



College Recruitment Informational Seminar

OWN IT and ENJOY IT

THERE'S A PLACE FOR EVERY PLAYER TO PLAY

(Mindset should be to: find the RIGHT FIT)

Your Options:

A) NCAA – National Collegiate Athletic Association

- Div. I, II, III



B) NAIA – National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics



C) NJCAA – National Junior College Athletic Association



D) NCCAA – National Christian College Athletic Association



E) Club Soccer at the College Level

**YOU CAN HAVE A GREAT SOCCER EXPERIENCE
NOT PLAYING DIVISION I SOCCER**

Comparing YOUR options

Division	Men's Soccer	Women's Soccer
I	207 Programs (2020) 9.9 scholarships for entire roster	348 Programs (2020) 14 scholarships for entire roster
	Compete in Fall (championship) and Spring (non-championship)	
II	206 Programs (2020) 9 scholarships for entire roster	253 Programs (2020) 9.9 scholarships for entire roster
	Compete in Fall (championship) and Spring (non-championship)	
III	419 Programs (2020) NO athletic scholarships - Academic Aid - Grants	440 Programs (2020) NO athletic scholarships - Academic Aid - Grants
	Compete in Fall (championship) and Spring: 15 practices + 1 match date	
NAIA	204 Programs (2020) 12 athletic scholarships	212 Programs (2020) 12 athletic scholarships
NJCAA	241 Programs	233 Programs
	24 Scholarships / Most JUCO players transfer to NCAA program after 2 years	
NCCAA	79 Programs	64 Programs
	Scholarships Stats: N/A / Faith-based education	

The “Scholarship Realities”

TWO COMMON QUESTIONS

Question # 1: Do HS Athletes Receive Athletic Scholarships?

Answer: **VERY FEW**

Question # 2: Do HS Athletes Receive FULL RIDES?

Answer: **ALMOST NONE**

- Approximately 2% of HS seniors receive some sort of athletic scholarship
- 7.6% of Male HS Soccer participants go on to play soccer in college (1.1% of those go play NCAA Division I)
- 9.3% of Female HS Soccer participants go on to play soccer in college (2.2% of those go play NCAA Division I)
- GOOD NEWS:
 - ☐ 56% of D1 players end up receiving SOME SORT of Athletic Aid
 - ☐ 61% of D2 players end up receiving SOME SORT of Athletic Aid
 - ☐ Soccer allows you to co-mingle Academic Merit Based Aid (combination of GPA, test scores and/or class rank) with Athletic Aid, and virtually all institutions offer this aid

RECRUITING is a PRO-ACTIVE PROCESS DRIVEN BY THE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE

- A student becomes a PSA at the start of their freshman year in HS.
- Coach, DOC, College Advisor can help by guiding and advising
- Allowing PSA to drive the recruiting process develops life skills!

Qualities of a College-Bound Soccer Player:

1. Committed, Dedicated, Passionate
2. Mature, Leader, Shows Initiative
3. Selfless, Team-First mentality
4. Athletic, Technical, Tactically Savvy
5. Durable, Fit, Manages Body/Diet/Injuries
6. 'Special' quality

Who Are You?

Email Coaches

Call Coaches

Sign Up for Camps

Visit Colleges

Word of Mouth

Who Are You?

- CREATE A RESUME
 - ☐ Online: TGS Account provided by RAGE
 - ☐ Team Brochures/profile sheets at games and showcases
- CREATE LIST OF COLLEGES BASED ON THE THREE S's:
 - ☐ School: Major, Grades, Classroom Size
 - ☐ Soccer: **Level of Program, Conference and Division: BE REALISTIC**
 - ☐ Social: Location, Size of Campus, Common Interests
- BECOME AWARE OF YOUR COMPETENCES & STRENGTHS
 - ☐ Objective: Moving yourself from “I like you” to... “I WANT YOU.”
 - ☐ Clarity in what you bring to a program!
 - ❖ Athletically
 - ❖ Academically
 - ❖ Socially
 - ❖ Character
- BECOME AWARE OF YOUR CHALLENGES
 - ☐ Objective: Holding yourself accountable to standards
 - ☐ Shows maturity and high character

Email Coaches: Do Research First

WHAT to Write?

BODY

- Name, Grad Year, Position, Jersey #
- School, Club Team, GPA, Test Scores
- Club Coach and Director Name & Contact Info
- Signature with Contact Info

RESUME

- Online via TGS

VIDEO FOOTAGE: TRACE

- Highlight: 5-7 min max
- Full game video is acceptable in addition
- No replays
- Clarity on who you are
- Choose music wisely

HOW to Write?

PROFESSIONALISM

- Properly addressed
- No spelling mistakes
- Proofread

PERSONAL TOUCH

- Custom intro, copy/paste
- Be authentic!
- Connection with school

WHEN to Write?

**What defines 'Competition'?
GAME, TOURNAMENT, CAMP**

INTRODUCTION

- Intro & Expressing Interest (ONCE)

REMINDER

- Before Competition (2 weeks & 1 week before)

FOLLOW-UP

- Monthly w/Game Schedule & Check-In
- After Competition (2-3 days after)

Call Coaches

WHAT to Call About?

- Follow-up with information in your email
- Be prepared to share your strengths as a player
- Show that you've done your homework on the program's season, achievements, and University details (academics, campus life, etc.)
- Balance phone call with academic related questions
- Examples of GOOD questions to ask:
 - ❖ What is the academic support for your athletic program?
 - ❖ What are the positional needs for my recruiting class?
 - ❖ What is the typical roster size of your program?
 - ❖ How connected is the program to the surrounding community?

WHEN to Call? – MONTHLY = Typically as a follow-up to your email

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- You can call DII coaches any time before Jr. year hits, but there is a fine line between being PROACTIVE and being OBNOXIOUS. They cannot call you until June 15 before Jr. year. DI coaches cannot talk to you before June 15 preceding Jr. year, regardless of who initiates the call
- Leave a voicemail every time you call if you cannot reach them

Sign Up for Camps

WHICH ONES? 2 TYPES: Multi-College ID & Private Institution ID

Multi-College ID = Hosted at one location but multiple college coaches in attendance.

- If you haven't narrowed your college search down, this could be an OK option.
- RAGE to host annually
- 11v11 ideal

Private Institution ID = Hosted and facilitated by one particular college only.

- When you go through the process of narrowing down your list of colleges of interest, look to register in the camps of those specific colleges.
- Importance of:
 - ☐ Getting on campus
 - ☐ Show your interest
 - ☐ Get a feel for coaching staff
 - ☐ Player's lifestyle at that specific school

HOW TO APPROACH THEM?

1. Arrive early and prepared
2. Smile
3. Be first one to pass ball around
4. Confident in showcasing WHO YOU ARE
5. Learn other camper's names
6. ALL IN the whole time!
7. Lead exercises, camp talks, Q&A
8. Be grateful for opportunity

Visit Colleges

Difference between Unofficial and Official Visits

= Unofficial: no expenses paid by the university (on-campus meal and game exception)

= Official: expenses can be paid by the university (partial or in-full for food, lodging, travel, entertainment)

New NCAA Rules for College Visits

= Official visits can only begin happening August 1st before Junior Year (DI) and June 15th (DII).

Unofficial visits cannot happen until this time with DI programs, but at any time with DII programs

= Recruiting conversations cannot happen during a camp in advance of timelines above

= Club Coaches can no longer be the middle person with offers to a College Coach until Summer before Junior year with DI coaches

-DII, III, NAIA: TRYOUT

How to Approach a College Visit

1. Mentality: Parents SUPPORT, ADVISE & GUIDE. Player TAKE INITIATIVE.
2. Arrive early, smile, and eye-contact
3. Be prepared
4. Know WHO YOU ARE and be able to answer the question... Why YOU?
5. Have questions! TOUGH ones such as:
 - ☐ What is the scholarship situation for your grad year?
 - ☐ Where is the recruiting process at as it relates to me?
 - ☐ What are your major needs for my grad year (position wise)?
6. Feel it! Answer the question... Would I be happy here without soccer?
7. On your way home... discuss with family and journal your thoughts!

PSA Timeline - When Should You Be Doing All of this?

Freshman Year:

- Attend college games and watch them on TV or online. Start to get a feel for what the differing levels of play are and what you want out of a college.
- Location, Size, etc.
- Know that this is when grades become really important. A bad start here can put you behind for the next three years.
- Register with **the NCAA Eligibility Center** and inform your HS Counselor of desire to play collegiate soccer. Make sure you are on track to fulfill the requirements (different for various levels).
- Set up an e-mail account if you do not have one to be able to communicate with college coaches, as communication is best received from student-athlete, not parent.
- Start preparing player resume: TGS Account

PSA Timeline - When Should You Be Doing All of this?

Sophomore Year:

- Start preparations for taking your SAT/ACT college tests.
- Put together a list of your top thirty schools. Include many different levels.
- Keep the grades up.
- Communicate with college coaches monthly and invite them to your games/events 1 and 2 weeks prior to event
- Prepare a video to send to coaches along with resume (highlight and full game).
- Start visiting campuses to get a feel for what you want in a school. Visit different kinds of schools to see what feels right. No face-to-face contact with any athletic staff allowed yet.

PSA Timeline - When Should You Be Doing All of this?

Junior Year:

- Keep working hard in school.
- Update your list of schools that you are interested in. Keep communicating with those schools/coaches.
- Keep your club and high school soccer coaches updated as to which schools and you are interested in. Your coaches will be helpful in contacting the head coaches.
- Keep updating your resume and videos.
- Take your SAT and/or ACT tests.
- Fill out FAFSA4caster.
- DI Coaches can call and email you on June 15th preceding Junior year and have face-to-face recruiting discussions (unofficial & official) on campus on August 1 of your Junior year.
- Division II Coaches can call and email you, have off campus contact and begin conducting official visits on June 15 PRECEDING your Junior year. Unofficial visits can happen at any time in this division.
- You can take only 5 official visits for Division I schools and Division II schools.

PSA Timeline - When Should You Be Doing All of this?

Senior Year:

- Make sure you are on track to be cleared for eligibility.
 - Take the ACT/SAT test until you get the score that you need. You can take it as often as you want to.
 - Continue to keep in contact with the coaches.
 - If you aren't getting attention from your list of schools, you may need to re-evaluate your school choices and make sure your expectations are realistic.
 - Parents need to fill out FAFSA. October 1st is the first day that you can and remember that is first come-first served money
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- First signing date: November of senior year (through August 1st before Freshman year of College)
 - Signing: National Letter of Intent
 - Transfer Information

Word of Mouth

- **THE “COACHING CIRCLE” IS SMALL**
 - ☐ You never know who is watching
 - ☐ Coaches talk about players all the time
 - ☐ Connections are EVERYTHING. Utilize them!
- **SOCIAL MEDIA**
 - ☐ www = WORLD wide web
 - ☐ It's not just what YOU put up, but your friends can also jeopardize your reputation
 - ☐ College coaches will search your social media
 - ☐ Scrutiny does not end once you get to college
 - ☐ Make sure your profiles reflect WHO YOU ARE



The Role of the Parent

SUPPORT, GUIDE & ADVISE

Potential **RED** flags:

- Parents writing the emails and calling the coaches
- Parents being more excited than the player
 - ❑ Discuss importance of body language
- Parents taking over the recruiting visit
- Parents making money the first topic of discussion
- Parents assuming their daughter is getting a full-ride



*Ultimately, college coaches recruit the **FAMILY**.
Therefore, be a positive influence on your
daughter's development and recruiting process.*

HOW DOES THE PROCESS WORK FROM THE COLLEGE COACH'S SIDE?

1. Coaching staff evaluate a list of needs (position/characteristics)
2. Coaching staff evaluates players in tournament, game, club training, and/or camp settings.
3. Coaching staff compiles a depth chart and short list to fill each need
4. Establish & build relationship with the prospective student-athlete.
 - ☐ With NEW NCAA rules: Camps will be the best opportunities to accomplish this prior to Junior year
5. If coaching staff determines it is a good fit the process moves forward:
 - ☐ What is GOOD FIT?
 - Position/Characteristics
 - Character
 - Financially

Remember:

OWN IT

and

ENJOY IT

Questions... ?