NOTE TO THE READER: On a combined basis we have counseled college-bound student-athletes (CBSAs) for over 30 years and are continuing to dedicate ourselves to this mission. However, we have also noticed the extreme shortage of formal professional development training that is available to our colleagues who wish to work with athletes. Accordingly, we are devoting a significant portion of our efforts to teaching and training counselors how to effectively advise student-athletes. These newsletters are one of the ways in which we are able to share our knowledge and experience with all of you. We hope that you find this information to be valuable and helpful. Good Luck!

NCAA Recruiting Rules have changed . . . effective IMMEDIATELY!

Learn how they may affect your student-athletes.

AREAS OF IMPACT

- They affect only Division I sports and specifically exclude DI football and men’s and women’s basketball.
- Summer Sports Camps run by college coaches in 2018
- Family Paid Campus Tours in the summer of 2018
- “Official Visits” paid for by the colleges

New Rules are Confusing? YES!
But, if you advise student-athletes, you MUST know and understand these rules, right? YES!

WHY did the NCAA implement these new rules?

Staring with the 2018 school year, the NCAA wants high school athletes to have “more time to make thoughtful decisions when considering where to go to college. Ultimately, a better recruiting process will improve the college experience for Division I student-athletes.”

So, how do YOU learn “The Basics” of the New Regulations?

- Read on for a brief recap of the rules in this Newsletter.
- You are invited to attend our presentations at the upcoming 2018 WACAC and HECA Conferences to learn more.
- Participate in our Webinar Series – “Advising the College-Bound Student-Athlete” for a thorough and comprehensive explanation of the new rules and how they apply to your athletes. More details below.

OFFICIAL VISITS

Official Visits are those where the college can pay for the athlete’s transportation to and from the college, plus lodging and meals while on the visit.

For sports other than football and basketball, Official Visits now start September 1 of the junior year rather than the 1st day of class for seniors.

- Football changed last year to add Official Visits starting April 11 of their junior year in high school instead of the first day of class in their senior year.
- Men’s Basketball Official Visits allowed January 1 of the junior year.
- Women’s Basketball allows Official Visits on the Thursday following the Division I Women’s Basketball Championship game during the student-athlete’s junior year of high school.

UNOFFICIAL VISITS

Unofficial Visits are any visits to a college by an athlete and parents paid for solely by the family.

Coaches and other members of the athletic department may not participate in a recruit’s Unofficial Visit until September 1 of the recruit’s junior year in high school.

SPORTS CAMPS AND CLINICS

College coaches and members of the athletic department may not have any “recruiting conversations” with an athlete during a camp or clinic before September 1 of the athlete’s junior year of high school.
NEW! WANTED: College Counselors with a high proficiency in advising athletes!!

With nearly 8 million participants in high school sports each year, there is an extreme shortage of counselors who have the professional training to successfully guide talented athletes through the college recruiting experience.

Do you want to get involved in this niche market to counsel athletes while quickly expanding your business? We are making available to you a Webinar series, consisting of 11 one-hour sessions of information-packed professional development training. It is entitled “Advising the College-Bound Student-Athlete”, a self-paced webinar course.

And, you do not have to worry about scheduling conflicts, because . . . the starting date is whenever you want it to be! And, you can watch each of the sessions whenever it is most convenient for your schedule. The course expires 120 days after you enroll.

For more information and to view several video testimonials of our alumni, please visit our website at www.PlayCollegeSports.com.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions: David (david@PlayCollegeSports.com) or Katie (katie.andersen@CollegeFitOC.com).

HECA and WACAC Conferences

If you will be attending the upcoming HECA and/or WACAC Conferences in Dallas, Texas and Monterey, California, we invite you to attend our session presentations at each of those events. And, please feel free to introduce yourself to us at any time during the conferences and to ask us any quick questions you may have relating to the topic of counseling student-athletes.

High School Athletes “Do-It-Yourself Guide”

This is a newly created “counseling tool” designed to benefit both high school and independent counselors who are faced with the responsibility of providing guidance to high school athletes.

For high school counselors with student-counselor ratios of 300:1 or 400:1, or more, it is physically impossible for them to spend any significant amount of time to work with the athletes. Accordingly, the DIY Guide was designed in a format that allows counselors to simply email the Guide to their athletes who can then proceed, with the help of their parents, to use our 5-step program to initiate their own athletic recruiting experience.

Please note that it is not intended to guide them through their entire recruiting experience from beginning to end but simply to get them started in their two-way communications with college coaches.

We are presently making available “complimentary copies” of the Guide to college counselors; the only stipulation is that they follow the progress of a few of their athletes who are using the Guide and who will then complete our Evaluation Form and return it to us with comments and suggestions for modifications to the Guide.

For Independent counselors who are just beginning to work with athletes or who are interested in getting a “sneak preview” of our Webinar training program format the Guide can be an extremely valuable recruiting tool for them also.

Contact us if you have more questions about this Guide or would like to receive a complimentary copy.

Best of luck with your CBSAs!

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“DO NOT LET WHAT YOU CAN NOT DO INTERFERE WITH WHAT YOU CAN DO.”

– John Wooden –