
texas glory adkins

RECRUITING

Actively Working to Maximize Your Opportunities

Glory's Alumni/Commitments

Texas Glory Adkins Alumni Page can be found at:

<http://txglory.com/organization/alumni.html>

- **Committed 150+ Kids to college scholarship since 2009**
- **All current gold team committed to college scholarship**
- **No player has graduated without a scholarship**

Understand Yourself . . .

- **Get Your Grades. #1**
 - **Coaches ALWAYS ask**
- **What are your goals & aspirations?**
- **Be realistic about your ability**
- **Determine your priorities**

Goals & Aspirations

- **Where do you want to go to college?**
Close, Big, Private, Don't care, Don't know
- **What do you want to be when you grow up?**
Some may know and that narrows the scope of their search
- **What do you want to study in college?**
Does the school have your major?
- **Do you want to win a College World Series or get an education? Both?**
- **Is it about playing a particular position, playing time, being a star, playing right away . . . ?**

Be realistic . . .

About Your Abilities

- Am I a D1, D2, D3, NAIA, JUCO player? What's the difference.
- Am I a D1 student?
- Am I on the right club team?
- Can I get the exposure I need to reach my goal?

About the Possibilities

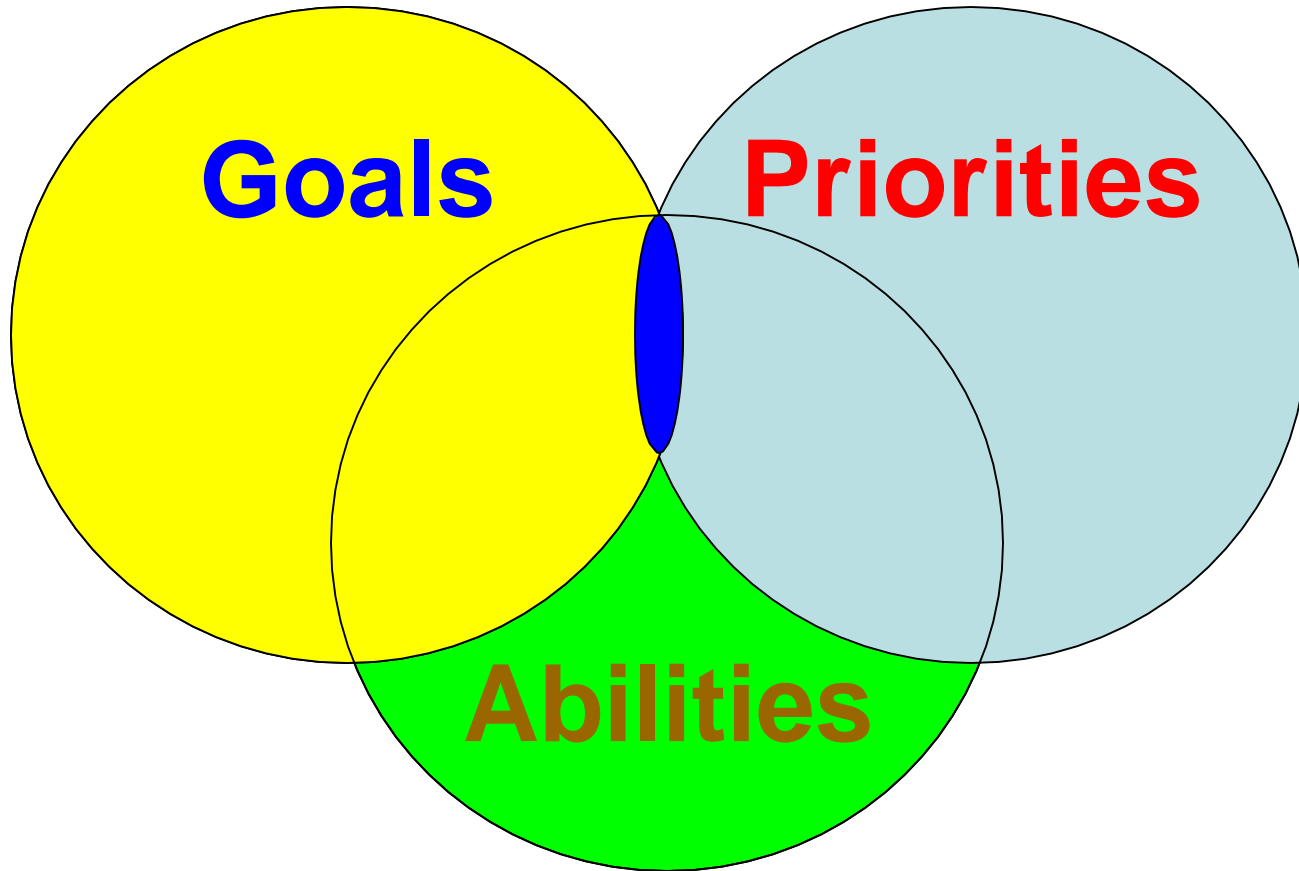
- Only 13-15% of College Softball Players are on a Full Ride
- . . . But my kid is better than that kid . . . (FIT)
- Who are your recruiting advocates/contacts?

Determine Your Priorities

- **School**
- **Location**
- **Major**
- **Softball Program**
- **Ability to Play Early**
- **Costs**
- **Coach**
- **Other**

Ranking these parameters in order will help take some of the emotion out of the process

Find the Common Space



Adjust Goals, Priorities & Abilities to match

Take Action

- **Make a plan/timeline**
Start a dairy, journal, and have a written plan
- **Work the plan**
- **Actively demonstrate interest – maximize your options**
- **Make a decision – stick with it**

Make a Plan

- **Make a list of schools based on the intersection of your goals, priorities and abilities**
- **Gather appropriate email and physical addresses**
- **Prepare introductory communications to college coaches**
- **Prepare player profiles**
- **Research those schools – academics, cost, softball, other**
- **Play 14U – Colorado Showcase and ASA/PGF/TCS Nationals**
- **Play 16U – Colorado Showcase and ASA/PGF/TCS Nationals**
- **Play 18U – Colorado, ASA Nationals and Regional TCS/PGF**

Work the Plan

- **Begin to communicate with the schools that meet your criteria.**
Cast a wide net. Be careful not to over communicate.
 1. Letters of introduction –
 1. Hand written letters. Start with top 5. Do 5 a week. D1,D2, D3, NAIA
 2. TGA Tournament schedules - Mail to top 25 schools D1, top 10 D2-
 3. Player Profiles – Complete and update twice a year, send once a year
- **Start in the summer between the 7th grade and 8th grade year.**
- **Be a player that coaches can honestly promote.**
 1. Team attitude
 2. Hard working
 3. Improving skills
 4. Coachable! Coachable! Coachable!
 5. Have good parents – supportive, “supportive team players”
 1. Parents, keep it fun for your player or they will STOP!!
- **Continue to communicate to college coaches throughout career.**
- **Attend Showcase events, RM, Colorado, TopGun. TCS/PGF etc...**
- **Go to College Campuses early and often – Camps, Visits**

Showcase Behavior

- *You are on Display from the Parking Lot to the Parking Lot*
- Treat everyone with appropriate respect. Yes Sir, Ma'am
- Be positive at all times, especially to your team/coaches
- Jerseys tucked in – ALWAYS...
- Play hard – with desperation... Out hustle everyone...
- It is similar to a job hunt – you are up against the best players in the country, avoid giving coaches a reason to remove you from the list. (parents that means you too)
- *You are on Display from the Parking Lot to the Parking Lot*

EVERY EVENT IS A SHOWCASE EVENT!

Actively Demonstrate Interest

- **When a school shows interest aggressively follow up**
- **Keep all your options open**
- **Let your priorities guide your decision making**
- **Make unofficial visits when feasible**
- **Return College Questionnaires quickly (7 days)**
Include that school in your top schools when communicating...
- **Know the landscape of the recruiting class for schools for which you have interest. Check websites for rosters**
- **Follow on twitter and communication feeds**

Sept. 1, 9th/10th/11th Year

- I got lots of letters from schools. What does that mean?
- I didn't get lots of letters. What does that mean?
- What do I do with these recruiting packets?
- They want me to come for an “unofficial” visit – now what?
- Communication flood gates open
- Appropriate ways to communicate
 - Emails, Text messaging, Phone calls
- The work has just begun . . .

July 1, Junior Year

- **Communication flood gates open**
- **Emails, Text messaging, Phone calls**
- **Appropriate ways to communicate**
- **Colleges are slowing down.**

Other semi-random thoughts

- Athlete should communicate, not parents
- Don't put eggs in one basket, coaches move/fire, you change plans
- Keep getting better. Challenge yourself, learn EVERY POSITION.
- Don't blow off visits, Coaches are a network, they TALK...
- You represent your club, Texas Glory Adkins!
- Team/Club does matter,
- Avoid blanket emails, except maybe schedules and game times
- Stay focused on your future – not your teammates,
- Try to avoid moving around from team to team during the recruiting process

Questions to Ask Coaches - The Coach and Coaching Staff

- 1.) How would you best describe your coaching style?
- 2.) Where do you place your emphasis (offense, defense) during training and games or matches?
- 3.) When does your head coaching contract end?
- 4.) What is each of the assistant coaches responsible for?
- 5.) How does your team treat walk-ons?
- 6.) What is the typical year like for your student athletes? (off-season training program)
- 7.) What is the typical day like for your student athletes during the season? During the off-season?
- 8.) How important is this particular sport to your school's athletic director?
- 9.) What is the current status of the college's relationship with the NCAA (or NAIA)?

Questions to Ask Coaches - Sports and Academics

- 1.) What percentage of your players on scholarship graduate in four years?
- 2.) What is the team's GPA from last year?
- 3.) Describe the typical class size.
- 4.) What do you do to academically support your players? (Tutors, study hall requirements, staff, class load)
- 5.) Am I allowed time to make up classes and tests missed because of the competition schedule?
- 6.) Are tutors provided for athletes?
- 7.) How do students compensate for time out of the classroom?
- 8.) What are your policies for missed practices or being late due to class commitments?
- 9.) Do you have a solid academic advising center? How many players take advantage of it?
- 10.) How many credits are required for me to be eligible to compete?
- 11.) How many credits are required for me to keep my financial aid?

Questions to Ask Coaches - My Athletic Career

- 1.) What position will I play on your team?
- 2.) Have you personally watched me play? If so, why do you think my skills fit into your program?
- 3.) Describe the current players competing at the same position. What skills do they possess?
- 4.) How many freshmen are being recruited for my position?
- 5.) Where do you see me fitting in the program this year? Years 2, 3 and 4?
- 6.) What chance do I have to win playing time as a freshman?
- 7.) I know you have a list of potential recruits for this position. Where am I on that list?
- 8.) Can I “redshirt” my first year? Under what conditions do you typically redshirt players?
- 9.) What are the physical requirements each year? (training commitments, weight, etc.)
- 10.) Will I receive a written contract or tender?
- 11.) What are your expectations of me as a player? As a person?

Questions to Ask Coaches - The Team

- 1.) Do the players on the team all live in the same dorm?
- 2.) Will I be required to live on campus all four years?
- 3.) Where state/region do most of your players come from?
- 4.) Are there any unique team-building activities you do in your program?
- 5.) How many games/matches are there in a season?
- 6.) How much travel do you have in a typical year?
- 7.) What tournaments do you play in?
- 8.) What are the most impressive accomplishments of your program in the past five years?
- 9.) What are your team conduct rules? Are they the college's minimums or are they tougher?
- 10.) Am I expected to stay in town during the summer?
- 11.) When does the season begin? End?
- 12.) What are my off-season responsibilities?

Questions to Ask Coaches - Finances and Scholarships

- 1.) **Specifically, what expenses does the financial aid and/or scholarship package cover? (Tuition, room, board, books, special assessments, supplies)?**
- 2.) **Is financial aid available for summer school?**
- 3.) **If I'm injured, what happens to my financial aid?**
- 4.) **What are my opportunities for employment while I'm a student?**
- 5.) **What conditions are used to determine annual renewal of scholarship?**
- 6.) **What medical expenses does the college cover? Do I need other insurance?**

Example Letter One

Coach "XXXXXXXXXX",

I want to introduce myself, my name is "Player Name" and I am currently attending "XXXXXXXXXX" High School and will graduate with the class of "####". While searching for colleges that would allow me to complete a degree in "XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX", the "Name of College" fits many of my interests. In an effort to take the next step in my education, I would like to find out more of what your college has to offer. I am also very interested in learning more about your softball program. Attached is my profile that lists both my academic and athletic accomplishments. Please review and let me know if they match the qualifications that you are looking for that would allow for me to attend and play softball for the "College Name". I have also completed the online Prospective Athlete Questionnaire. I currently play my travel softball with Texas Glory Adkins "Team Name" and I see that you will be attending the "tournament/showcase name" this weekend in "City" and would like to offer you an invitation to come watch me play. My schedule for the "tournament/showcase name" is listed below. As soon as I have times for future showcases and tournaments, I will pass them on to you.

I understand that you are not allowed to contact me directly until my junior year of high school, but I wanted you to know of my interest in your college. If you are needing any further information, please feel free to contact Dan Adkins or Jack Fultz whose information is located on my attached profile sheet. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Player Info - ##

Texas Glory Adkins "NAME"

Cell Phone:

Email:

Coach: Jack Fultz, Cell Phone: (214) 557-7722, Email: jfultz@txglory.com

Texas Glory Adkins Schedule

Saturday

8:00 AM Heritage Yards Field 1

11:00 AM Craig Ranch Field 5

5:00 PM Heritage Yards Field 8

9:30 PM Craig Ranch Field 3

Sunday

9:30 AM Heritage Yards Field 4

Example Letter Two

Dear Coach "Name":

I wanted to thank you for coming watching us play this weekend.

I have been working hard the last several weeks on:

List here the skills you are working on:

I also had a one hop double to the fence last night. Again, thanks for coming and I look forward to talking to you or seeing you again soon.

Sincerely,

Player Info - ##

Texas Glory Adkins "NAME"

Cell Phone:

Email:

Coach: Jack Fultz

Cell Phone: (214) 557-7722

Email: jfultz@txglory.com Player Name

Example Letter Three

Dear Coach "Name":

Thank you so much for coming to watch my team and I play on Saturday, October 16, 2010, in McKinney, Texas, at Craig Ranch.

I enjoy playing softball and my primary position is pitching and my secondary is first base. I've been playing softball since I was 8 years old and pitching just as long. I know lefties are limited to where they can play sometimes but I will play anywhere as long as I can play. I would love to see you at another tournament so that you can have an opportunity to see my team and I play again. We have two upcoming college showcase tournaments in November.

- November 12-14 in Plano, Texas - All-American College Showcase and Recruiting Tournament**
- November 19-21 in Plano, Texas - 2010 Elite Pre-Thanksgiving Recruiting Tournament**

My player profile sheet can be found on our team website, "LINK" and I also have an account on www.beRecruited.com.

I would like to mention that, according to a close family friend, you have a great campus and exemplary school. I'm very interested in your academic and softball programs, so please add me to your mailing list for any camps or clinics your team may offer.

Sincerely,

Player Info - ##

Texas Glory Adkins "NAME"

Cell Phone:

Email:

Coach: Jack Fultz

Cell Phone: (214) 557-7722

Email: jfultz@txglory.com

Example Letter Four

Coach **Name Here**;

Hi, it's **PlayersName**. Congratulations on becoming an Assistant Softball Coach at the University of Connecticut!!! I have been hoping you would accept a position soon, so that I could send you my updated player profile, I consider you one of the Coaches that I would love to play for in the future, as you know I have had the pleasure to attend some Clinics with you in the past and really respect your teaching techniques. I am interested in attending the University of Connecticut, and compete as a student-athlete.

I am very excited to be playing with some of my teammates from last season for Coach Campbell, and once our schedule is confirmed will send it to you, it's going to be a great year.

I am writing to let you know that I will be playing at the **Beaumont - Stars Over Texas Showcase - September 10-12**, under **TEAM NAME HERE**, with Coach **NAME HERE**. If you or anyone from the University of Connecticut are attending, I truly hope someone may find time to attend one of these games again to watch me play. *Please see my updated player profile attachment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

PLAYER NAME #00

greatestpalverver@mail.com

Glory Adkins **TEAM NAME HERE**

<http://www.txglory.com>

Tim Campbell, TX Glory Adkins 16U Gold Coach

903-563-0987 coachtimcampbell@gmail.com

Keith Allen, TX Glory Adkins Organization

214-876-0724 coachkeithallen@gmail.com