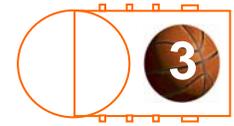




WHEN TO START: CHECKLIST

(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 in high school.

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:

- 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 2nd batch of letters, update the information 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).
- Fill out the NCAA Clearinghouse form and submit it ASAP (discuss with your guidance counselor).
- 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!