

Diablo Futbol Club College Night

June 2, 2009

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The Myth vs. the Reality

One of the more critical steps in the college selection process for student-athletes, their coach, and guidance counselor is the elimination process.

The majority of students and parents believe talented high school athletes are actively recruited and offered "full-ride" sports scholarships by Division I college coaches. The reality is that only 2% of these athletes are "actively recruited" by leading college coaches, leaving the remaining 98% to "recruit themselves" through self-directed efforts

In high school, students should have a clear and concise direction for selecting a college or university program that fits their needs and demonstrate their willingness to improve their technique and acumen to achieve results. Do you have a clear and concise direction for your collegiate future?

One of the more critical steps in the college selection process for student-athletes, their coach, and guidance counselor is the elimination process. Getting noticed by college and university coaches must start early and be maintained if a student-athlete is serious about applying their academic and athletic accomplishment to receive scholarships and be selected to play at the collegiate level.

If the student-athlete has not communicated their interest to a variety of programs, and has made little to no contact with college coaches and admission officers, they will need to work harder. By sizing up strengths and weaknesses, students will have a clear direction for improving their academic and athletic needs to compete at the collegiate level and be successful.

Planning Ahead...

Freshman Year

- ✓ Start planning now!
- ✓ Take courses that match your school's list of approved core classes
- ✓ Aim for A's and B's in all classes.
- ✓ Develop good study skills and habits
- ✓ Join clubs, play sports and volunteer
- ✓ Parents – get involved in the process!

Sophomore Year

- ✓ Take Geometry or Algebra II and college prep English
- ✓ Aim for A's and B's in all classes
- ✓ Develop good study skills and habits
- ✓ Expand your interests: enrichment programs, camps at college campuses
- ✓ Visit college campuses, take tours, talk to students, research websites
- ✓ Start thinking about colleges and majors
- ✓ Research colleges, financial aid, scholarships, and educational requirements
- ✓ Setup meeting with a college counselor at school

Junior Year

- ✓ Check with college counselor about college preparatory classes and academic plan
- ✓ Aim for A's and B's in all classes – most important in Junior and Senior years
- ✓ Register in October for PSAT
- ✓ Take PSAT
- ✓ Take AP exams, if taking AP classes
- ✓ Develop more selective college contact list - begin writing to colleges & coaches
- ✓ Explore opportunities for college / high school joint enrollment credit
- ✓ Attend college information programs – College Nights / College Fairs
- ✓ Verify SAT and/or ACT registration deadline with counselor
- ✓ Get Letters of Recommendation / References

- ✓ Organize your personal portfolio
- ✓ Visit college campuses of different types and sizes
- ✓ Explore possibility of enrolling in AP courses for college credit
- ✓ Take SAT and ACT
- ✓ Develop your preferred college list
- ✓ Review admission applications questions & concerns with counselors

Senior Year

- ✓ Take advanced courses for college admission
- ✓ Review classes schedules with college counselor
- ✓ Aim for A's and B's in all classes – most important in Junior and Senior years
- ✓ Register for SAT and/or ACT in early September
- ✓ Begin application process in October
- ✓ Visit college campuses
- ✓ Research scholarship opportunities
- ✓ Apply to colleges (October 1 – November 30)
- ✓ Complete and file FAFSA (January)
- ✓ Apply for financial aid Cal Grant (February)
- ✓ Take English Placement Test (EPT) and/or Entry Level math (ELM)
- ✓ Take AP exams in May
- ✓ Request referrals from teachers and coaches
- ✓ Make sure all applications have been submitted
- ✓ Parent / student meeting with counselor to verify all transcript verification is complete
- ✓ Re-take SAT and/or ACT if necessary
- ✓ Review acceptances and offers - choose college you wish to attend
- ✓ If put on waiting lists, contact college admissions officers and guidance counselor
- ✓ Submit necessary deposits to college chosen
- ✓ Notify college you have chosen to attend
- ✓ Notify colleges applied not attending

What You Need To Do...

- ✓ Make a list of at least 10 colleges (ranging from Division 1 to Division 3, NAIA)
- ✓ Find the contact information and research each college and coach
- ✓ Complete your player profile
- ✓ Mail player profile packets to coaches
- ✓ Update coaches through e-mails and phone calls about upcoming tournaments and games
- ✓ Follow up, follow up, and follow up!!!

Student Athlete - Clearinghouse

- All students who plan on being intercollegiate student-athletes in Division I and II must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse (www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)
- Upon Registration, the Clearinghouse determines each student's eligibility for practice and competition, as well as eligibility to receive athletic scholarships that have been offered by a college coach.
- Clearinghouse only determines whether you meet NCAA requirements, it does not guarantee your admission to any DI or DII school.
- Transcripts will be sent by your high school directly to Clearinghouse
- Register after you junior year

Summary of Recruiting Rules for Soccer

Recruiting Method	Division I			Division II	Division III	NAIA
	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year			
Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may begin receiving recruiting materials September 1 of junior year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recruiting materials are allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A coach may begin sending you printed recruiting materials September 1 of your junior year in high school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive printed materials any time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recruiting materials are allowed
Telephone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to coaches at your expense College coach cannot call you 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to coaches at your own expense College Coach may call you once per week starting July 1 after your junior year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to coaches at your expense College Coach may call you once per week beginning July 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A college coach may call you once per week beginning June 15 between your junior and senior year You may make calls to the coach at your expense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No limit on number of calls or when they can be made by the college coach You may make calls to the coach at your expense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions
Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No off-campus contact allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off Campus contact is allowed starting July 1 after your junior year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-campus contact is allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A college coach can have contact with you or your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus beginning June 15 after your junior year A college coach is limited to three in-person contacts off campus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A college coach may begin to have contact with you and your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus after your junior year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions
Official visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No official visits allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Official Visits are allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official visits are allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I and II colleges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of 5 official visits to Divisions I and II colleges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year. You may make only one official visit per college. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions
Unofficial visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions

Useful Websites

College Athletics

www.ncaa.org (Home site of the NCAA)

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net (NCAA information on eligibility and online application)

www.naia.org (NAIA athletics)

Standardized Testing and Test Prep

www.collegeboard.com (College Board—SAT)

www.actstudent.org (ACT)

www.testprepreview.com (Free test prep)

<http://number2.com> (Free test prep)

www.lightlink.com/bobp/wedt/sat.htm The Wordsmyth SAT Dictionary (free)

www.powerprep.com College Power Prep (free and fee based test prep service)

Information about fee based test prep programs is available in the college center.

College Applications and Information

www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply (University of California)

www.csumentor.edu & www.calstate.edu (California State University)

www.commonapp.org (Common Application for Private Colleges)

www.aiccumentor.org (Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities)

www.cccco.edu (California Community Colleges)

www.assist.org (California Community College Transfer Agreements)

Scholarships & Financial Aid

www.fafsa.ed.gov (FAFSA online)

www.finaid.org (General Financial Aid Information)

www.finaid.org/finaid/calculators/estimate.html (EFC calculator)

www.csac.ca.gov (California Student Aid Commission)

www.fastweb.com (Scholarship search)

www.scholarships.com (Scholarship search)

Sample Cover Letter

Name:
Address:
City, State Zip:
Home Phone Number:
Cell Phone Number:
E-mail Address:

Date:
Coach:
Name of College:
Address:
City, State, and Zip:

Dear (Coach's Name):

Based on my research in preparation for choosing a college, (name of college) has both an excellent reputation, and the types of academic and athletic programs I hope to pursue after graduation from high school.

The enclosed resume details my academic standing and Soccer experience. I am currently a junior, with a GPA of ___ on a 4.0 scale, and taking college preparatory classes with an emphasis on (list core courses). The strength and variety of courses offered at (name of college) provide several degree plans of interest to me, although I have not yet decided on a specific major area of study.

More specifically, your Soccer program is of primary interest to me. I believe my skills and abilities would fit well into your program, and enable me to contribute to the success of the (team name) while continuing to develop my Soccer talents under your style of play.

I would like to pursue all available means for financial aid, and I believe my academic standing should qualify me for scholarship assistance.

Thank you for any consideration you can give me as a future (team name). Please send me information on your program, and any suggestions you may have on how best to prepare for attendance at (name of school) in the fall of (your graduation year).

Sincerely,

(Your Name)

Player Profile

Diablo Futbol Club (Concord, CA)

Name:

Street Address:

City, State Zip:

Home Phone Number:

Cell Phone Number:

E-mail:

Date of Birth:

Height:

Weight:



Insert Photo Here

Academics

High School:

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Graduation Date:

GPA:

Class Rank:

SAT Score:

ACT Score:

Academic Awards:

Interests/Hobbies:

Other Achievements:

Athletics

Diablo Futbol Club

Club Website: www.diablofc.org

Team:

Coach:

Jersey #:

Jersey Colors:

Position(s):

Player Achievements:

Team Awards/Rankings:

High School:

High School Website:

Coach:

Jersey #:

Jersey Colors:

Position(s):

Player Achievements:

Team Awards/Rankings:

Upcoming Schedule

Tournaments:

League:

High School:

References

Coach: Name:
 Address:
 City, State, Zip:
 Phone Number:
 E-mail:

Coach: Name:
 Address:
 City, State, Zip:
 Phone Number:
 E-mail:

Teacher: Name:
 Address:
 City, State, Zip:
 Phone Number:
 E-mail:

Personal: Name:
 Address:
 City, State, Zip:
 Phone Number:
 E-mail:

Communication Chart

	College Name	Level	Head Coach	Phone Number	Email Address	Contact Dates		
						1st	2nd	3rd
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
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19								
20								

**Please use the above diagram to chart communication with different colleges throughout the year.*

Reminders...

1. *Initiate contact as soon as possible.*
2. *Send tournament and league information with player profile.*
3. *Send reminder emails when traveling to tournaments.*
4. *Inquire about summer camps.*
5. *Ask questions!*

