

# AVCSS Sports Club, LLC.

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## GUIDE TO COLLEGE RECRUITING "The Basics"

4th Edition

### INTRODUCTION

One of the most common problems that parents and students experience is their lack of understanding of the recruiting process. They assume, if a player is good enough, everything will just take care of itself; Coaches will line up at the games to see the player, and your high school coach will get you into college on a scholarship. It is a well known fact that there is a modified recruiting process taking place that most players / parents are not yet aware of. College coaches do not make as many visits to high school games as much as they used to, and high school coaches don't always work as hard as they should to assist players with getting into college on a scholarship. Most parents feel that it's a high school coach's sole responsibility to get their child an athletic scholarship, but this logic is irresponsible at best. The internet is playing a major role with recruiting, and players must understand how to use this as an advantage. I have used the information in this booklet with success (two of my daughters have earned basketball scholarships). Both situations were unique and in both cases there was one common theme: Both daughters had to work extremely hard, and it appeared that we (Mom and Dad) had to work pretty hard also! I made a lot of mistakes along the way, and some not so good decisions, but this was due to lack of information and understanding of the recruiting process. That is why I have put together this booklet – to help parents and players avoid the same mistakes. Unless a player is a "superstar" and / or making "headlines," it will be difficult (but not impossible) to land a scholarship. The term "hard work" takes on a new meaning when players (and parents) finally realize what they have to do to get themselves in a position to be offered an athletic scholarship. There are only so many athletic scholarships to go around, but if you have what it takes to work really hard, and have those certain skills that a college coach is looking for, it can happen for you. This booklet does not guarantee that you will get offered a scholarship, but it will guarantee that without this information, it will be that much harder...

**Here's what's in this Booklet:** Simplified explanations of the recruiting process, access to all the forms detailed in this booklet (and more), links to important Websites, some common mistakes to avoid, a recruiting calendar, academic information, showcase / exposure camp information, and important online recruiting information to get you moving in the right direction!

***Guide to College Recruiting by AVCSS Basketball***

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# Common Mistakes Made by Players

(Think about the Following...)



**Players involved in too many sports:** If you want to play basketball at the college level, then you must choose basketball and begin working hard at becoming the best player that you can be. There are very few 3-sport players who are excellent at all 3 sports. Don't play another sport if it will not help you reach your basketball goals. Keep in mind there are only so many basketball scholarships to go around, and if you want to give yourself the best possible chance to land one of those scholarships, you may want to focus on improving your basketball skills. There are thousands of players out there that are just working on basketball – these types of decisions could be the difference maker for a player...

**The 2nd Sport:** If you really want to play another sport, pick the right sport. Track and / or Soccer will keep you running on a consistent basis. Find a sport that will “compliment” your basketball skills! Playing a sport where there would not be a lot of running would not be very beneficial to your basketball goals. Do what makes the most sense!

**Getting a Summer Job:** Obviously working can get you some extra spending money, but it will most likely take time away from your basketball workouts. There are very few players who can hold a job and also do what's required of them to improve their basketball skills. If you really need to work, then make sure you schedule time for your basketball workout – make basketball the priority. Make the best of your time and find a way to get everything done without cutting corners!

**Being Lazy / Procrastinating:** Players must be dedicated to motivate themselves to work hard each and every day! Do not put off your workouts until the next day, do not cut yourself short and hurry through your program. **Stay on course, always!**

**Being Told you “Can't Do it”** How will you react if your High School or AAU Coach tells you that they feel you are not a “strong” enough player to play in college? Remember, believe in yourself and your skills, but you also need to be realistic about your skills. On the other hand, if you feel you are good enough to play at the college level, don't let anyone bring you down. You must work even harder and push yourself more and more.

**Starting Too Late – or Feeling its Too Late to Get Started:** If a player starts really late (lets say at the beginning of their senior year) there still may be time to take a shot at playing basketball in college. Of course, the longer a player waits to get started, the harder it will be to land an offer from any college – but it's never too late to get started if you really want it bad enough. Ask yourself why you waited so long to get started? Why are you just now starting the process when you had the opportunity to start earlier? Think about your answers. If you still want to give it a shot, go for it, but keep in mind it will not be easy.

## ***Tid Bits!***

- 1. Don't let your High School Coach keep you from achieving your goals.**
- 2. There are good days, and there are bad days, keep going, that's just the way it is.**
- 3. It's going to take a little money to make all this happen, but just consider this an investment. A full-ride outweighs the initial investment by far.**
- 4. Understand a player's capability and also what they lack in ability is crucial.**
- 5. Winners never quit, and Quitters never win!**



# Myths or Reality?

(Read - Very Important)



## **Myth #1 - College Coaches show up at High School games and offer scholarships!**

**Reality:** Most parents and players still believe that college coaches are going to show up at their high school games to watch them play. Then after the game, they will be offered a scholarship. This happens, but it's mostly geared towards superstars, players who are very tall and have skills, or it could be that the coach happens to be in the area with their team? Ask yourself this question? Why would a college coach, in the middle of their basketball season, stop and make a trip to a high school to see a recruit play when they can go to a showcase and see a hundred players competing? College coaches want to see you play against solid competition, not against teams in your district who are not so strong. The reality of all this is that college coaches lean towards participating in showcases, team showcases, and exposure camps so they can get the most out of the recruiting process.

## **Myth #2 - My High School Coach did not get me a scholarship, it's all the coaches fault!**

**Reality:** High school coaches may not have access to information regarding college showcases, and even if they did, there is also the chance that a coach may not feel that they have any players who are capable of playing basketball at the college level. Players should not leave their basketball dreams in the hands of a coach who does not believe in them! Some high school coaches are simply earning a "stipend" to supplement their income. Understand that there are high school coaches who will assist their players to the fullest, but also be aware that there are some who will not! The bottom line is, it is the player's responsibility to discipline themselves to work extremely hard at becoming the best basketball player they can be! The parents responsibility must be to support the player - both financially and physically (help catch rebounds, drive them to workouts, etc). Players must make opportunities for themselves!

## **Myth #3 – Players “full-ride” scholarships are guaranteed for all 4 years!**

**Reality:** Scholarships are basically renewable each year. College coaches can promise a player that they will get a full ride for 4 years, but what they are really saying is that they will renew your scholarship each year for the 4 years (or maybe not?).

## **Myth #4 – If I play poorly at one college showcase, I shouldn't bother attending another!**

**Reality:** The great thing about college showcases is that even if you play poorly at one showcase you can always get a chance to “recover” by attending the next showcase (or the next, etc). How do you know who was watching you on the day you played poorly (as far as you know all the coaches were at lunch). If you have a poor game, step it up the next game, or the next, but certainly never give up. A player may have an off shooting day, but they should always play great defense, be aggressive, and hustle each and every play. ***All it takes is for a player to impress one coach at one showcase to get serious interest from them, just one!***

## **Myth #5 – If I'm good enough the coaches will “flock” to me, forget the showcases!**

**Reality:** Exposure is the name of the game these days. Unless all the D-1 schools are calling you and you are getting national exposure, you may want to attend as many showcases as you can. While you are sitting at home waiting, there are college coaches attending showcases trying to find talent for their programs. Put yourself in a position to be seen by college coaches, take your game to them, you know where they are going to be, go to them! Exposure is the key!



# WHEN TO START: CHECKLIST

(Plan your work, Work your plan)



## **7th / 8th Grades:**

- ☐ Be on an AAU/YBOA competitive team (getting lots of playing time).
- ☐ Be starting on your middle school team.
- ☐ Attend summer camps / all-star camps (such as Future Stars, etc).
- ☐ Work on your game all year round (not just during basketball season).
- ☐ Get a professional evaluation to find out just where your skill level is.

## **9th Grade:**

- ☐ Be on an AAU/YBOA competitive team (getting lots of playing time).
- ☐ Be starting or at least close to starting on the Varsity of your High School team.
- ☐ Attend "Elite" summer camps.
- ☐ Work on your game all year round (not just during basketball season).
- ☐ Attend at least one college showcase (just to get the experience).
- ☐ Set the groundwork for academic success; discuss core classes with your guidance counselor.

## **10th Grade:**

- ☐ Be on an AAU/YBOA competitive team (getting lots of playing time).
- ☐ Be starting on the Varsity of your High School team.
- ☐ Attend "Elite" summer camps.
- ☐ By now a player should be concentrating solely on basketball and only basketball.
- ☐ Attend College Showcases, (especially in July and September).
- ☐ Mail out your first batch of letters to as many colleges as you can (keep track of the letters you send).
- ☐ Mail out a follow up letter letting coaches know which showcases you will be attending (a shorter letter similar to the showcase handout on page 20). Mail 4-6 weeks before the first showcase date.
- ☐ Academics: Study hard to increase your GPA, and take the practice SAT / ACT.
- ☐ Be working with a personal trainer on a consistent basis (off – season).
- ☐ College list researched, letters ready to be mailed out after your High School season.

## **11th Grade:**

- ☐ Register with the [NCAA Eligibility Center](#) at the start of your junior year (see a guidance counselor).
- ☐ Be on an AAU/YBOA/US Jr. Nationals competitive team (getting lots of playing time).
- ☐ Making some headlines – getting some "press" from High School games.
- ☐ Attend "Elite" summer camps (only ones that can double as an evaluation by coaches).
- ☐ By now a player should be concentrating solely on basketball and only basketball.
- ☐ Mail out your 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of letters, update the info in the letter, and include showcase information.
- ☐ Attend College showcases, and AAU team showcases (as many as possible).
- ☐ Take the SAT / ACT early, and, as many times as possible (until you score high).
- ☐ Be working with a personal trainer on a consistent basis (off – season).
- ☐ Be prepared for your first phone calls from college coaches – have a list of questions ready.

## **12th Grade:**

- ☐ Making lots of headlines – getting lots of "press" from your High School games.
- ☐ Attend "Elite" summer camps (only ones that can double as an evaluation by coaches).
- ☐ If you are not being recruited by now, attend as many College Showcases as you can (especially the Senior Only showcases). Don't give up, there are colleges still needing to fill their rosters!
- ☐ Tryouts? Yes, many college coaches set up tryouts so stay in great basketball shape, college coaches may call you and invite you to tryout, you will need to be ready to show what you can do!
- ☐ Fill out the [FAFSA](#) form and submit it ASAP (Early January, as soon as taxes are completed).
- ☐ Be working with a personal trainer on a consistent basis (especially in the off – season).
- ☐ Keep working and marketing yourself – Don't give up; there is still time to get signed!





# CHECKLIST - Do this ASAP!

(Have you completed the following?)



- ☐ 1. **G.P.A.** – Find out your Grade Point Average and Class Standing from your guidance counselor. Make sure that you are on track with your GPA and if you are taking the required classes?
- ☐ 2. **FAFSA** – Get your pin # early. - <http://www.pin.ed.gov/PINWebApp/pinindex.jsp>
- ☐ 3. **FAFSA Deadlines** – <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> Fill out the proper forms as early as January of your senior year in high school, but make sure you check with your guidance counselor ASAP to find out information regarding any deadlines!
- ☐ 4. **FAFSA Forms** - Print out a Pre Application Worksheet and fill it out (to see what info you need, etc.) Do this early!
- ☐ 5. **NCAA Eligibility Center** – It is recommended that you register at the beginning of your junior year in high school. There is a fee to register, however ask your guidance counselor if you are eligible for to have the fee waived (this is an option for some). It's very easy to register on line – your parents will need to assist you (you will be given or get to choose a 4-digit ID number). [http://www.eligibilitycenter.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA\\_EMS.html#](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA_EMS.html#)
- ☐ 6. **Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions** – It is recommended that you sign up for an account with Kaplan SAT Testing. There are many advantages such as test prep, find test dates, get your scores, etc. <http://www.kaptest.com/College/SAT/index.html>
- ☐ 7. **SAT / ACT Test Dates** – Find out the dates of the SAT / ACT tests and make sure that you write them in on your calendar. Take a practice SAT as early as the end of your sophomore year, and take it as many times until you get the score you need (or want). See your guidance counselor for additional information.
- ☐ 8. Download your “free” copy of the **NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete**. <http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf>  
\*Note: This is a very good publication that is updated every year, you may need to go to the NCAA website and get the most current version (the link above is for 2013-2014)
- ☐ 9. **NCAA Recruiting Calendar** – Get a copy of the most recent NCAA recruiting calendar. Click on the link below, then select Recruiting Calendars (Men's or Women's Basketball Division I or II). <http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/resources/recruiting-calendars/2014-15-recruiting-calendars>
- ☐ 10. **Showcases / Exposure Camps / Elite Camps** – Start looking around early for Showcases, Exposure, and Elite camps. Print out information, and get out your calendar and start planning! This is extremely important – Don't wait until the last minute to register, there may not be any spots left and you need to get the dates and times to college coaches as soon as possible.  
\* See pages 19-20 “The College Showcase” for links to locate showcase / exposure events.
- ☐ 11. **The Letter** – Have you started on the letter you will be sending to college coaches. The least you should be doing is to be gathering information in a folder and have it ready to go.
- ☐ 12. **The Video** – Who will video tape your games? What video camera will you be using? Does the person video taping understand what shots are needed? Can you edit your DVD?
- ☐ 13. **Get Organized Early:** Have you modified / updated the forms from the CD yet? Do you have them ready to go? Do you have folders made up so you can easily find information? It pays to get organized early on so you can stay focused on your impending basketball goals.



# WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

(Division I, II, III, NAIA, Jr. College?)



Are you looking to play NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Division I, Division II, or Division III? Do you know about NAIA and Jr. Colleges? There are plenty of differences to consider. Are you looking for a “Full Ride,” a partial, or do you just want to continue playing basketball at any college? First and foremost, the player has to want it, and want it badly. Today, there is way too much competition out there and players must work harder and harder to be the best basketball player that they can be.

## **NCAA Division I**

The dream of most players is to play basketball at the Division I (D-1) level. D-1 schools have the largest budgets and funding for athletic scholarships and they recruit on the national level. Players should realize that they must be known both locally, and at the national level to get noticed by D-1 schools. D-1 schools can be small (2000 students), or very large (over 30,000 students).

## **NCAA Division II**

Division II (D-2) basketball programs have less funding than D-1, but also give athletic scholarships. Players should keep all their options open. There is nothing wrong with playing D-2 basketball, especially if a player is offered a full ride. The competition is not as strong as D-1, but there are a lot of very good players playing at the D-2 level. D-2 schools can be very small (800 - 1000 students is common), and some have enrollment of up to 9000 or more.

## **NCAA Division III**

Division III (D-3) schools do not give athletic scholarships, but there are ways that D-3 schools use “creative” financing to assist players with paying for college. D-3 is best suited for players that have the money to pay for college, and want to continue playing basketball. The competition level is below that of D-2 programs. D-3 schools can average 1,000 – 5,000 students (some up to 12,000+). Most of the eligibility requirements of D-1 / D-2 colleges do not pertain to D-3 colleges.

## **NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics)**

Players should not overlook NAIA schools. NAIA schools can give athletic scholarships (how many scholarships depends on the size of the school). NAIA schools are usually small (2000 and under). The competition level is equal to or slightly higher than D-3. NAIA schools often play against D-1, D-2, and D-3 schools (as well as other NAIA schools).

## **NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association)**

Jr. Colleges are two year programs that promote athletic programs. It is common for players to participate at the Jr. College level during their freshman and sophomore years, and then look to transfer to a four year college for their Jr. and Sr. years. There are three NJCAA levels - D1, D2, and D3. NJCAA consist mostly of community colleges and are similar to NCAA Division III when it comes to athletic scholarships.



# ARE YOU READY FOR AN EVALUATION?

(Getting a professional opinion)



One of the most important steps that a player can take is to get a professional evaluation. There are plenty of ex-College / NBA / WNBA players that evaluate prospective basketball players for a living; they are called “personal trainers.” It is very important for players to get a “professional” opinion from a “professional” player. Why? The sooner a player understands what they need to work on to become a better basketball player, the faster they can reach their goals of playing at the college level.

## **Different levels of player evaluations:**

**Parents** – Although parents are a player’s best supporter, they are not always the best evaluator of their child’s talent. It’s great that parents praise the efforts of their child, but it’s not so great when it gives the player a “false” sense of how good they really are at basketball.

**High School Coaches** – There are many High School coaches that are very capable of evaluating their players, but again, this type of evaluation can only go so far. Players must use their coach’s constructive criticism and build on it. Sometimes a High School coach is restricted as to how their player’s skills are used vs. other high school teams (which may or may not be very competitive).

**AAU Coaches** – There are many AAU coaches that are also very capable of evaluating their players and usually see the player vs. other AAU (all star caliber) players. This type of competition allows the AAU coach to see the players abilities when they are at their best or worst.

**College Coaches / Players** – There is another option of evaluation that can also be very useful to players looking to play in college, the “Elite” College basketball camps. The large D-1 colleges usually have separate “elite” camps where special instruction from college coaches and players are part of the camp. These camps also include some form of evaluation at the end of the camp. Knowing what college coaches and players think of your playing ability can be a very helpful tool for you to move towards your goals. **\*See page 21 for “Elite” Camp info!**

**Personal Trainers (professional evaluators)** – I can tell you from experience, there’s nothing like working with a “personal trainer” (professional evaluator). A former college or professional basketball player who makes a living teaching basketball can really make a big difference in getting a player going in the right direction. Many personal trainers are well respected by college coaches, and a letter of recommendation from a personal trainer can only help a player’s resume. There is no website that I currently know of that lists all the personal trainers. You will need to make phone calls to local colleges, talk to AAU coaches, etc to try to locate a personal trainer in your area. A personal trainer shows you the way – but you must still do the work! **\*See more info regarding Personal Trainers on page 30.**

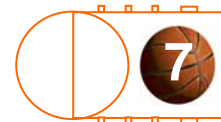
**Players must be able to accept constructive criticism:** It can be very hard for some players to listen to criticism, and sometimes even harder to listen and learn from it. But, if that’s what it’s going to take to get you closer to getting an athletic scholarship, then a player must accept what comes their way. Players must understand that the evaluator has already been there and knows what it takes to get the scholarship. Listen and learn, dedicate yourself to skill improvement, and work extremely hard to be the best basketball player that you can be!





# UNDERSTANDING ELIGIBILITY

(There are Rules in Division I, II)



**Academic Requirements?** In addition to the NCAA academic rules and requirements - each college will have their own “admission” requirements that players must adhere to. This means that even if you pass all the NCAA academic requirements you must still apply to the college for admission (and be accepted). You have to meet both the NCAA and college requirements to attend and participate in athletics.

**Core Classes?** There are certain requirements that have to be met that entail core classes. Core classes should meet graduation requirements, but if you plan on participating in college athletics core classes must be able to count when they are calculated by the [NCAA Eligibility Center](http://www.ncaa.org/eligibility-center). Also keep in mind that advanced high school courses can improve your core course grade point average.

## 1. NCAA Eligibility for freshman D-1: Players must meet these requirements for Division I

1. Graduate from High School
2. Complete 16 core courses:
  - 4 English Classes
  - 3 Math (Algebra 1 or Higher)
  - 2 Sciences (Natural or Physical Science)
  - 1 Extra of the following – English, Math, or Natural or Physical Science
  - 2 Social Sciences
  - 4 Additional – Foreign Language, Philosophy, Religion, or any of the above.
3. Pass all of your Core Classes
4. SAT / ACT scores must “match” your GPA (See the SAT / ACT formula – sliding scale)

If your GPA equals:	Your minimum SAT Score must be	Your minimum ACT Score must be
2.0	1010	86
2.3	900	75
2.5 or Higher	820	68

**\*Note - It is always best to discuss SAT/ACT requirements with your guidance counselor to ensure that the latest sliding scale will be used.**

## 2. NCAA Eligibility for freshman D-2: Players must meet these requirements for Division II

1. Graduate from High School
2. Complete 16 core courses:
  - 3 English classes
  - 2 Math (Algebra 1 or Higher)
  - 2 Sciences (Natural or Physical Science)
  - 3 Additional Years of English, Math, or Natural or Physical Science
  - 2 Social Sciences
  - 4 Additional – Foreign Language, Philosophy, Religion, or any of the above.
3. Pass all of your Core Classes with a 2.0 GPA (or higher)
4. Must have a minimum ACT score of 68, and a minimum SAT of 820 (or higher). No SAT / ACT formula or sliding scale used in Division II.

**Note: If you do not meet the requirements listed above (for Division II) a player may still be able to participate as a “partial qualifier” or non-qualifier.**

- a) **Partial Qualifier** – Cannot compete during the first year, but can play four seasons. Can practice with the team. Can receive an athletics scholarship (even if you do not play) your first year.
- b) **Non-Qualifier** – Cannot compete during the first year, but can play four seasons. Cannot practice with the team. Cannot receive athletic money your first year.

*Continued...*

### **3. NCAA Eligibility for freshman D-3: (Players must meet these requirements - Division 3)**

Division III schools do not follow the academic requirements that NCAA Division I or Division II schools follow. Each Division III school will have its own academic requirements and financial aid policy. The NCAA Eligibility Center is only utilized for Division I, Division II and not for Division III.

Although Division III athletic competition levels are lower than Division I and II, that does not mean the academic standards follow suit. Division III schools have high academic standards and if a player does not meet these standards, they will not be attending the school. Division III schools do offer academic scholarships and financial aid packages. You must talk to each Division III school about their academic requirements – don't assume anything.

#### **Notes:**

- Do not assume that it will be easy to get in a D-3 school if you do not get any offers from D1 or D2 schools (because it may not be easy).
- If you are using a D-3 school as a back up (in case you do not get other offers) you need to make sure that you discuss athletic requirements ASAP with the coach. You need to know what you are getting into, and the coaches need to know what they are getting.
- You may have to keep taking the SAT test until you get a higher score to be eligible for additional academic money?

### **4. NAIA Eligibility for freshman: (Players must meet these requirements – NAIA)**

#### **To be eligible to play athletics in the NAIA, players must meet these academic requirements:**

- a) Graduate from High School in the upper half of their graduating class.
- b) Have an ACT score of 18 (or higher), and an SAT score of 860 (or higher)
- c) Pass all of your Core Classes with a 2.0 GPA (or higher)

**NAIA requirements state that a player only has to meet any two of the three requirements listed above to be eligible.**

**If you are interested in a NAIA school you should talk to the school to discuss the academic requirements (there may be additional requirements pertinent to this school, etc.). You don't want any surprises; get as much information up front as you can!**

### **5. NJCAA Eligibility for freshman:**

There are Division I, II, and III NJCAA colleges (not to be confused with NCAA Division I, II, and III colleges). Academic requirements may vary within the different divisions. Players interested in - or being contacted by NJCAA schools should find out what the academic requirements are for that particular school as soon as possible.

#### **Eligibility Notes:**

- a) Players must understand that if they do not meet the academic requirements of the school they are interested in attending – it may not be possible for them to get into that school (even if they are offered an athletic scholarship).
- b) Players must meet both the NCAA requirements and be accepted to the college (apply to the college separately) in order to participate in athletics.
- c) Don't let attitude get in the way – Players should never feel that all they need are their basketball "stats" to get into college! Academics + Athletic Skills = Success!
- d) Understand what you are getting into right away (you don't want any surprises), or it may slow down the process and prevent you from reaching your goals quicker.



# ACADEMICS

(How important are the grades?)



## What part do academics play in this whole recruiting process?

Academics are everything! If a player has sports first and academics second – they pretty much have it backwards. Sports will eventually end at some point in time, but you keep your education with you forever. After a player leaves high school the only thing that they are guaranteed to take with them is their education (they may never play sports again, and their friends will be gone, etc). Having good grades (along with being a good athlete) can get your college tuition paid for, and pave the way for a better life for you (and your future family).

## How important are the grades?

All Colleges have a minimum GPA and SAT / ACT requirement. Some colleges will not even look at you if your GPA is too low, and sometimes even a high SAT score will not save the day. Grades will be part of the package that a college coach will offer you when the time comes, and your grades can make the offer that much sweeter.

## Freshman / sophomore / Junior grades are very important:

Your combined GPA from grade 9-12 will be used by the NCAA Eligibility Center to ensure that you are academically eligible to play for a Division I or Division II college. Players cannot slack during their 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade years thinking they will bring up their grades during their Jr. and Sr. years. What a mistake that would be! The best advice that can be taken and used is for a player to work harder academically during the 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> years (getting all the really hard classes out of the way), and then finish even stronger with their Sr. grades.

## How important are The SAT's, and ACT's?

Depending on the school, your SAT score could be the difference between a full ride or not? College coaches are counting on players getting the most academic scholarship money they can so the athletic money can be used to make up the difference in a full ride.

**For example:** Player #1 and Player #2 both need \$24,000 in order to get a “full-ride” (notice how the coach in this example has \$9,000 in athletic money available to give to both players).

Award Type	Player #1	Reason		Award Type	Player #2	Reason
Academic	\$8,000	High SAT / GPA		Academic	\$2,000	Low SAT / GPA
Grants	\$5,000	School Grant		Grants	\$5,000	School Grant
Athletic	\$9,000	Scholarship \$\$		Athletic	\$9,000	Scholarship \$\$
Financial Aid	\$2,000	FAFSA		Financial Aid	\$2,000	FAFSA
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>			<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>	
<b>Player #1 Responsibility</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>Full Ride – no money needed.</b>		<b>Player #2 Responsibility</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>Player must pay this amt.</b>

Player #1's high SAT and GPA scores allows them to receive a “Full-Ride” while Player #2 (because of their low GPA, and low SAT scores) will now have to come up with the \$6,000 to be able to pay for tuition.

**Make academics the priority! Your grades could be the difference between a full ride or having to take out loans to make up the difference? Why work so hard on the court and fall behind when you're in the classroom. Academics first, basketball second!**



# OVERVIEW OF THE RECRUITING PROCESS

(What you need to know...)



**How do coaches find players? How do players put themselves in a position for coaches to find them? How is Athletic money sometimes used, and distributed? How long does the recruiting process take? How do you know you have covered all the bases?**

## **1. How Coaches find the players they need:**

It's called recruiting! Recruiting is the "heart and soul" of a college basketball program. Coaches have to make recruiting a high priority and work hard to get the best players into their programs.

### ***Recruiting is accomplished in several ways:***

- a) Use of Recruiting Services: Many college coaches rely on the assistance of recruiting services; they pay a fee and receive information on players.
- b) Word of Mouth: In some instances coaches will receive information from other coaches on players.
- c) Elite Camps: Coaches hold annual basketball camps at their schools to get a look at "Elite" players.
- d) Showcases: A great venue for college coaches – a coach can see over 100+ very good players competing all at the same locations.
- e) Players contacting the coaches: Players send letters to colleges informing them that they are interested in attending their college. A great way for the player to assist with the process.
- f) Tryouts: College coaches invite players to "tryout" at their college gym. This is a very good way for coaches to see a recruit in action vs. the players on the team (to see how they stack up).
- g) High School Games / Championships: Many coaches show up at the High School Regionals and/or State Championship games to check out the action.
- h) US Jr. Nationals / AAU, YBOA Nationals: Another venue for players to be seen by college coaches. Usually the colleges are looking at the older age groups at these tournaments.

## **2. How do players put themselves in a position for coaches to find them?**

It's called promoting / marketing yourself! Players must let coaches know that they are out there. Players that take control of their own destiny increase their chances of landing a college scholarship (or at least are giving it all they have). Sitting back and waiting for college coaches to find you while other players are contacting coaches puts you at a disadvantage.

### ***Marketing yourself is accomplished in several ways:***

- a) The Letter: Mailing letters to colleges is a very effective way to get interest from college coaches.
- b) Showcases: Players must attend as many showcase as they can to get the exposure.
- c) Use of On-Line Recruiting Services: Many college coaches rely on the assistance of recruiting services, player that sign up with certain recruiting services could benefit.
- d) Elite Camps: Attend elite camps and get the coaches opinion (they just might like what they see?)

**I am not sure that I can put into words how important it is for a player to market / promote themselves if they really want to increase their chances of playing basketball in college. Taking control of the situation and making things happen shows dedication and determination on the player's part.**

*Continued...*

### **3. Athletic Scholarships – Notes / Information:**

Colleges that do give athletic scholarships have a certain budgeted amount that they have to work with and a certain number of scholarships that they can give to players. There are different ways in which a coach divides up the money and it usually involves some “creative” financial dispersion in order to accommodate all the different situations of the players. Coaches count on high GPA's, SAT scores, and Financial Aid (FAFSA) to help them decide how much money goes to each player.

**For example:** Player #1 and Player #2 both need \$24,000 in order to get a “full-ride” (notice how the coach in this example uses creative financing to get both players to the same place).

Award Type	Player #1	Reason		Award Type	Player #2	Reason
Academic	\$9,000	High SAT / GPA		Academic	\$3,000	Low SAT / GPA
Grants	\$5,000	School Grant		Grants	\$5,000	School Grant
Athletic	\$6,000	Scholarship \$\$		Athletic	\$14,000	Scholarship \$\$
Financial Aid	\$4,000	FAFSA		Financial Aid	\$2,000	FAFSA
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>			<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>	

Player #1's high SAT and GPA scores allow the coach more flexibility with the athletic money and can still provide Player #2 with a full ride by increasing the amount of athletic money (the athletic money that Player #1 did not need). Keep in mind that not all colleges may use this type of creative financing. Larger colleges usually have larger budgets and need not worry about the details that smaller colleges have to deal with. It depends on several things: the coach, budget, the size of the school, how many scholarships they are allowed to give, grades / SAT scores, and the talent / skill level of the players.

### **4. How long does the recruiting process take?**

The answer to this question is “It depends.” There are too many variables that decide how long the process will take. It could depend on when you got started in the recruiting process? Did you start when you should have, or did you start later than you should have? This booklet advocates that the process starts when you mail your first letters, and ends when you sign on the dotted line! No matter what, if you don't work extremely hard and market yourself accordingly, the process may never work for you at all.

### **5. Covering all the bases - How can you make sure you don't get left out?**

Have you done everything that you should have up to this point? Are you settling for the first college that has shown some interest or are you going to work hard to ensure that you have many options to choose from? The bottom line is that if the interest is low – don't give up and start working harder. Send out a second set of letters, and attend more showcases. If the interest is high – then you could be on the right track.

#### **Playing the recruiting game with caution:**

- Keep all of your options open! Don't tell any college that you are not interested until you have a bunch of serious offers on the table.
- Remember that no matter what the coach tells you on the phone, or even in a letter – you should know that they could be saying the very same thing to all the players they are recruiting? Coaches have to keep all of their options open also.
- Showcases: Players must attend as many showcase even if they are starting to gain some interest. Don't stop until you get all the interest that you can get your hands on.





# WHAT ARE COLLEGE COACHES LOOKING FOR?

(And how a player can find out ...)



**Contrary to the popular belief that players have to score 35 points per game to get interest from colleges, it is important to note the following:**

**\* Each college coach is unique when looking for talent** – For Example: Lets say there are a dozen college coaches watching the same players at a showcase; this does not mean they are all looking at or for the same thing in a player. One coach may be looking for a strong defensive player, one for a shot blocker, one for a 3-point shooter, one for quickness and aggressiveness, etc. The bottom line is that you don't know what they are looking for, only the coach knows!

## **What can a player do to find out what a coach may be looking for?**

**Do your research:** Players – If you are a guard, does it make sense to send letters to colleges that are “guard heavy” (8-9 Sophomore / Jr. guards on the team), and are in need of post players? This team is most likely looking to recruit post players (but you never know).

**How to research:** Go to a college website – athletics – basketball (men's or women's) and check out the rosters. Each roster will tell you how many guards and post players are on the team, and what year they are. Ex: If a team has 4 senior guards, then most likely this college is looking for guards. This type of research can save you valuable time and help steer your efforts towards colleges that are looking to recruit your position.

**Note:** While you are on the college's website and you have the roster up, go ahead and print it out. Make a folder for each college so you'll have the information available to you.

## **How does your look and attitude affect a coach's decision?**

Looks and attitude can play a big part in a coach's decision making. Coaches are looking for hard working; talented players who will help their program win games. I am positive that coaches do not want to spend their time dealing with a player's poor attitude that could disrupt the “atmosphere” of the team. How a player acts and behaves on the court has a direct relation to the type of person they are.

**Players who trash talk, push and shove, cry over missed shots, throw intentional elbows, jump up and down celebrating their own achievement (3-point shot or blocked shot, etc), and disrespect players and coaches can actually be a ‘turn-off’ to college coaches.**

## **What College Coaches are looking for (the obvious)?**

- Talented all around players (post players who can also handle the ball, pass, etc. Guards who can shoot, handle the ball, run the offense, pass, and defend, etc.).
- Team players, how well players interact with one another, work as a team.
- Aggressiveness on both defense (getting on the floor for the ball – no fear) and offense (not afraid to drive or take the shot when open)
- Great defense! Nothing impresses a coach more than great defense and hustle.
- Players that understand the game!

## **What you should know about the coach, important information to find out:**

It is important to know how long a coach has been coaching, how long at their current position, and when does their contract expire? You don't want to get recruited by a coach who may move on and leave you stuck with not knowing if the new coach will make you the same offer?



# Recruiting Services - Yes or No?

(Will these services help you or not?)



**You should understand that there are different types of recruiting services:**

1. **College Recruiters** – Are paid (by others) to visit high school games and report player information back to their office, and forwarded directly to college coaches. Most of the time you will never know this type of recruiter is in the stands.
2. **Recruiting Services** – These are the recruiting services that are run on-line that assist players with getting connected with college coaches. This is a relative inexpensive (but effective) way to assist players with the recruiting process.

**Pros:**

- Most of these services have large databases of coaches that get easy access to players.
- Easy way for players to submit to colleges to express interest, easy contact process.
- Post player videos / portfolios on-line so that coaches can access at any time.
- Inform players about important camps / showcases / personal trainers in their area.
- Hold recruiting seminars / classes to help you further understand the recruiting process.
- Provide information about financial aid packages, available grants, loans, and alternative ways to pay for college.

**Cons:**

- Coaches will have access to thousands of players portfolios / videos – this can be a good thing but also a not so good thing (a coach may like your video, but also look at all the other options and move on to other players). Lots of competition, you are one of many.
- If you do not research about the service, it may not be beneficial, possible waste of time.
- Costs can be high – Could you benefit more by using the money to pay for additional showcases (where you know you will get exposure).

## Recommended Recruiting Services for High School Players

### 1. BeRecruited.com [www.berecruited.com](http://www.berecruited.com)

Appears to be the largest and most successful online network connecting high school athletes and college coaches. Athletes should register as soon as possible. Our family has experience with this service, it is not very expensive, but was very effective – we had a lot of success with this one, and it was very easy to sign up, build profiles, and work with.

### 2. Max Preps.com <http://www.maxpreps.com/national/basketball.htm>

MaxPreps.com is a very successful online network that helps connect high school athletes and college coaches by recording game-by-game stats and sharing highlights. This service keeps tracks of statistics, and ranks players (which also assists college coaches with finding players).

### 3. MVP Sports Recruiting.com <http://mvpsportsrecruiting.com/>

This sports recruiting website also enables high school athletes to build their own free online profile, helps you to develop a custom marketing plan so you get noticed / evaluated and recruited by matching your skills and abilities!

**Take control of your child's future - don't let someone else do it! My personal experience and belief was to ensure that everything was done to put my child in a position to succeed. You have to market the player (recruiting services), but most importantly bring the player to the college coaches (via the showcases). This is all based on the belief that if you want something done right - you do it yourself. Doing it yourself entails an understanding of the process, and working very hard to achieve success.**



# HIGH SCHOOL / AAU COACHES

(What they can and cannot do for you)



## HIGH SCHOOL COACHES

### ***What they can't and should not do for you:***

- They cannot get you a college scholarship on their own.
- They cannot help build up your stats (they are responsible for the whole team).
- They should not give negative information to colleges that call them asking about a player.

### ***What they can and should do for you:***

- They should ensure they provide you with an off-season workout, and follow up on it.
- They should return phone calls from colleges and inform players of the conversation.
- They should give credit where credit is due – when deserving they should mention your name during press interviews – to get your name in the newspapers and news as much as possible.
- They should forward all mail received from colleges to players in a timely manner.
- They should write a “letter of recommendation” for the any elite camps or showcases that you plan on attending, and also for your recruiting package.

### ***How to deal with certain situations (if the coach is not working in your corner):***

- Keep in mind that there are many coaches who work hard to help players make it to the next level, but also know that there are some who do not.
- The very least your coach can do is to write a letter of recommendation for your elite camps, showcases, and most importantly for your recruiting package.
- Coaches are entitled to their opinions. If your coach feels you are not good enough to play at the college level, it's ok as long as the coach does not go out of their way to hurt your chances. This should make a player want to work harder – show the coach they were wrong about you!

## AAU / YBOA COACHES

### ***What they can and should do for you:***

- They should ensure that they provide you information on showcases and camps.
- They can ensure that players are working hard to improve their games during the off-season.
- They should sign the team up, and plan on attending as many team showcases as possible.
- They should promote all players at the showcases – have a team portfolio, or ensure that players have theirs ready and available.
- Attend major tournaments – AAU / YBOA Nationals, US Jr. Nationals. And, if your AAU team does not qualify for Nationals, assist you with finding a place on a team that is going to Nationals.
- They should write a “letter of recommendation” for any elite camps or show cases you plan on attending, and also for your recruiting package.

### ***Understanding the difference that an AAU coach can make!***

- Make sure that you understand that all AAU coaches have the option of attending team showcases (where players can be seen by college coaches as a team). Players should find out which showcases (if any) the AAU coach is planning to attend prior to joining a team.
- If the coach does not plan to attend showcases, you must consider and look at other options.
  - a. Find another AAU team to play on (teams that are planning on attending showcases).
  - b. Consider attending more individual showcases, elite camps, and personal training sessions.
  - c. Stay on the team, but be up front with the coach and let them know that your goal is to attend showcases and that you may miss a few games or tournaments because of it.

**Players cannot and should not accept being in a situation where they cannot benefit from. Do not waste any time or money (that you don't have) just because... Take control of your destiny and your basketball future! If you have to change High Schools or AAU teams to get to where you need to be, then consider it (but make sure you do your research first).**





# STATS - What do they mean?

(How important are a players Stats?)



Player's stats can mean many things to different coaches, but the bottom line is they can tell how well a player's season went. Players don't have to score 35 points per game to get a college coach's attention. Six steals per game can portray great defense, 12 assists per game shows great teamwork, shooting 88% free throws shows deadly free throw skills. Coaches will look at percentages, minutes (if stated), and strengths.

## Keeping track of player's stats:

A player's high school coach is responsible for keeping the scorebook and players stats. One thing that you must understand is that the person keeping the stats can sometimes make mistakes and this can turn out not to be in a players favor. To ensure that your son / daughters stats are correct, a second person (like dad) should keep stats also. It is very important that the stats are compared at the end of the game if at all possible. For example – My daughter had 15 assists in one game (double checked via video tape), but the scorebook showed only 8 assists. A great game that never was, due to poor scorekeeping. The form below can be used to track player's stats over the course of the season. [Here is the Link to the Form](#)

Player Name: \_\_\_\_\_ High School Season/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

#	Date	VS.	FGA	FGM	FG %	FTA	FTM	FT%	3PTA	3PTM	3PT%	ASSISTS	STEALS	T/O's	FOULS
1	2-Jan	State H.S.	10	4	40	5	4	80	3	2	66.667	4	2	4	3
2			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
3			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
4			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
5			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
6			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
7			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
8			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
9			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
10			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
11			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
12			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
13			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
14			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
15			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
16			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
17			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
18			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
19			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
20			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
21			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
22			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
23			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
24			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
25			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
26			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
27			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
28			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
29			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
30			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
31			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
32			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0
			Field Goals			Free Throws			3-Point Shots			Assists	Steals	T/O's	Fouls
	SEASON TOTALS:		10	4	40	5	4	80	3	11	366.67	4	2	4	3
			Games	Points	PPG						Games	Assists	APG		
		PPG:	1	12	12						1	5	5		

**A few suggestions regarding stats** – Most players wait until the end of the season to get their stats from their high school coach, but it's best to try and get them on a weekly basis. If you have a good relationship with your high school coach he may take the time to handle this for you. Also, make sure to enter the stats consistently so strengths and weaknesses can be caught early and a player may have time to work on some skills to beef up certain stats, etc. No matter how the stats look at the end of the season there is always a way to make them show some positive aspect about your game. Show your strengths, hide your weaknesses.



# The "Recruiting Calendar"

(A Sample Recruiting Calendar)



Below is a sample **Men's Division I Recruiting calendar**. It is important to know and understand why, when, and where college coaches can contact and evaluate players.

**Quiet Period:** Coaches may not have any in-person contact (other than on campus visits by players) or cannot watch the player play or visit a high school game during this time, but can call or write players).

**Evaluation Period:** An evaluation is where coaches watch players practice or compete (this can include a high school game or showcase events), but no in-person or off campus contact is permitted.

**Contact Period:** Coaches may have face to face contact with players away from the college (at the player's high school or showcase events, etc.).

**Dead Period:** Coaches may not have any in-person contact with a player, but the coach may call or write the player during this period (no official or unofficial campus visits are permitted).

August						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## Important Notes:

- Live evaluations cannot occur on any weekend that SAT / ACT testing is taking place!
- To find Division I or Division II (Men/Women's) recruiting calendars go to:  
<http://www.ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Division%20I%20Recruiting%20Overview%20Chart2014.pdf>





# THE COLLEGE SHOWCASE

(Exposure, Exposure, Exposure)



## The #1 thing that you need to concentrate on and prepare for are College Showcases!

\* Players must work hard all year round to ensure they are in basketball shape and their skills are sharp! Why pay all that money to attend a showcase and show up unprepared? The most important part of the showcase is the game, and how a player performs. Any player can sign up for a showcase, but if they are not prepared when they show up, it will be a waste of time. Players must do something in the game to catch the attention of the coaches. It could be defense, post moves, speed, or shooting? It just has to be something that a coach is looking for (and every coach is looking for something different).

## Dates / How to find them?

There are only certain months of the year that there will be showcases – Usually during the months of March, July, and September. And then team related showcases during April and May. Depending on what part of the country you live in will depend on how to find them.

**Enclosed is a very small list of groups who hold showcases: Don't limit yourself to this list!**

Host	Website	Host	Website
Hoops Dreams	<a href="http://www.hoopsanddreams.org/">http://www.hoopsanddreams.org/</a>	Blue Star	<a href="http://www.bluestarbb.com/index.php">http://www.bluestarbb.com/index.php</a>
Hoop Mountain	<a href="http://www.hoopmountain.com/">http://www.hoopmountain.com/</a>	Elite Sports	<a href="http://www.elitesportsusa.com/">http://www.elitesportsusa.com/</a>
Mr. BBall / Miss BBall	<a href="http://misterbasketball.com/mr-basketball-tournaments/girls-events/showcase-main/">http://misterbasketball.com/mr-basketball-tournaments/girls-events/showcase-main/</a>	Exposure Basketball Tournaments	<a href="http://exposurebasketballtournaments.com/ncaa-certified-basketball-tournaments">http://exposurebasketballtournaments.com/ncaa-certified-basketball-tournaments</a>

## Check these NCAA sites for a Major Listing of Certified Exposure / Showcase events:

<b>Men's 2014 NCAA Certified Events (changes every year)</b>	<a href="http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_M.pdf">http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_M.pdf</a>
<b>Women's 2014 NCAA Certified Events (changes every year)</b>	<a href="http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_W.pdf">http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_W.pdf</a>

Go to [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) and use the NCAA search engine, type in Certified Basketball Events...

## Other ways to locate showcases:

Talk to your AAU or High School Coach, Call local colleges - talk to the coaches, Internet search (type in Basketball Showcases and Exposure Events), Talk to other players when attending showcases, etc.

## Which Showcases are the Best Ones to Attend?

Any showcase that will get you exposure and looks from college coaches. The best showcase will have lots of college coaches in attendance, but you do not have any control over this. A player does have control over how hard they will play in front of these college coaches. A good answer to the question above is – The best showcase is the one where there are lots of college coaches watching a player who is having their best game!

## How many coaches will be in attendance?

Many showcases will usually claim that there will be hundreds of coaches in attendance – to be sure, ask to see the list of colleges that signed up to attend. Even if a college signed up to attend the showcase it doesn't mean that they are obligated to attend. Plans change, and coaches have every right to change their mind and attend some other showcase on the same day. Whether there are 20 college coaches in attendance or 200, the bottom line is, a player must focus on playing their very best.

## How many should you attend? (Don't be afraid to travel)

This question is easy to answer - As many as you can! There are only certain months that you can attend showcases so plan to attend as many as you can. Exposure is everything. If you don't play so well at one showcase you can make up for it at the next one. A player wanting to play in college must keep attending showcases until the calls start coming in. Exposure, Exposure, Exposure!

## Getting your handout (letter) ready for the showcases: [Here is the Link to the Form](#)

It's always best to have a handout ready to give to coaches when a player attends showcases. You really can't hand them to the coaches, but there are other ways to get them out. There is usually a table that the coaches see that has the handouts on it. Your parents should have some in hand in case they overhear a coach talking about you? Although they keep the coaches in certain areas, there are ways to get the handouts to them (be creative). Not to be confused with your "initial" letter to colleges (pg 22).

**Important Note:** This letter should be mailed to any colleges that you mailed your initial letter to!

### Important information to include:

Include the jersey number that is given to you at the showcase, and the name of the showcase team you are on.

Include a picture.

Include any showcases that you will be attending – dates, host, and city should be sufficient.

Include any high school stats – get them from your high school coach (and update often).

Include Academic information – GPA and SAT scores if you have them. Include other school activities (show the coaches you are well rounded).

Include your contact information and email address as well as your High School / AAU coaches' and Personal Trainer's contact information.

If your season is coming up (or you are in the middle of your season) – you should copy your High School schedule on the back of the handout.



Alison H. Smith

# \_\_\_\_\_ Team: \_\_\_\_\_

My name is Alison Smith. I will be graduating from Brooks High School in 2004. I play Shooting guard / Point Guard for my high school, and AAU Team. I am 5'5" tall and weigh 110lbs.

#### I will be attending the following showcases:

- 7/11 Blue Star – Illinois University, Wakefield, IL
- 7/12 Blue Star – Georgetown Univ, Wash. DC
- 7/18 Hoops and Dreams, Charlottesville, NC
- 7/19 Hoops and Dreams, Virginia Beach, VA

#### Statistics Sophomore season 2001 (Last years Statistics)

Points per game: 10.0 Assists per game: 4.0 Steals per game: 3.0 High Game 24pts.

#### Statistics Junior season 2002 (Currently in process)

Points per game: 15.0 Assists per game: 5.0 Steals per game: 4.0 High Game 22pts

#### Academic Accomplishments:

- Took AP courses
- Will be receiving an advanced diploma upon completing my senior year
- 3.0 GPA
- SAT score is currently 1010 (will be retaking SAT test in the fall)

Other School Activities: SCA, SOA, Key Club, 6am Study Class, Church Youth Group.

Alison H. Smith  
101 Illinois Avenue  
Port Williams, PA 55555  
Email: [Alison-bball24@ss.com](mailto:Alison-bball24@ss.com)  
555-555-5555

H.S. Coach: Wayne Allen 555-555-5555  
AAU Coach: Norman Jones 555-555-5555  
Personal Trainer: G. David 555-555-5555

See current High School Basketball Schedule on back

**Keep it short and to the point! Don't expect college coaches to read handouts that are long and drawn out – the shorter the better (or the coach may not read it at all).**



# Elite Camps: Which Ones? What to look for?

(Do your skills need a boost?)



## Elite Camps Information and / Notes:

If your game needs a “boost” try participating in a summer camp, but not just any camp, College “Elite” camps! Most Division I and II colleges have annual summer “Elite” camps.

You just have to contact the college and download the information.

### Players should call the college coaches and inquire about the following:

**1. How many players per coach (instructor)?**

\* If there are too many players per coach – there will be less attention for you.

**2. How much “one on one” instruction will you receive?**

\* You need specialized personal instruction, if it's not available, keep looking.

**3. Will there be a written evaluation of your skills available at the conclusion of the camp?**

\* The evaluation is very important, it can remind you of what you need to work on, and may possibly be used on your basketball resume?

**4. What age level of players will be attending?**

\* You want to make sure that this camp is going to be competitive – and there are no surprises when you get there (such as half the players being from middle school – believe me, it happens).

### Notes:

1. Players may need a letter of recommendation from their high school coach verifying that they are in fact an “elite” player.
2. Make it fun; sign up with a friend or teammate (another player that will work hard, etc).
3. Read the camp brochure, make sure you bring the items listed, (and more), etc.
4. Workout and prepare yourself for the camp – it is expected that you will show up in basketball shape.
5. Set a goal for the camp, what do you hope to achieve?

### Suggestion-How to search for Elite Camps:

\* Type in a college name on a search engine – ex: Univ. of Florida Basketball. Once you get to the Colleges main website, find the Athletics section, then either go to Men's or Women's basketball, look for camps. Larger schools almost always host an elite camp. Camp brochures and forms are usually available for download (print out). You may want to verify if the camp is “Elite” or not by calling and speaking to the college coaches.

### An Elite Camp Testimonial:

\* My daughter signed up for an “Elite” camp called the “Final Exam.” It was very different from the other camps in that there were about 5-6 top college coaches (from Penn State, Villanova, U-Conn, Purdue, etc.) slated to give lectures on important topics. Skills and drills were covered and explained in detail, but the best part was the lectures. Hearing from these top college coaches on what it will take to become a Division I player was impressive.

### **SAMPLE “ELITE” CAMP INFO / AGENDA:**

#### **Head Instructors:**

Don Smith - Head coach University of Arkansas 2008  
Graduate of UNC, Played point guard, started 3 years.  
Dan Smith - 2012 College All Stars, Head Coach for the  
AAU Summer Games

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

**Players must include in their camp application a letter of reference from a basketball coach indicating that they are an Elite player in skill and attitude and ready to be challenged to take on the rigors of an intense camp.**

#### **FEATURES**

Team Building and Leadership  
Individual competition  
Team competition  
Individual Guard/Post moves  
Shooting skill development  
Video analysis  
Written evaluation  
Acceleration Training  
Recruiting Seminar

**\$450.00 per player (includes room & board and acceleration training)**





# THE LETTER!

(Introducing yourself and your skills)



**How important is getting letters out to college coaches? What are your chances of getting recruited if you didn't send any letters out? When should the letters be sent? All important questions that you must understand.**

## **There are five very important steps:**

1. Writing the letter – Having the right information included on the letter.
2. Timing – Knowing when to start sending out letters to college coaches (Soph / Jr / Sr). And when to send a follow up letter (a shorter version) that includes any elite camps and showcases that you will be attending.
3. How many letters should a player send out, what is too much, too little?
4. Which colleges do you send letters to?
5. Tracking the Letters, you must keep track of the letters that you send out (use the form).

## **1. Writing the Letter: [Here is the Link to the Form](#)**

Get to the point in the letter, it's like a resume. The longer letters may not be read so try to keep it to one page. See the enclosed sample letter.

Important information to include:	
Start with your name, when you will be graduating, your position, height and weight...	Hi Coach! My name is Alison Smith. I will be graduating from Brooks High School in 2004. I play Shooting guard / Point Guard for my high school, and for my AAU Team. I am 5'5" tall and weigh 110lbs.
Let the coaches know what you are doing (or did) in the off-season. Include any "Elite" camps, but most of all – include showcase dates.	I am enclosing my High School Basketball Schedule, and additional information for you to review. I will send a videotape upon your request.
Include your basketball experience – recreational leagues, AAU, Middle school and High School	<b>Fall 2003 Basketball Program / Workout:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extensive Ball handling drills, Weight training, 250+ shots per day.</li><li>• Attended weekly sessions / workouts with a Professional Trainer (see attached).</li><li>• Joined my High Schools Cross-country team (1<sup>st</sup> year member). Practices started 8/11/2003.</li></ul>
Athletic Accomplishments – Include all sports that you played, any awards, how your team finished, etc...	<b>Experience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Played Recreational Basketball at the age of six (3 years)</li><li>• Played AAU basketball since the age of 9 (7years).</li><li>• Played Middle School basketball in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade (6<sup>th</sup> grade, team manager).</li></ul>
Game stats – If you have good stats go ahead and include your Sophomore / Junior seasons, if not, just your Junior season will suffice.	<b>Athletic Accomplishments:</b> <b>Freshman Year:</b> Varsity basketball player, *Varsity soccer starter <b>Sophomore Year:</b> Varsity starting point guard. Received Outstanding offensive player award. Voted second team all district. Tied school record for most made three-pointers in a game (five). HS Team finished 2 <sup>nd</sup> in the region. <b>Junior Year:</b> Varsity Starting point guard. Voted second team all district. Led the team in 3-pointer made. Track Team (Outstanding Hurdler Award) <b>Senior Year:</b> Captain / Varsity starting point/shooting guard. (See attached High School schedule). * Cross-Country Team. 1 <sup>st</sup> team all district / and 1 <sup>st</sup> team all region / placed 50 <sup>th</sup> in the state.
Include academic information such as GPA, SAT scores, achievements...	<b>Statistics Sophomore / Junior seasons:</b> Points per game: 10.0 / 12.2      Assists per game: 4.0 / 5.0 Steals per game: 3.0 / 4.0      Rebounds per game: 2.3 / 2.5 Free Throw: 68% / 74%      3 point: 33% / 38% Field Goal %: 32% / 43%
Other school activities you are involved in – Don't leave off this info...	<b>Academic Accomplishments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Took AP courses / Will be receiving an advanced diploma upon completing my senior year</li><li>• 3.2 GPA / SAT Scores: 1080</li><li>• Student of the Month for October 2003</li></ul>
Contact information – Include address, phone number, email address, and how to reach your High School / AAU coaches (and personal trainer).	<b>Other School Activities:</b> SCA, SOA, Key Club, 6am Scripture Study Class, Church Youth Group. * SCA President, 2003 Brooks HS Homecoming Queen.  Alison H. Smith 101 Illinois Avenue Port Williams, PA 55555 Email: <a href="mailto:Alison-bball24@ss.com">Alison-bball24@ss.com</a> 555-555-5555  H.S. Coach: Wayne Allen 555-555-5555 AAU Coach: Norman Jones 555-555-5555 Personal Trainer: Ganon David 555-555-5555

## **Notes / Suggestions:**

- a) Print out on colored paper, but always make sure that the information can be clearly read.
- b) If you want to get more "personal" write in the coaches name (Dear Coach Summit,) instead of "Hi Coach" etc... Just make sure that you get the coaches name right (coaches change jobs a lot, etc) and make sure that you spell their name correctly.
- c) Add your picture to the letter (at the top somewhere) – this makes the letter more personable.

## **2. Timing – When to start sending out letters to college coaches (Soph / Jr / Sr).**

\* During the middle to end of your sophomore high school season would be the ideal time to start sending out your first letters to college coaches. Why so early? College coaches can start calling players on September 1<sup>st</sup> of their junior year. So, players should start attending showcases right after their sophomore high school season ends (March-April, July, and September).

**\* Very Important: Always send a follow up letter (similar to the showcase handout) that includes information on any showcases and / or exposure camps that you will be attending (send at least 4-6 weeks in advance of any events that you will be attending).**

\* Its never too late to start – If you are a Junior or Senior and just now getting started in the recruiting process you will have to work overtime to get your letters out ASAP. Don't delay; get the letters out and sign up for showcases right away.

## **3. How many letters should you send?**

Unless you are being recruited nation wide you are going to have to send out as many letters as its going to take? If you have to send out 100 letters to get to where you need to be, then that's what you're going to have to do. **You are sending letters to get on the coaches recruiting list (players to watch).**

## **4. Which Colleges do you send the letters to?**

There is a certain amount of research that is involved prior to sending out your letters. You really don't want to send letters to every college out there unless you know a little something about the college you are sending the letter to. For example: If you are male, you wouldn't want to send a letter to an all female college or if you are looking for an athletic scholarship you don't want to send letters to colleges that don't offer athletic scholarships, etc. <http://virginia.collegedirectorynetwork.com/>

\* A few good resources for finding the right college are the College Directory, Newsweek Guide to Colleges, and just going to a college's website and checking it out

## **5. Tracking the Letters – Keeping track of the letters you send out (use the form).**

Good or bad you will need to keep track of all the letters you send and receive. Why keep the letters that say they are not interested? Don't want to send them another letter by mistake, and if a college changes mind, you will already have the information available. Keep track of all letters until the time comes when you will be deciding between colleges that are seriously recruiting you. [Here is the Link to the Form](#)

COLLEGE LIST: JUNIOR YEAR / ALISON SMITH

PAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER	DIV: 1,2,3, NAIA	COACHES NAME	1 <sup>ST</sup> LETTER MAILED	2 <sup>ND</sup> LETTER MAILED	RESPONSE DATE: I / NI / ?	Questionnaire Filled out, Date Mailed	Folder Ready,	COMMENTS / NOTES:

I = Interested NI = Not Interested





# THE VIDEO (DVD)

(Have it ready upon request)



**How important is your video?** It will be one of the first things that a college coach asks for after they receive your letter. The coach has read your letter and reviewed your stats, now, if they are interested, it's time to see you in action. The video should show all aspects of your game, and hopefully you are playing your best basketball. The DVD will either get you more interest from the coach, or turn the coach off. It all depends on what the coach is looking for (and how good you look on your video).

## What the coach wants to see on your DVD:

When a college coach asks you for a DVD they usually request to see a complete game (not an edited highlight video of your season). Now it's apparent that you should video tape all of your games to make sure that you get a full game to send to college coaches. Don't just video tape a couple games at the last minute just to have a video to send. This is very important! Keep video taping until you feel you've got one of your best games (it doesn't need to be perfect, just needs to be one of your best games, showing all your skills – offense and defense).

## What the coach wants vs. what you may have to send them?

If you just can't find a whole video that will do you justice and you are now wondering what you should send? Try the following suggestions:

- Send a video tape of your best first half of one game, and your best second half of another game (this may work to your advantage, or the coach may ask for another DVD).
- As a last resort - edit a game that highlights all of your skills, leaving off any major mistakes that would make you look bad (send to the coach and see what happens).

## Notes:

- The video should always be of good quality – don't send a DVD that cannot be clearly viewed when played back or you have just wasted the coaches time.
- Make several copies of your DVD, have copies ready to be mailed.
- The label should be clearly legible (typing up the labels would be a better idea than handwritten labels).
- Make sure you include your jersey number and color (so they know who to look for).
- If a coach requests a DVD of a full game – make sure that you don't just send them a highlight video of all the great things you did on the court (keep it real, it's ok to show a few mistakes on the video – just don't show too many).
- Use a separate letter to send in with your video – Use the form called "DVD Letter" as an Example. [Here is the Link to the Form](#)

## **Sample DVD Label**

It's really not necessary to make a fancy label, but if you have the resources to make DVD labels, go ahead and make some up! Also, it helps if you know someone that is familiar with editing, copying, and recording DVD's.



## **Video Taping Technical Notes:**

- Use mostly a wide angle shot showing all 10 players on the court (so the coach can see what's going on).
- The only time a close up should be used is when you are shooting a free throw.
- Use auto focus, and check the setting for lighting (set to auto).
- Use a tripod (stand for the video camera).  
\*Try not to video tape holding the camera.
- Use new tapes (never used tapes).



# COLLEGE LETTERS-RESPONSES

(Reading between the lines)



After your letters are sent out, expect to start receiving responses right away. Most colleges usually respond to players who have sent them a letter. Now it's time to decipher what these letters mean. Is it just a routine letter sent to everyone? Is it signed by the coach? Did the coach send you a questionnaire to fill out? What matters the most at this point is that you have established communication with college coaches. Remember, the letter is just a form of correspondence - this does not mean that you are now being recruited (because at this point, you are not). Letters are an essential tool used to make the initial contact between coaches and players.

## **Your first letter! (which may be in the form of an email from the coach).**

A player's first letter is always special and exciting. The first letter can motivate a player and add a realization to the whole process – you finally received personal contact from a college team.

## **How many will you get?**

Expect to receive a letter from every college that you have sent a letter to. Most colleges will take the time to respond to players even if it's just a "courtesy" letter.

## **What to do with them when you get them? [Here is the Link to the Form](#)**

Make a file for each and every letter that you receive (use manila file folders, etc). Don't throw any letters away (even if they say they aren't recruiting your position, etc.). Keep all letters for future correspondence.

## **Understanding what is real and what is a just a "form" letter.**

Now for the reality check. Most letters will just be "form" letters (standard letters that are sent to all players as a courtesy). Some letters will be signed by assistant coaches or head coaches, and you will even get letters with a written note in them. All letters have some form of meaning (good or bad), and the faster you understand what the letters actually mean the better.

## **What do the letters mean?**

- A form letter can mean that a coach interested, but most likely this letter was sent to everyone that has sent a letter to the coach (sent as a courtesy).
- Signed letters can mean that the coaches have included you on their recruiting list and will make an effort to watch you at a showcase (maybe get to watch you if they get the chance). Or this type of letter can mean that the coach signs every letter they send out?
- Letters with notes – This type of letter could mean a little more, especially if the coach writes "see you at the showcases" or asks that you send them a video tape.
- Letters with Questionnaires – The questionnaire is a form that a college coach sends to players requesting additional information. This could mean that the coach is recruiting your position and wants to take a look at you. A letter is considered a form of interest from the coach.

## **The "Questionnaire" - A very important part of the recruiting process!**

Coaches who are interested or just want to take a look at you will reply back to your letter with a questionnaire. This means the coach wants additional information on you, and there is a good chance they will be looking for you at the showcases. Don't hesitate – Fill out the questionnaires as you get them, and mail them back right away. If you hesitate, this could be considered a lack of interest on your part. Players should fill out every questionnaire they receive. Why? Even if you do not plan on attending a certain college, being on their recruiting list will still have its benefits – For Example: If a college you really want to attend calls you and asks what other colleges are recruiting you – you want to be able to start naming some colleges (it needs to at least appear that other colleges have interest in you). Coaches will take this information in consideration when deciding on making offers to players.



# PHONE CALLS - WHAT YOU SHOULD ASK?

(Be prepared to talk)



Once a player attends a showcase they should make sure they are ready if and when a college coach calls. The sample questions below cover different areas that need to be addressed. Being prepared when a college coach calls you also lets the coach know you are serious about finding the right college. [Here is the Link to the Form](#)

## Sample College Questions College: \_\_\_\_\_

Coaches Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Is \_\_\_\_\_ offered as a course of study?  
(Education, Business, etc...)
2. What is a typical class size?
3. How large is the school? How many students are enrolled?
4. Which conference does the team play in?
5. Which division: I \_\_\_\_\_ II \_\_\_\_\_ III \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which position am I being recruited for?
7. What are the opportunities for playing time?
8. If I'm injured, what happens to my scholarship (financial assistance)?  
(Is there an "Injury" Policy?)
9. What financial assistance will be offered?  
Athletic \_\_\_\_\_ Academic \_\_\_\_\_  
Grants \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
10. When are you planning to make offers to new players?
11. Describe the typical day for a student athlete?
  - When do the off-season workouts start?
  - When do regular season practices start?
  - Will you be sending me a summer workout plan? When?

**Note:** Players should not limit themselves to the questions listed above. Add or remove any question you feel needs to be asked or not asked. As long as you are ready when a coach calls. The information you document will assist you when its time to make your final decision.



# CHOOSING A COLLEGE

(Making the right choice...)



## It is extremely important to do your research!

Make sure that you have information about the colleges that you are sending letters to!

**Such as:** Will the coach waive the college admissions fee? How many students? Do they offer the program of study I am looking for? What is the teacher – student ratio? Are they recruiting my position? Location (is it near the beach or way up in the mountains)? Do they offer Athletic Scholarships? What do the dorm rooms look like? How long has the coach been there? These questions (and more) all need to be answered!

### **So you received an offer, but you really don't like the college.**

Do not decline any offer from a college until you have all the offers finalized. Keep all offers on the table until you have made your final decision. It is common for college coaches to ask a player if they have received other offers, and when a coach asks you this question, your answer better be yes. Once a coach knows that you are being recruited by other colleges, they may (or may not) want to offer you a package to counter your other offers? Keep all offers (even if you are keeping them as a bargaining chip). Is this fair? Yes, college coaches are holding out picking and choosing players at the last minute (playing with players basketball careers, etc.), there is no reason why you can't play this game also.

### **Do you want to be stuck there for 4 years?**

Remember, once you commit to a college you have to know that it's the right place for you. You have to live there, eat there, attend classes there, etc. You must be sure that you are happy with the college you choose – or it could possibly affect your game? If you don't play well, the coach does have alternatives (like not renewing your athletic scholarship again). **Athletic scholarships are not guaranteed for four years, they are actually renewable each year for four years (think of them as four – one year scholarships).**

## “THE COLLEGE VISIT”

Part of finding out more about a college is to visit the campus and get to see the college for yourself. There are two types of visits – Personal and Official Visits.

### **Personal Visits:**

This type of visit is where you call the college and set up a time to visit. Most colleges have this set up already, you just have to find out when and sign up. The advantage to this is that you get to see the side of the college without basketball in mind. Sometimes basketball visits steer you away from certain areas of the college and only show the things that they want you to see. You want to see everything, no surprises.

### **Official Visits:**

An official visit is when the coach calls you and invites you to come visit the college at their expense (they will pay for hotel rooms, food, etc.). You are only allowed 5 official visits, so choose wisely. If a coach calls and invites you for an official visit, this means that they are seriously recruiting you. You may visit the college again (at your expense) if you feel you want to see more, etc. Make a list of questions and items to look for prior to your visits. Be prepared to talk about money!

**Very important** - Make sure you ask the coach about the financial package and what they will be offering. Don't assume that they are giving you a full-ride; ask them directly about what exactly they will be offering you (if and when they make an offer). Get the straight scoop from them right from the start so you know where you stand!





# NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

(Division I, II only)



## What is the purpose of the NCAA Eligibility Center?

The NCAA Eligibility Center is an organization that performs academic evaluations for NCAA Division I and Division II schools. To be eligible to participate and receive any athletic money from a Division I or Division II school players must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and meet the required academic standards. In a nutshell - the NCAA Eligibility Center evaluates academics records and determines a student's eligibility to participate.

## What is a fee waiver?

There is a fee for processing the Eligibility Center application. Some students may be eligible for an application fee waiver. A player's high school guidance counselor is the best person to verify if they are eligible or not. The guidance counselor can then send in a waiver confirmation if a player is found to be eligible.

## When to Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center:

The best time to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at the beginning of your junior year (it is suggested that you check with your guidance counselor to verify the best time to fill out the Eligibility Center application). It is not necessary to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center if you are not planning to go to a D1 or D2 school, But, it is highly recommended that all student athletes register with the NCAA Eligibility Center (just to be on the safe side). If by chance a D1 or D2 school calls and is all of a sudden interested in you - it would be very beneficial to already be registered – or there may be lengthy delays.

## What Do I Need To Do? (Notes from the NCAA Eligibility Center)

- **Grade 9**
  - Verify with your high school guidance counselor and the online core-course listing to make sure you are on track.
- **Grade 10**
  - Verify with your high school guidance counselor and the online core-course listing to make sure you are on track.
- **Grade 11**
  - Register with the eligibility center. Register at [NCAA Eligibility Center Website](http://NCAAEligibilityCenterWebsite.com).
  - Make sure you are still on course to meet core-course requirements (verify you have the correct # of core courses and that the core courses are on your high school's 48-H with the eligibility center).
  - After your junior year, have your high school guidance counselor send a copy of your transcript. If you have attended any other high schools, make sure a transcript is sent to the eligibility center from each high school.
  - When taking the ACT or SAT, request test scores to be sent to the eligibility center (the code is "9999" – But you may want to double check with your guidance counselor).
  - Begin your amateurism questionnaire.
- **Grade 12**
  - When taking the ACT or SAT, request test scores to be sent to the eligibility center (the code is "9999" – But you may want to double check with your guidance counselor).
  - Complete amateurism questionnaire and sign the final authorization signature online on or after April 1 if you are expecting to enroll in college in the fall semester. (If you are expecting to enroll for spring semester, sign the final authorization signature on or after October 1 of the year prior to enrollment.)
  - Have your high school guidance counselor send a final transcript with proof of graduation to the eligibility center.

**The NCAA Eligibility Center is a “mandatory” part of the process of playing sports in college!**





# THE FAFSA FORM

(Free Application for Student Aid)



## What is FAFSA? (Free Application for Student Aid)

Filling out the FAFSA form is the first step in the financial aid process. The big question is - If you are going to get a full-ride, then why do you have to fill out the FAFSA form? Most colleges require athletes to fill out the FAFSA, and will not complete your financial aid package without the FAFSA info first.

### A completed FAFSA report will provide the following information:

- If a player qualifies for Financial Aid / Grants or not (amounts are based on income and need).
- If a player qualifies for low interest loans or not.
- The report also contains your Expected Family Contribution (E.F.C.) which measures your family's financial strengths and liabilities.

## Filling out the FAFSA: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Filling out the FAFSA form can be done on-line (electronically) or hand written and mailed in. Of course it is easier and more convenient to fill out the form electronically (and a lot easier to track). It may take 7-10 days to process the form. Once processed, FAFSA sends the student an S.A.R. (Student Aid Report). The S.A.R. will summarize the data on your application. It is important to note that you will also receive a Data Release Number (DRN). The DRN is necessary for you to apply to additional colleges. Colleges use your FAFSA information to finalize the financial aid package (award) they will be offering you.

## Deadlines for filling out the FAFSA:

Filling out the FAFSA form needs to be done **prior** to any college making you an offer. Fill out the form in January of your Junior or Senior year (as soon as your parents have completed their tax return).

[Here is the link to the form – Click Here!](#)

The pre-application form shown to the right (older form) is just one page of six. This form (updated each year) is a worksheet that you can use to ensure that you have all the information needed to fill out the main form on-line. I suggest that you use the pre-application worksheet – it will save you time and also let you know what information you are lacking to complete the main form.

**Notes:** Students are required to log on each time to their FAFSA account. Make sure you write down your log in ID and password, and make a folder to keep all the FAFSA paperwork in.

**Students are required to update the FAFSA information on a year to year basis.**

**2005-2006 FAFSA on the Web Pre-Application Worksheet**

Please DO NOT mail in this worksheet.

Before filing your FAFSA on the Web application we recommend that you (and one of your parents) apply for a PIN at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). There are advantages to applying for a PIN prior to filing your application. With a PIN you are able to:

- Electronically sign your application
- Make corrections to your submitted application
- Review your processed application data on the Web

Instructions:

1. Complete this worksheet only if you plan to use FAFSA on the Web to apply for financial aid. You can use the completed worksheet to fill in the online FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
2. Use this worksheet to collect your (and your parents') information before beginning your 2005-2006 online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The worksheet does not include all questions asked on the online FAFSA, just the ones that you might not readily know.
3. Questions on this worksheet are in the same order as they appear on the online FAFSA; however, because the online FAFSA allows you to skip some questions based on your answers to earlier questions, you may not have to answer all of the questions on this worksheet.
4. In addition to completing the Pre-Application worksheet, also complete the student (and parent) Worksheets A, B, and C on page 6 before beginning your online FAFSA.

We recommend that you supply student and parent e-mail addresses when filing your FAFSA on the Web application. E-mail notifications are the fastest way to receive information regarding the student's application. The e-mail addresses are optional and can be left blank. All notifications will then be mailed to the student's mailing address.

All of the gray shaded questions refer to parent's information. Please read "Who is Considered a Parent" in the middle of page 3 to determine if the shaded questions should be completed.

Question	Answer
Student's Last Name	
What is the student's state of legal residence?	
Student's Social Security Number	
Are you, the student, a U.S. Citizen?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I am a U.S. Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> No, but I am an eligible noncitizen <input type="checkbox"/> No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen
Generally you are an eligible noncitizen if you are: (1) a U.S. permanent resident and you have an Alien Registration Receipt card (I-551); (2) a conditional permanent resident (I-551C); or (3) an other eligible noncitizen with an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from Department of Homeland Security showing any of the following designations: "Refugee", "Asylum Granted", "Parolee" (I-94 confirms paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), or "Cuban-Haitian Entrant". If you are in the U.S. on an F1 or F2 student visa, or a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or a G series visa (pertaining to international organizations), you must answer "No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen." If you are neither a citizen nor an eligible noncitizen, you are not eligible for federal student aid. However, you may be eligible for state or college aid. If you're not sure how to answer, FAFSA on the Web ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/help.htm">www.fafsa.ed.gov/help.htm</a> ) provides additional information to help you answer these questions.	
Student's Alien Registration Number If you are an eligible noncitizen, enter your eight or nine digit Alien Registration Number.	A _____
Student's marital status as of today	<input type="checkbox"/> Single, Divorced, or Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Married/Remarried <input type="checkbox"/> Separated
Month and year you, the student, were married, separated, divorced or widowed	(Month and Year, e.g., 05/1995)
Did you, the student, become a legal resident of this state before January 1, 2007?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If no, what date did you, the student, become a legal resident of your state?	(Month and Year, e.g., 05/1995)
If you are male between the ages of 18 and 25 and NOT already registered with Selective Service, answer "Yes" and Selective Service will register you. All other applicants should skip to the next question.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
What degree or certificate will you, the student, be working on during 2005-2006?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> Bachelor's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate or diploma for completing an occupational, technical, or educational program of at least two years <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bachelor's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching credential - nondegree program <input type="checkbox"/> Associate degree - occupational/technical program <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate or professional degree <input type="checkbox"/> Associate degree - general education or transfer program <input type="checkbox"/> Other/Undecided <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate or diploma for completing an occupational, technical, or educational program of less than two years

Page 1 of 6



## USEFUL FORMS / FILES

( Go to [www.avcssbasketball.com](http://www.avcssbasketball.com) )



At this point I am going to refer you to the AVCSS Basketball Website forms page and Recruiting page to get access to additional information and all the useful forms there. It is definitely a “chore” to keep the website and this booklet updated with the links and forms that are constantly changing – so it was decided that it was definitely more “beneficial” to keep the website files updated. That way website users and the booklet users can access the same updated files anytime they want (and the booklet would not have outdated links / files and constantly need updating).

**Recruiting related Forms / Files** – This is the area where we will keep all the Forms / Files, and Links all on one page <http://avcssbasketball.com/college-basketball-recruiting-handouts/>

**College Recruiting – The Basics Webpage** – This is the Webpage that “compliments” this booklet with additional information (mostly just this booklet in “short form” – less details, but a good look at the recruiting process) <http://avcssbasketball.com/basketball-recruiting/>



## PERSONAL TRAINERS, ETC

(What to look for, how much will it cost?)



### What to look for?

Usually a personal trainer is someone who experienced playing at the college and professional or semi-pro level. It's always best to check out their credentials prior to signing up for a bunch of sessions. As a matter of fact, when you find a personal trainer in your area, sign up for only one session. Check it out first so you're not stuck paying for a bunch of sessions you are not going to get anything out of.

### How much can you expect to pay?

You can expect to pay anywhere from \$30 - \$60 for one session. Many times the personal trainer will have 2-4 players in the session and charge less (knowing that most players may not be able to afford \$45 a session). Expect the sessions to cost you some money - so if you cannot afford weekly sessions it is suggested that you schedule a session once every two weeks (or as much as possible if you can afford it).

### Locating a Personal Trainer / Professional Evaluators: Suggestions

1. Talk to your AAU / High School Coaches / Local Recreational Facilities.
2. Call local Colleges, ask for the strength and conditioning coach, ask if they know anyone?
3. Internet search – Type in Basketball Personal Trainers (your State) and start searching.
4. Talk to local Basketball organizations and clubs, such as AAU, etc. Coaches at this level may have information on personal trainers or be able to point you in the right direction.

**Note:** Not all personal trainers are alike. Some are really good at what they do and can help you become a better player, and some may not have the experience to help you improve your game? Be careful, choose wisely, and stop if it's not helping you improve. Stopping does not mean that you give up; it only means that you keep looking to find a personal trainer that has the experience to help you achieve your goals. [Link to Personal Trainer Page on Website](#)

This page attempts to enclose all the links in this publication on one page. More of a convenience for the reader – just place the mouse pointer over the link and a message should come up and say “CTRL + click to follow link.” As long as you are connected to the internet the link will take you to the site.

1. NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) - <http://ncaa.org/>
2. NCAA Recruiting Calendar – (to find D-1, D-2, Men’s or Women’s Recruiting Calendars). <http://www.ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Division%20I%20Recruiting%20Overview%20Chart2014.pdf>
3. NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) - <http://www.naia.org/>
4. NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association) - <http://www.njcaa.org/>
5. FAFSA (Free Application For Student Aid) - <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>
6. FAFSA FORM - <https://fafsa.ed.gov/fotw1415/pdf/PdfFafsa14-15.pdf>
7. NCAA Eligibility Center - [http://www.eligibilitycenter.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA\\_EMS.html](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA_EMS.html)
8. NCAA Free Recruiting Guide - <http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf>
9. ACT, KAPLAN - <http://www.kaptest.com/College/SAT/index.html>
10. AAU - <http://aausports.org/default.asp>
11. YBOA - <http://www.yboa.org/>
12. US JR. NATIONALS - <http://www.usjn.com/>
13. College Database Search – Keep in mind this is only one of many available sites. <http://www.petersons.com/ugchannel/code/searches/srchCrit1.asp?path=ug.fas.college>
14. College Database Search (b) – <http://www.U101.com/>
15. Tax Information for Students - <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/students/index.html>
16. Tax Benefits for Education - <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p970.pdf>
17. National Student Loan Data System <http://www.nslds.ed.gov/>
18. Direct Consolidation Loans <http://www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov/>
19. Education Connection [www.educationconnection.com/](http://www.educationconnection.com/)
20. BeRecruited.com [www.berecruited.com](http://www.berecruited.com)
21. Showcases / Exposure Basketball Tournaments – Links to Websites

Host	Website	Host	Website
Hoops Dreams	<a href="http://www.hoopsanddreams.org/">http://www.hoopsanddreams.org/</a>	Blue Star	<a href="http://www.bluestarbb.com/index.php">http://www.bluestarbb.com/index.php</a>
Hoop Mountain	<a href="http://www.hoopmountain.com/">http://www.hoopmountain.com/</a>	Elite Sports	<a href="http://www.elitesportsusa.com/">http://www.elitesportsusa.com/</a>
Mr. BBall / Miss BBall	<a href="http://misterbasketball.com/mr-basketball-tournaments/girls-events/showcase-main/">http://misterbasketball.com/mr-basketball-tournaments/girls-events/showcase-main/</a>	Exposure Basketball Tournaments	<a href="http://exposurebasketballtournaments.com/ncaa-certified-basketball-tournaments">http://exposurebasketballtournaments.com/ncaa-certified-basketball-tournaments</a>

**Check these NCAA sites for a Major Listing of Certified Exposure / Showcase events:**

<b>Men’s 2014 NCAA Certified Events (changes every year)</b>	<a href="http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_M.pdf">http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_M.pdf</a>
<b>Women’s 2014 NCAA Certified Events (changes every year)</b>	<a href="http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_W.pdf">http://ncaa.s3.amazonaws.com/files/bbcert/2014_Summer_Events_W.pdf</a>

Go to [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) and use the NCAA search engine, type in Certified Basketball Events...



## OTHER GRANTS, TAX BREAKS, LOANS, ETC

(Other ways to help pay for college)



### **OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS/TAX BREAKS/LOANS/WORK STUDY/ETC.**

There are other options to assist with paying for college that require a little work. Why pay that extra \$2,000 out of your pocket when you don't really have to? What if there was money out there that was available, but you just didn't take the time to apply for it? The key to most outside scholarships / grants is to find them, meet the deadlines, and have a very good essay to state your case. You will also have to get the required "recommendations" to complete the application. There should never be a fee (other than postage) associated with applying for scholarships or grants (unless your guidance counselor acknowledges certain ones as being legitimate).

### **When to start searching for them?**

Although you will start applying during your Senior year - it's always a good time to keep an eye out and look for scholarships and grants. Make up a folder and throw any information in it pertaining to scholarships / grants. Make a few notes as to the deadlines, etc. to make sure you don't miss out on any opportunities. Mark your two-year calendar so that you have an idea as to when to get started.

### **Scams: Beware!**

There are Scholarship search services that claim they have hundreds or thousands of opportunities for students to apply for free money, etc. What happens is that 5,000 students will apply for one \$500 or \$1,000 scholarship. It can get so congested and so many students are applying that it can turn out to be a waste of time. Don't pay any fee to a scholarship service or pay any fee to apply for scholarships. This type of scam is used frequently – they get 500 students to pay a \$25 fee to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship,  $500 \times \$25 = \$12,500$ . So one lucky winner will get \$1,000, and the very lucky scholarship service will get \$11,500. This may or may not be the case, but be aware that your chances of getting picked out of 5,000 applicants is 1 in 5000 (not the best of odds). Focus your efforts on scholarships that have better odds for you to be awarded.

### **Grants:**

Some organizations such as AAU sometimes award grants. I had to check on-line to find it, but it turned out that our State AAU chapter awarded grants of \$500 each year to AAU players or former AAU players. All a player had to do is to write an essay and meet the deadline. The award goes directly into the players college account.

### **School / Local Scholarships and Grants:**

Don't forget to check with your guidance counselor early on to see what grant information that they can give you. They are usually really busy so you should ask at least once a month during your senior year. Local organizations such as the ELKS Club, VFW, Moose Lodge, etc always have some form of grant each year. City and County governments may also have grants that they award each year – you just have to find them.

### **Suggestions:**

- Local newspapers list student awards and scholarships at the end of the school year. Cut the article out and see what grants are being awarded and do some investigating.
- Call local organizations to find out if they offer grants to students and the deadlines, etc.
- Use the form on the CD to list, log in, and track all the information you find!



### **Church Related Grants:**

Unknown to most students are church related grants or scholarships. My daughter's college coach told her about a church related scholarship that ended up getting her \$2,000 for the school year. Not bad for just writing an essay and getting recommendations, etc. It wouldn't hurt to ask around or to do some research on your own.

### **Tax Breaks: Hope Scholarship, Lifetime Learning Credits:**

Don't forget that there are tax breaks that can also assist with paying for college.

**Hope Scholarship** – A person who pays college tuition for themselves, their spouse, or any of their dependants may be eligible to claim a credit of 100% of the first \$1,000 of tuition and 50% of the next \$1,000 of tuition. Note: the credit is only good for the first two years of tuition. There are a few guidelines such as the student must be enrolled at least half time, and it declines in value with adjusted gross incomes. The student must be claimed as an exemption to be eligible. Hope Scholarships vary among the different states, do some research if interested.

**Lifetime Learning Credits** – Allows a tax credit of up to \$2,000 of tuition and fees for students beyond their first two years of college. The guidelines stated above for the Hope Scholarship also pertain to the Lifetime Learning Credit. Again, do some additional research as needed.

### **Student Loans:**

Information regarding loans is included in this booklet only to make sure that students understand all the options available. There are loans such as the Stafford Loan and others that are low interest and affordable for students. The Stafford loan is not based on your credit report, but rather by the FAFSA eligibility report. So even if you have bad credit, you may still be able to get the Stafford loan.

### **A few websites that can provide additional information on student loans:**

National Student Loan Data System <http://www.nslds.ed.gov/>

Education Connection [www.educationconnection.com/](http://www.educationconnection.com/)

Direct Consolidation Loans <http://www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov/>

### **Work Study Programs:**

Students can earn anywhere from \$500 - \$2,000 per school year from participating in a college work study program. Most of the time the coaches will get involved and assist you with finding the right job (so it fits the practice schedule and allows some flexibility). From what I have been told most work study jobs are not labor intensive and allow students time to study – hence the meaning “work study.”

### **Examples of work study jobs:**

- Sign in visitors at the front desk of the dorm.
- Answer the phone or file paperwork for a teacher or coach.
- Wash the towels or uniforms after practices.
- Assist with other sports – such as soccer games, volleyball, etc.
- Work in the Library; work the desk at the weight room, etc.

Make sure that you discuss work study with your coach so that they can assist you or at least guide you in the right direction. Not all work study jobs may be easy, but most will allow the student time to study.



# IMPORTANT TERMS TO KNOW

(GLOSSARY of TERMS)



## **ACT/SAT**

Standardized tests used by colleges for admissions (requirements). Students take the ACT or SAT and must achieve a certain score as part of academic eligibility to colleges.

## **Contact**

Any face-to-face contact that a coach has with a student (or the student's parents) away from the college campus. Contact can occur at a student's high school, at a showcase, or at the student's home, etc.

## **Contact Period**

Coaches may have face to face contact with players away from the college (at the player's high school or showcase events, etc.).

## **Core courses**

Courses that meet high-school graduation requirements and college entry guidelines.

## **Dead Period**

Coaches may not have any in-person contact with a player, but the coach may call or write the player during this period (no official or unofficial campus visits are permitted).

## **Evaluation**

An evaluation occurs anytime a college coach assesses a student's athletic ability (at the athlete's high school or at a showcase or exposure event).

## **Evaluation Period**

An evaluation is where coaches watch players practice or compete (this can include a high school game or showcase events), but no in-person or off campus contact is permitted.

## **Financial aid**

Any money a student receives from a college, grants, loans, or athletic monies (referred to as scholarships). Financial aid can also be academic related or based on financial need.

## **NCAA Eligibility Center (Formerly called Clearinghouse)**

An organization that verifies and certifies the academic eligibility for all prospective student athletes that are planning to attend an NCAA Division I or Division II college (not used in Division III).

## **Official visit**

Any visit to a college by a student paid for by the college coach that invited them.

## **Quiet Period**

Coaches may not have any in-person contact (other than on campus visits by players) or cannot watch the player play or visit a high school game during this time, but can call or write players).

## **Redshirt**

An athlete that does not participate in any games or scrimmages for a full academic year. The rule is that if a student plays in any part of a game (even for just one minute), the student cannot be considered a redshirt.

## **Scholarship**

Any money (athletic, academic, grants, loans, etc) received from a college or other sources to assist a student with paying for college tuition.

## **Unofficial visit**

A visit to a college campus paid for by the student. If an unofficial visit is worked out with a college coach the student can only accept tickets to the sports home games (up to three tickets).

## **Verbal Commitment**

Is a verbal statement that a student makes that indicates their intention to attend a certain college to play sports there. Note: Verbal commitments are not binding in any way.

## **Walk-on**

Any athlete that did not receive financial assistance to play a sport, but is an official member of the team.

I am not sure that this booklet would be complete if I did not mention a very important aspect of the recruiting process – which is letting your child make their own decisions about their future and accepting the decisions that they make. A player must choose a college that they will be able to spend the next four years at, not a college that their parents feel is best for them. It's easy for parents to tell their child that they will adjust and meet people, and it will just take a little time, but the bottom line is that your child is the one that has to live at the college (and deal with the outcome of this decision). Don't get me wrong – Parents still need to provide guidance, but they must also let their child be part of the decision process (a major part).

Once parents have assisted their child with getting an athletic scholarship, the rest will be up to the son or daughter. College life, mixed with basketball is extremely hard on student-athletes. Players must deal with class-work, basketball, and the social activities / pressures of college life. It will be hard to get used to – not all student-athletes will be able to balance this heavy load?

**Parents must realize that all the work and money they spend on getting their child an athletic scholarship is their investment in their child's future - and also realize that any of the following outcomes are possible:**

- a) Your child could do great at basketball, and get a college education (without any financial obligations after graduating).
- b) Your child could not do so great at basketball, but still get a college education (without any financial obligations after graduating).
- c) Your child could be a starter in their sophomore year of college, and all of a sudden decide that they don't want to do it anymore, and inform the coach they have decided to quit. Giving up a full ride to pursue other interests.
- d) Your child could be promised a full ride for all four years by the head coach, but then the head coach leaves at the end of your child's freshman year. The next coach informs your child that they may or may not renew the scholarships promised by the other coach.
- e) Your child may be asked to pay for part of their tuition after the coach decides they need extra athletic money for a new star player coming in. Now your child is forced to take out loans or find other financial means to pay for tuition.
- f) Your child could really dislike the college, the other players, the coaches, and the area the college is located in. Now it's just a matter of time before they quit or transfer to another college.

Both c) and d) actually happened to our family. Both situations were very tough to comprehend – especially after going through everything we did as parents (all the long trips, all the money spent on showcases, all the expenses). The bottom line is that we did everything we could to help our daughters, and we did in fact succeed in assisting them with landing athletic scholarships (against all the odds). Keep in mind that any decisions made after your child is in college are not the parent's decision to make. To this day, it is still tough to think about my daughter's decision, but it was her decision to make (whether we as parents think it was right or wrong). The daughter that was promised a full ride for four years transferred to an NAIA college and was very happy there (even though it ended up costing around \$2800 per year in tuition).

A lot of hard work can go in to the recruiting process without knowing what the future brings. That is the chance you may be taking? Make sure that your child really wants to do this, and has the discipline, determination, and desire to see it all the way through. If everything works out the way you want it to – the whole family benefits financially, socially, and spiritually. If everything doesn't work out the way you want it to – you must work through it and feel good about the fact that you gave it your best shot (you gave it everything you had – no regrets).

# The Final Word!

Lots of hard work can go in to the recruiting process without knowing what the future brings. Both the parents and the players have to realize what a big gamble this is going to be. Make sure that your child really wants to do this, and has the discipline, determination, and desire to see it all the way through. If everything works out the way you want it to – the whole family benefits financially, socially, and spiritually. If everything doesn't work out the way you want it to – you must work through it and feel good about the fact that you gave it your best shot (you gave it everything you had – no regrets)

## OTHER AVCSS SPORTS CLUB PUBLICATIONS:

Description
Rec Basketball Coaching "101" (with CD)
Zone Offenses (with CD)
Zone Defenses (with CD)
Team Drills (with CD)
Inbounds Plays (with CD)
Motion Offenses (with CD)
Man to Man Defense (with CD)
Press Breakers (with CD)
Presses (with CD)
Summer Workout (with CD)
Running a Tournament (with CD)
10 Booklet Package (with CD's)
Basketball Cheat Sheet
3 on 2, 2 on 1 Drill Cheat Sheet
Referee Signals Cheat Sheet
*Check out our Free Website!

## Check out our "Free" Website Now!

Coaches, Parents, Players,  
Check out our free Basketball Website - here's what you'll find:

- \* Free "Animated" Diagrams / Plays!
- \* Free Basketball "Video" Clips
- \* Free Basketball Handouts, Links, Plays, Drills, and Information.
- \* Info on Recruiting, College Showcases.
- \* Info on Youth Camps / Elite Camps.
- \* Info levels: Recreational / Middle - High School / Competitive (AAU / YBOA),
- \* Also Includes – Parent information, Personal Trainers, Tournaments, and much more!

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**Guide to  
College  
Recruiting  
4th Edition**

Guide to College Recruiting

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