

Recruiting
"Some things you should know"

1. Timelines

Sophomore Year:

- Start to contact schools you may be interested in
- You can write, call or email
- If you write, the NCAA only allows coaches to respond with a player profile sheet and camp brochure
- If you call, coaches can speak with you, but cannot call you back if you leave a message
- If you email, coaches can respond, but only answer camp questions

Junior Year:

- September 1st of your junior year coaches are allowed to now write to you
- Prospects can email and coaches can email you
- If you call, coaches can talk with you about the program, etc. , but if prospects leave a message coaches cannot call you back
- This is a good time to start visiting colleges (called unofficial visits) – you can get a good feel for the campus, the coaches and the team- especially if you call ahead and set up a time to meet

Senior Year:

- Prospects are now allowed to visit schools officially as well as unofficially
- There is no set time to make a decision- you can take your time
- February is the actual signing period so everything up to that point is a verbal commitment

2. Unofficial vs. Official Visit

Unofficial Visit:

- A prospect can take as many unofficial visits as they want
- The prospect must pay for everything on this visit
- They may stay overnight on campus with players, but must pay a housing fee- this must be documented- use a cancelled check
- Good opportunity to get an early look at a school- starting to narrow down your choices

Official Visit:

- A prospect is allowed 5 official visits
- This type of visit is an expense paid visit
- The visits may start as soon as classes begin in your senior year
- There is a 48 hour time limit that you are allowed to be on campus
- You may stay with the players or in a hotel at no cost to you
- All meals are covered-travel may be covered as well

- Parents may come with you on an official visit if invited and may be hosted at a local hotel at the school's expense- this is up to the host coach- if parents do attend- make sure to spend time away from them so you get a feel for the team and campus
- Most times these 5 visits are the 5 schools you are most interested in- you do not have to take all 5 visits
- Prior to your visit, the coach will ask you for 2 things- **SAT or ACT scores sheet** and a **copy of your high school transcript**
- Once you agree on a date with the coach you will receive a 5 visit letter that states your visit counts as one of your 5 allowed by the NCAA

3. NCAA Clearinghouse:

- Everyone who considers participating in NCAA athletics must register for this. Your high school guidance counselor will have all the paperwork for this. You should do this during your junior year of high school

4. Scholarships:

- There are 24-30 players on any given team- that means not everyone gets a full scholarship
- Money should not make your decision, but only be a factor in your decision
- A scholarship is a 1 year renewable commitment and can change at anytime- be sure to ask players within the program about how the coach handles money- Do they award more as your progress? Do they take money away? Do they keep their word?

5. Text Messages:

- Texting was banned by the NCAA. It is up for discussion and review, but at this time you may still text a coach, but they are not able to respond. Even in your senior year it is still not allowed

6. NCAA maximum allowable aid

- NCAA Division 1: 9.9 scholarships
- NCAA Division 2: 9.0 scholarships
- NCAA Division 3: Academic and need based only
- Please keep in mind that not all schools have the maximum amount of aid available for their student-athletes

Remember this is a big decision. Enjoy the process. Do not feel pressured- make a good decision that is best for you.