICS REALLY MATTER!** The attractiveness of the package which a student receives may be dependent upon how well the student fits the academic profile of the school. (By NCAA rules, students at the Division III level are not to be designated as “prospective student-athletes” because financial aid is not to any degree based on athletics.)

The better the student’s academic profile, the more grant money, and less loan and work study money received. Those students who are academically and athletically attractive to the institution receive the most grant money, thus are most encouraged to enroll.

PHASE V

If the coaching staff regards you as a top recruit and believes you are “on the fence” in terms of enrolling, a coach may call or conduct a home visit in an effort to show the prospective student-athlete the high degree to which they are interested.

FINANCIAL AID (NON-ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS)

- Can be granted for any reason other than athletics (Academics, Service & Leadership, Clubs & Activities, etc) Another reason why academic record is important!
- Based on the individual's application file at each individual college/university
- File your college applications early, particularly at rolling admissions schools (by October of Senior Year)
- Be thorough when you fill out your college applications, include all activities, clubs, etc. School & non-school related

Marketing Yourself

- Assess for “fit” first—do not spend unnecessary time and effort on schools which are unrealistic based on your athletic skills or academic profile.
- Is a recruiting camp/combine/showcase for you?
 - AAU or elite regional tournament
- Recruiting service—are they for you?
- Create a player profile/sports resume
 - contact info including jersey number
 - schedule info
 - important statistics (athletic and academic)
 - Picture with jersey number clearly visible
 - character info
- Create a Highlight DVD
- Online options for highlight video



Recruiting Regulations: TERMINOLOGY

- **Contact**: A contact occurs any time a coach has any face-to-face contact with you or your parents off the college campus and says more than “hello”. A contact also occurs if a coach has any contact with you or your parents at your school or any location where you are competing or practicing.
- **Contact Period**: During this time, a college coach **may** have in-person contact with you and/or your parents on or off the college’s campus. The coach **may** also watch you play or visit your high school. You and your parents **may** visit a college campus and the coach **may** write and telephone you during this period.
- **Dead Period**: A college coach **may not** have any in-person contact with you or your parents on or off campus at any time during a dead period. The coach **may** write and telephone you or your parents during this time.
- **Evaluation Period**: During this time, a college coach **may** watch you play or visit your high school, but **cannot** have any in-person conversations with you or your parents off the college’s campus. You and your parents **can** visit a college campus during this period. A coach **may** write and telephone you or your parents during this time.
- **Quiet Period**: During this time, a college coach **may not** have any in-person contact with you or your parents off the college’s campus. The coach **may not** watch you play or visit your high school during this period. You and your parents **may** visit a college campus during this time. A coach **may** write or telephone you or your parents during this time.

NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Recruiting Calendar

- (a) August 1-2, 2010: **Contact Period**
- (b) August 3-9, 2010: **Quiet Period**
- (c) August 10-31, 2010: **Dead Period**
- (d) September 1 through October 31, 2010, **Contact Period**
- (e) November 1-23, 2010, [except for (1) below]: **Contact Period**
 - (1) November 8-11, 2010: **Dead Period**
- (f) November 24-28, 2010: **Dead Period**
- (g) November 29 through December 23, 2010: **Quiet Period**
- (h) December 24, 2010 through January 2, 2011: **Dead Period**
- (i) January 3-17, 2011: **Contact Period**
- (j) January 18 through February 28, 2011: **Quiet Period**
- (k) March 1 through May 26, 2011, [except for (1) below]: **Contact Period**
 - (1) April 11-14, 2011: **Dead Period**
- (l) May 27 to May 31, 2011, (noon): **Dead Period**
- (m) May 31 (12:01 p.m.) through August 1, 2011: **Contact Period**

Closing Thoughts

- Begin to think about your academic, athletic and career goals
- Determine what type of school you are looking for, regardless of initial cost
- Determine what level you are able to play (DI, DII, DIII)
- Avoid procrastination - develop a timeline – start early
- Return PSA questionnaires promptly, send DVD & transcripts
- Visit and write as many schools as possible (unofficial)
- Prioritize schools.
 - Contacts by coaches, your impressions of the schools based on visits/reputation, the interviewing of students from your area who attend the institution, etc. should give you adequate information for prioritizing purposes.
- Send your admissions applications early (September/October)
- Work with the coaches and the admissions office to get the best fit possible—academically, athletically and socially.

DIVISION I, II, III, CLUB

- WHATS THE DIFFERENCE?
 - Coach Hirsch (Club Ice Hockey)
 - Coach Cannaday (DIII)
 - Coach Todd (DII)
 - Coach Creed (DI)
 - Coach P (DI)