



# COLLEGE NIGHT

*PRESENTED BY: Christopher Behler*





# AGENDA

## ➤ *Welcome and Introductions*

- *College, NCAA Division 1, First Assistant Men's Soccer Coach / Recruiting Coordinator*
- *Region IV ODP Boys Staff Coach*
- *Super-Y-League National ODP Staff Coach and West Region ODP Scout (Girls)*

# COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

## ➤ *How the College Advisor Program will Work*

- *Education*

- *Informational*

- *Resource*

- *Support*

## ➤ *College Resource Page:*

[www.rsl-az.com/college-advisory-program](http://www.rsl-az.com/college-advisory-program)





# FRESHMAN YEAR

- *Start planning now!*
- *Begin initial search of schools through research.*
- *Establish a large list of appropriate schools (approximately 30 schools matching soccer ability, academic profile, geographic location, size of school and cost).*
- *Visit colleges of interest during school & club breaks (i.e. Spring Break, Summer Vacation)*
- *Attend any college camps of interest to get a feel for the campus and coaching staff.*
- *Take courses that match your school's list of approved core classes.*
- *Establish GPA - 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. Explore AP opportunities.*
- *Sign up for and take PSAT/PACT*
- *Continue high GPA*
- *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 potential majors to study.*
- *Research financial aid, scholarships, and educational requirements.*
- *Setup meeting with a college counselor at school*



## SOPHOMORE YEAR (CONT'D)

### ➤ *Create a formal cover letter*

- *Introduce self with an explanation of who you are, where you are training and at what events you can be seen (include position and number)*
- *Let the coach know how you can be an asset to his/her team*
- *Be sure to personalize each letter to the specific college and coach*

### ➤ *Create a formal resume*

- *Include only recent information (i.e. 9th-12th grades)*
- *Start off with all of your personal information (i.e. name, Club address, home address, all phone numbers, email addresses, height, weight, date of birth, year of graduation)*
- *Have a section for your academic profile. Provide high school name, address, telephone number, graduation date, GPA, class rank, SAT (PSAT) /ACT (PACT) scores, and list any academic honors and awards*
- *Include a section for your soccer profile with the Club and other information. Be sure to add position played, any personal statistics and honors, and team accomplishments*
- *Include coaching references with phone numbers & e-mails*

### ➤ *Adapt your college list through visitations and further research*

### ➤ *Summer Break is an optimal time to attend camps and visit schools of interest*



# JUNIOR YEAR

- . . . . .
- *Continue the emphasis on your GPA-- GPA is the foundation for your ultimate success. Maintain YOUR highest academic standards.*
- *Take the SAT, SAT II, ACT and AP tests offered throughout the year. Be prepared to take the SAT twice or more.*
- *Meet with your counselor to plan your school year.*
- *Understand the academic requirements of the schools that you're interested in.*
- *Determine where your soccer and academic abilities stand, and approach the schools that are consistent with your level of achievement.*
- *Coaches are allowed to telephone you on beginning June 15, prior to your junior year. Coaches are allowed one (1) call per week, per household.*





# JUNIOR YEAR (CONT'D)

- Take “unofficial” visits (unpaid by the school) and “official visits (after August 1) to the schools of your choice.
  - Talk to students, admissions offices, and soccer coaches. Take campus tours and begin to narrow your list of schools.
  - Watch a practice or game
- Gather applications to your schools of choice. Send for college applications at the beginning of the summer.
- Continue corresponding through emails or letters of introduction
  - Profiles/resumes to the coaches of the schools that interest you...
- Send out update letters or emails that outline where you will be playing during the year
- Establish positive relationships with potential coaches
- Narrow your search to 10 or so schools and engage in regular correspondence with the coach.
- Coaches prefer to pursue soccer players that have expressed serious interest in their school. **DO NOT WAIST THEIR TIME!**
- Attend college soccer camps.
- Play in College Showcase Tournaments
- Apply for your Student-Athlete status with NCAA Eligibility Center



# SENIOR YEAR

- . . . . .
- *Coaches are allowed to telephone you on June 15th, after your Sophomore year. Coaches are allowed one (1) call per week, per household.*
- *Coaches are allowed to visit the home of a recruit. This will count as one (1) of three (3) contacts allowable by coaches. On-campus visits don't count.*
- *After your Senior year begins, you can begin to make your 5 "official visits" to Division I schools (where the soccer program may pay for your visit on campus for a maximum 24 hours).*
- *The official signing date is in November for girls and February for boys.*
  - *All commitments up until then are considered "oral commitments".*



## SENIOR YEAR (CONT'D)

- *Don't let down in your class work. Finish strong.*
- *Check status with the NCAA Eligibility Center.*
- *Complete FAFSA form with recent tax information.*
- *Respond immediately to any interest shown by colleges*
- *Schedule and complete official visits (at schools expense). Meet with the coach and the team and stay overnight if possible, see the team play.*
- *Stay in touch with your high school counselor.*
- *Narrow down your choices and get your applications done early.*
- *Keep coaches updated on your achievements by sending them your resume through the fall and play in high level events.*
- *Provide your coach and counselor with your interest college list. Discuss college interest with your coach and counselor or your DOC.*
- ***Make a decision!***



# LEVEL OF PLAY

Level of Play	General Characteristics & schools
NCAA D1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athletic scholarships available. (9.9 Men, 14 Women)</li> <li>Large amount of travel out of state for competition.</li> </ul> <p>UC Berkeley, Stanford University, San Jose State, University of San Francisco, Santa Clara University, Saint Mary's College, UC Davis, University of the Pacific, Sacramento State, Fresno State, ASU, Arizona, GCU, NAU</p>
NCAA D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athletic scholarships available. (9 Men, 9.9 Women)</li> <li>Medium amount of travel for competition, generally within CA.</li> </ul> <p>Cal State East Bay, Cal State Monterey Bay, Cal State Stanislaus, Chico State, Humboldt State, San Francisco State, Sonoma State, Academy of Art, Dominican University, Notre Dame de Namur</p>
NCAA D3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No athletic scholarships available.</li> <li>Small amount of travel, generally within CA.</li> </ul> <p>UC Santa Cruz, Mills College</p>
NAIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depends on school for scholarship money available or not. (12 Max)</li> <li>Medium amount of travel for competition, generally within CA.</li> </ul> <p>Menlo College, William Jessup University, Simpson College, Fresno Pacific, UC Merced, Pacific Union, Cal Maritime, Arizona Christian, Benedictine University, Embry-Riddle</p>
Junior College (JC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No athletic scholarships available.</li> <li>Small amount of travel, generally within local region.</li> </ul> <p>Large number of JC schools in Northern California. De Anza, West Valley, Evergreen, Gavilan, Foothill Follow this link for a complete list – <a href="http://www.ccsoccernews.com/School+Directory/">www.ccsoccernews.com/School+Directory/</a></p>



# ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Requirement	NCAA D1	NCAA D2	NCAA D3	NAIA	NJCAA
Core Courses	<u>16 Units</u> 4 x English 3 x Math(Alg 1 higher) 2 x Science 1 x additional Math/Sci or Eng 2 x SocSci 4 x Any Above or Language / Religion	<u>16 Units</u> 3 x Eng 2 x Math 2 x Sci 2 x SocSci 7 x Extra	By school	By school	HS graduate
GPA	Min. 2.0	Min. 2.0	By school	Min. 2.0	None
SAT	Sliding Scale	820	By school	860	None
ACT	Sliding Scale	68 (sum)	By school	18	None
Clearinghouse	<a href="http://www.eligibilitycenter.org">www.eligibilitycenter.org</a>		None	<a href="http://www.playnaia.org">www.playnaia.org</a>	None



# CHOOSING

- *There is more to choosing a college than just soccer. College life will include a commitment and discipline toward academics as well as exposure to a variety of different social activities. Choosing a school should be based on Academics and love for the school first and then soccer should come second.*
- *In addition, consideration must also be given to topics that include, but are not limited to: School size, Location -urban, suburban, rural, Cost, Admission Requirements, Reputation, Class Size, Academic Strengths/Majors, Housing Options including Greek Life (Fraternities and Sororities), Extra Curricular Activities, Religious Affiliation, Playing Opportunities, Red shirt Policies, Walk on Policies, Current Rosters*
- *Discuss playing opportunities with the coach; talk about admission requirements with the Admissions Representatives; take a virtual tour; visit the campus; interview other students and potential teammates; and evaluate each school's overall strengths. Watch the team play and how the coach interacts with the players on the field and the style in which the team plays.*
- *This is a 4 year commitment, so when choosing, make sure to choose the school for the school and imagine what college life would be like if you were to not play soccer (injury, got cut, decided not to play, etc...)*



# CLOSING

*Your academic experience in college is what will provide an important foundation for your chosen career path after college. Not many players plan to be professional athletes. In addition, it's not uncommon for an injury to happen that could end your college soccer career. You want to end up at a place that you will enjoy attending even if you never play athletics there.*

*Here are some questions that may aid you in your college selection.*

- Would I choose this college even if I am not playing on the team?*
- Would I be happy sitting on the bench and not playing much?*
- Would I still select this college if there is a different coach?*
- Will I be comfortable there both academically and athletically?*
- Did the staff and team seem to get along and care about each other?*
- How does the coach motivate the team?*
- Were the coaching team and staff friendly? Enthusiastic? Honest? Supportive? Sincere? Caring? Or hospitable?*