

Recruiting



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What Players Should Know?

1. Good players are frequently unnoticed.
2. Players have to market themselves to college coaches.
3. There are scholarships but are players ready to work for them?
4. Players should focus on academic, athletic, personal and the social aspects.
5. Recruiting starts early.
6. Just be honest & be yourself.
7. Recruiting is just half of the work for college coaches.
8. Commit when you are ready.

1. Good players are frequently unnoticed

- ✓ Just because you're good enough to play in college doesn't mean you'll succeed.
- ✓ Much of the recruiting process is about being in the right place at the right time.
- ✓ At tournaments coaches are mainly looking for the players that have contacted them.
- ✓ Players need to be confident when talking to coaches early on in the process.
- ✓ Players never get enough exposure at showcases and tournaments.
- ✓ Players have to be persistent in contacting the coaches and convincing them that they're serious about the program.
- ✓ The best players also need to promote themselves.
- ✓ Just because coaches talk to you doesn't mean that they are interested in you.
- ✓ Make sure that you have a soccer highlighted video of yourself so coaches get a better feeling of you. Next time they will come to watch you, they know what to expect.
- ✓ Start promoting yourself early so coaches are familiar with your name.
- ✓ Talk to at least 5-10 colleges and you keep in touch with the ones that show the most interest in you.
- ✓ Don't be shy; be confident and aggressive because coaches like that.



2. Players have to market themselves to college coaches

- ✓ In order to succeed players have to take control of the recruiting process.
- ✓ The single most important thing for future college players is to constantly market themselves to college coaches.
- ✓ Players should never wait around too much hoping to be contacted by college coaches.
- ✓ Players should take control of the process by always introducing themselves to college coaches and providing regular updates.
- ✓ When coaches start the recruiting process, they are overwhelmed by the sheer number of potential recruits.
- ✓ When communicating to coaches let them know that you are serious about their program.
- ✓ Coaches want to hear from qualified players because it makes their job easier.
- ✓ Players should make sure that they are eligible to play for the school they apply to.
- ✓ Great quality filming highlighted video is a big plus because coaches hate to watch poor quality videos.



3. There are scholarships but are players ready to work for them?

- ✓ There are athletic scholarships but not all players deserve them.
- ✓ Players and parents should understand that scholarships are hard to get and the competition for them is very high.
- ✓ College coaches don't want to deal with difficult parents because the next 4 years could also be difficult.
- ✓ Before offering a scholarship, coaches like to see and analyze all their options.
- ✓ Players should never commit to a school that they have never visited unless they have no other options.
- ✓ Players should not pick a team to play for just because it has a great tradition or did really well in the past seasons.
- ✓ Picking the right school for players it could be crucial for their development in the next 4 years. If a player doesn't like the school or campus he/she will not perform to the best of their ability because of the environment that they are part of.
- ✓ Players have to think of their future behind the sports life. If players get injured, or don't fully develop as players the major question will be: "What will you do when your college career is done?" Only YOU can answer that question.



4. Players should focus on academic, athletic and the social aspects

- ✓ Players should balance academics and athletics.
- ✓ College coaches always want to make sure that the players won't struggle academically.
- ✓ The best fit for a player would be a combination of academics and sports that would fit the players' current profile and needs.
- ✓ Players should do academic and athletic research before they talk to college coaches.
- ✓ Visiting a college is one of the most important steps for players. Players can stay overnight with a member of the team, go to classes, and of course meet the coach. After that players should ask themselves if they could do that for the next 4 years. Remember that the player's personality has to fit right in with the school, team and the coach.
- ✓ Coaches can find out how dedicated you are to their program after you take a visit.
- ✓ Players aren't able to go on official visits before they commit. Players often make a commitment before they have even seen the campus and spent time with the team and coach.
- ✓ If a player doesn't go on any unofficial visits he/she won't make a good decision about where they will be going to school.
- ✓ Various players can change very quickly between when they are recruited to when they enter to the college life. Even if athletes don't change as players, they often change as people and vice-versa. For example if a school seemed right two years ago may no longer be a good match anymore.
- ✓ Some players commit early because they are afraid that their chance will go away.
- ✓ Time managing is very important once a player enters college. If the academic work and standards are not met by a player then he/she will be in danger of losing their scholarship and not be eligible to play anymore.
- ✓ There's a financial reason to get players to commit early to colleges. College programs that get early commitments don't have to pay for official visits.
- ✓ Players and coaches are being forced into situations that they're not comfortable with at times. On the other hand colleges have to because by not getting someone early, it may be disadvantageous to the rest of the recruiting process.



5. Recruiting starts early

- ✓ Committing in the sophomore year is a major concern.
- ✓ Players should always start with an honest self evaluation. Exaggerations always get found out in the end.
- ✓ If a coach is interested in you and you as a player are not interested in his/her program then let them know. That way they have a player less to worry about. You will also build an honest reputation.
- ✓ Honesty between the players, coaches and parents is one of the key points for the accomplishment of their own success.
- ✓ As a player you should always ask the coach if he/she is highly interested in you. If the answer is no then you should look elsewhere. Despite the answer you get from the coach always mention to them that you appreciate nothing more than an honest answer. This could also be vice-versa and that would save coaches a tremendous amount of time to know that they have to worry for a player less.



6. Just be honest and be yourself

- ✓ We believe that the most important thing is to be honest with coaches and in everything you do. Building that kind of character will follow you for the rest of your life and you will have nothing to worry about.
- ✓ College coaches appreciate nothing more than an honest talented player.
- ✓ Recruiting is very challenging and requires time. For most coaches this is time spend away from their family looking to find players that could be part of their second family, their team.
- ✓ Players should not be afraid to tell coaches how they feel and what they have in mind for the future. This would benefit the players and the coaches.
- ✓ For coaches is always a pleasure to see players perform during the games. Players are always more pumped out when they know that a college coach is watching them.
- ✓ In the end is nothing more rewarding than knowing for a player or coach that they have just found the right fit.



7. Recruiting is just half of the work for college coaches

- ✓ For coaches recruiting is time consuming.
- ✓ There is a huge amount of time looking for teens and hundreds of players and at the end 5 to 8 players will join the program.
- ✓ Coaches' love motivated players who are willing to work hard to accomplish high level goals.



8. Commit when you are ready

- ✓ Players make sure that once you feel you have found what you waited for, commit.
- ✓ There are lots of players who are hoping to hear for better schools to contact them when they already have an offer waiting for them. That offer is often given to a different player who is more willing to commit right away.
- ✓ Early commitments can also save your future. Just imagine that you don't commit when you have the chances to do so and you get injured in the mean time. No coaches want injured players for their program.
- ✓ Never regret when you commit. Why? Maybe you could have gone to a better team but you wouldn't have been playing as much.

