

DRIVE NATION VOLLEYBALL

Recruiting Presentation

Recruiting Mission Statement

Our primary goal is to help every Drive Nation athlete that desires, to find the right opportunity to continue their education, while competing at the collegiate level. We strongly believe that the student-athlete is the one who has to drive the recruiting process, but we are available every step of the way to assist our athletes. At Drive Nation we partner with our athlete and their families in educating, guiding, and providing them with the tools to have the most positive and successful RECRUITING JOURNEY possible.

Freshman Year

- Set-up SportsRecruits profile (picture, contact info, etc.)
- Register with University Athlete (free at https://universityathlete.com)
- Consider setting up an e-mail account to use just for recruiting (<u>JaneSpiker2026@email.com</u>)
- Create separate Instagram/Twitter account for recruiting; follow schools you are interested in
- Start researching schools and compile a list schools that interest you both athletically and academically
- Send introduction e-mails to coaches (realize they cannot e-mail you back)
- Return any questionnaires that you may receive
- Post highlight videos from major tournaments on your SportsRecruits page
- FOCUS ON ACADEMICS!!!

Sophomore Year

- Update SportsRecruits profile (GPA, Height, Block/Approach Reach, etc)
- Update University Athlete account
- Post updates on social media
- Make sure you are taking NCAA approved core courses
- Continue to research potential schools, while starting to narrow your list of preferred schools
- Continue to e-mail updates to coaches (cannot respond until June 15th)
- Put together highlight films from club matches to send to coaches
- Continue to fill out any questionnaire you receive
- Attend camps to improve your skills and to gain exposure
- Attend local college matches to better understand the different levels of play
- Attend Drive Nation College Coaches Camp

Junior Year

- June 15th Send and receive calls and e-mails from college coaches
- Respond to <u>every</u> coach in a timely manner
- Make sure University Athlete account is up to date
- Continue to narrow down your list
- Send highlights to coaches
- Work hard to build relationships with coaches
- Register with NCAA Clearinghouse
- Start taking official visits only allowed 5
- Take SAT/ACT
- Be diligent with your recruiting (competing with 1000s for spots)

Senior Year

- Communicate with coaches regularly if not committed
- Do Not Panic!
- Update University Athlete account
- Re-evaluate what type of school you are interested in/willing to play at
- Continue taking official visits
- Take SAT/ACT again, if needed
- Sign with your school during appropriate signing period
- Apply to school
- Enjoy your senior year

Where to Start?

- <u>Academics</u> Look for schools that have the major you are interested in. If you don't know what you want to study, that is okay. Just remember that if you are thinking of something like Engineering, Nursing, Architecture, etc., not everyone has those majors. Most people have education, business, sciences, but you want to check.
- <u>Level</u> Everyone thinks they want to play Division I, but not everyone is able to play DI. There are some great programs at the DII and DIII level. Try to watch some matches from the various levels to get a better understanding of each level of play.
- <u>Finances</u> If you don't get a full-ride, how will you pay for the balance of your schooling? Academic scholarships, financial-need based aid and NIL are factors that can help pay for school. Also consider the price differences for private vs public and in-state vs out-of-state schools.

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- Program Needs Look at rosters to see how many and the ages of players at your position. Programs only carry so many of each position each year (ie. typically 2 setters, 2-3 DS's). Also realize that programs may not give 4-year scholarships to DS's.
- Scholarships Scholarships are different at different levels
 - Division I Maximum of 12 scholarships; not everyone is fully funded but a program can only have 12 people on athletic scholarship at a time (head count sport)
 - Division II Maximum of 8 scholarships; scholarships can be broken up into percentages for multiple players, as long as the sum is no more than 8 (equivalency sport)
 - Division III Do not offer athletic scholarships
 - NAIA Maximum of 8 scholarships; scholarships can be broken up into percentages for multiple players, as long as the sum is no more than 8
 - NJCAA varies by level

Recruiting Services

As a club, we do not endorse or recommend recruiting services that require you to pay money. College coaches prefer to hear directly from the student-athletes, and will work directly with club directors and recruiting coordinators to inquire about players. We provide SportsRecruits to all of our teams 15-18 to assist in the recruiting process. SportsRecruits allows you to research universities and their volleyball programs, as well as communicate directly with college coaches and share video.

Marketing Yourself/Branding

With so many players out there competing for a finite number of spots, it is important that you market yourself and your brand to college coaches. Some things to consider:

- Social Media Great way to market yourself by posting pictures, video clips and updates for colleges to see. Consider setting up a separate account for recruiting only and follow coaches/programs you are interested in. Be mindful of what you are posting and how that might make you look to prospective coaches.
- Communication Write good e-mails and texts. The player should write them, but have a parent or someone proof them before you send. Coaches can tell when parents write e-mails so let the players do it. Practice phone calls. There is nothing to be nervous about.

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 Video – Get good video. Most likely someone on your team is videoing the matches for the group. You should post both highlights and some game footage. If you are a 3-rotation player, only include the rotations when you are in the game.

Athletes with Video by Club Team (filter by club) - Not Including EBOD					
	Club Name	Team Name	Player Count	With Video Count	Perc with Video
1	Drive Nation	15 Black	11	2	18.18 %
2	Drive Nation	15 Red	11	4	36.36 %
3	Drive Nation	16 Black	12	5	41.67 %
4	Drive Nation	16 Red	12	8	66.67 %
5	Drive Nation	16 White	12	2	16.67 %
6	Drive Nation	17 Black	12	8	66.67 %
7	Drive Nation	17 Red	12	11	91.67 %
8	Drive Nation	17 White	10	7	70.0 %
9	Drive Nation	18 Black	12	10	83.33 %
10	Drive Nation	18 Red	12	12	100.0 %
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- Behavior Recognize that coaches are always watching. They watch warm-ups, your actions on the court and the sideline, your interactions with other players, coaches and parents. I've known coaches to take a player off their list because of their actions/interactions off the court.
- And they watch the parents. Please don't be that parent that is infamous for yelling at the referees or the officiating team.

Recruiting Calendars

Each division has their own recruiting calendar:

- Division I: most restrictive; see handout
- Division II: dead period during the 48 hours prior to 7 a.m. on the initial date for the signing of the National Letter of Intent
- Division III: no recruiting calendar
- NAIA: no recruiting calendar
- NJCAA: no recruiting calendar

Questions

We can answer questions now, or you can contact me later.

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