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## **IMPORTANT AUGUST RECRUITING DATES**

### **8-1:**

- Field Hockey, Soccer and Men's Water Polo final signing date for National Letter of Intent.
- All other sports (late) final signing date for National Letter of Intent.

## **RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania**

Mark Schowalter – Golf – Franklin Regional HS  
J.D. Gardner – Football – Trinity HS  
Heather Carpenter – Basketball – Mars HS  
Brian Routhieaux – Golf – Mars HS

## **NCAA News**

### **NCAA May Reverse Plan For Additional Scholarships**

A controversial rule passed this spring in NCAA Division I that promised more scholarships for female athletes may be in jeopardy.

The rule would allow schools to offer a total of seven more scholarships, or about 13 percent more than they can now, in women's gymnastics, soccer, track and field, and volleyball, beginning on August 1, 2006.

But two months after the Division I Board of Directors passed the legislation, 118 Division I colleges, or nearly one-third of the total membership, voted to override it. It is the first time since 1997, when the NCAA established new governance guidelines that a faction of the membership has overridden action taken by the Board of Directors.

The move leaves hundreds of college coaches in limbo as they move through the recruiting season and could require some coaches to renege on scholarship offers they made on the assumption that the change was irreversible.

The Board of Directors, made up of selected college presidents, will decide this month whether to enact the new rule over members' objections. If that happens, the rule will be suspended until January, when the full membership will vote on whether to adopt it during the NCAA Convention.

The board can also throw out the entire proposal, disallowing any new women's scholarships, or the board can amend the rule to make it easier for sports that most need additional scholarships to get them next year.

For example, women's soccer continues to be one of the fast-growing sports in college athletics. Many coaches say women's soccer needs more scholarships than the 12 they are allowed currently in order to build competitive depth on rosters. Women's soccer is in line to pick up two additional scholarships if the legislation remains as is.

Even if the NCAA's board approves the legislation in some form, some coaches say it faces strong opposition from many of the smaller colleges in Division I that believe it could lead to competitive imbalances. Those schools that could not afford to fully fund the additional scholarships could lose ground to better-endowed schools that could.

## **Confronting an Image Problem in NCAA Division II**

Seeking to stop the exodus of colleges and universities from Division II athletics, chancellors and presidents from more than 150 Division II institutions met in Orlando, Fla., recently to discuss new revenue opportunities and ways to get more exposure for their neglected athletics programs.

About a dozen Division II colleges have switched to Division I play in the past five years - - the largest shift ever, according to the National Collegiate Athletic Association -- and at least nine of the remaining 281 Division II institutions are considering a transfer.

But moving up to the top division comes at a price. While there is additional prestige and notoriety, a report by the NCAA released last month showed Division II schools that jump up in class could expect to lose as much \$3 million a year as revenue cannot keep pace with expenditures in facilities and athletic budgets. The report revealed the schools tend to receive between 20 and 60 cents back for every dollar spent on athletics.

Several college presidents at the conference organized by the NCAA said they were worried that if more colleges switched to Division I, those left behind could face increased costs, as teams would have to travel farther for games. Athletes also might miss more classes if they have to be on the road more often.

The public's perception -- or lack of perception -- of Division II colleges was a main topic of conversation at the June conference. One attendee suggested renaming Division II "Division A," to get rid of the hierarchy between divisions, a distinction that many people feel lessens Divisions II and III in the public's view.

In his keynote speech and in comments he made to presidents later, NCAA president Myles Brand called on the leadership to put more effort into increasing the frequency of Division II "sports festivals" that occur every two years and that could bring more revenue and awareness to the division's teams. Sports festivals bring Division II teams together in one location to compete for national championships in various sports.

## **NEWS ON INDIVIDUAL COLLEGES**

Without going into great detail it looks like the dust has settled in the **Baylor** Basketball case. The team is barred from playing non-conference games for one season, the coaching staff has been restricted as to when they can recruit, and some scholarship money has been removed for a period of one year.

**Florida A&M** is eliminating golf, tennis, swimming, and diving programs because of budget concerns. No golf team at a college in Florida, is the world ending? The school

also reduced the athletic scholarship dollars available by 1/3. In unrelated news the football team lost 28 scholarships over a 3-year period, the basketball team is barred from postseason play for one year, and the school is recommending scholarship cuts in baseball, men's track, and women's track as part of over 200 NCAA violations found at the school. Perhaps they can save those other programs now that they have 28 available football scholarships?

Women's softball will be added to **Chadron State College** (Nebraska) in the spring of 2007.

The **University of Arkansas Community College** at Morrilt will add a men's **golf program** this fall

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## **CPOA PA Topic of the Month**

### **Procrastinators Beware**

In many areas of our country later this month the new school year will begin and, with it, the start of the last opportunity for rising high school seniors to initiate the recruiting process.

Often over the years I have written articles and discussed at meetings the importance of starting the recruiting process early. It is always a timely topic, but perhaps never more so than right now.

The end of summer brings with it thoughts of school in the minds of most, and in reality that the recruiting window for seniors is already beginning to close, especially for those that are not already moving through the recruiting funnels. Seniors receiving general correspondence or questionnaires without phone calls are not being seriously recruited, families must understand that!

Remember, July 1 was the date when college coaches could begin calling 2006 grads (in most sports) for the first time. Kids who play football and basketball should have been on phone lists in May and March of their junior year!

College coaches are right now reducing their recruiting lists for seniors! Anyone not in the funnel now is not likely to make it.

### **Quotable Parents**

In the mailbox recently, we have received several letters from parents and clients thanking CPOA and our local representatives and franchisees for assisting in the recruiting process and college selection experience.

Sandra Heaney in western New York wrote an excellent note thanking Rich Pollack for his help with her daughter Erin. "I feel Rich helped us from our first meeting with him," Mrs. Heaney wrote. "I would recommend your service for other prospective athletes looking to attend college." Erin Heaney is attending Swarthmore College this fall.

Janelle Zabresky, a 2005 women's basketball player at Bishop O'Reilly HS in Pennsylvania sent a thank you card to our longtime franchise owner in Wilkes-Barre, PA, Walter Allabaugh. Janelle wrote, "I received telephone calls from coaches in 5 different states! After I tore my ACL the calls were significantly reduced. However, I was up front and several coaches remained undaunted by my injury." Janelle's story has a happy ending. She received a scholarship at Clarion University in Pennsylvania. In signing off, Janelle wrote with tongue in cheek, "My mom's pretty smart (for a lawyer!), and she said signing me up with College Prospects was the best investment she's ever made."

And our franchise owner in Portland, OR, Rick McEwen, forwarded these comments from excited parents of seniors:

"Rick, Good news! Jiliane has just committed to an NAIA program. She has signed a letter of intent to play at Trinity International University, a small, Christian school in Deerfield, IL (about 40 miles NW of the Loop in Chicago). This coach contacted her through the CPOA web site. The exposure provided by the program worked well for her. Should you desire a recommendation for you and the program, we would be pleased to provide one. Thanks again for all of your help."

Best regards,  
Jeff Tobloski

"Rick, On a personal note, I want to be sure you know how much we appreciate our association with you and College Prospects. I consider the money spent to be the among the most cost effective of all our related college expenses and I don't regret a dime of it. We could not have done it without your help and guidance. Please feel free to use me as a reference at any time now or in the future.

Wishing you all the best,  
John Torsey (John's dad)

"Hi Rick. This is Kathryn, Liz's mother. Liz is going to Macalester College in St. Paul, MN. She will be playing soccer, and it looks like she will be a starter. Thanks for helping us through the process, even though Liz worked it a bit differently. We'll be glad to recommend your services (and have already), if you have a client who wants to talk with a customer."

Kathryn Logan

## **CONTACT SHEETS**

Remember to keep track of all questionnaires, calls, etc from college coaches with the contact sheets found in your STUDENT PACKET. Email me at [martin.rock@cpoapa.com](mailto:martin.rock@cpoapa.com) if you need additional copies!

## **NCAA ELIGIBILITY CLEARINGHOUSE**

Every CPOA PA Student-Athlete has received a NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete as part of the STUDENT PACKET you received when you joined the program. In this guide, you find instructions on how to apply for your NCAA Eligibility Clearinghouse Number. Eligibility is based on what core courses have been completed, SAT scores and overall GPA in core courses. NCAA approved core courses, by high school, can be found at <http://actrs7.act.org/ahs>.

STUDENTS APPLY FOR THEIR NCAA ECN AT THE END OF THEIR JUNIOR YEAR. HOWEVER, IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO REVIEW ELIGIBILITY AS EARLY AS THE SOPHOMORE YEAR TO ENSURE THE CORRECT COURSES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED! For more information about the process, email [martin.rock@cpoapa.com](mailto:martin.rock@cpoapa.com) for a NCAA Guide or call 888-ASK-CPOA (CPOA Program Members Only).

### **INTERNET UPDATES**

If you have update information for your Internet profile, please forward to [martin.rock@cpoapa.com](mailto:martin.rock@cpoapa.com). Remember that you automatically receive (2) two free updates per year. If you've upgraded your program to receive unlimited updates you can send updates every day/week if you'd like. Updates take approximately 72 hours to be made online.

### **REFERRAL PROGRAM**

Do you know of a high school student athlete with the ability to perform at the collegiate level? A teammate from high school? Club team? From the newspaper? If so, contact your CPOA representative at [martin.rock@cpoapa.com](mailto:martin.rock@cpoapa.com) and if that athlete signs with CPOA PA, **you receive a \$50 referral fee!**

### **Season End Updates**

Attention fall sport athletes, your season end update forms which were mailed to you are **now overdue**. There are hundreds of coaches out there awaiting an update on your stats, awards and accomplishments from the past season. Please complete these and return to your CPOA representative immediately.

### **RECRUITING SEMINARS**

CPOA Pennsylvania is planning to conduct several recruiting training sessions over the next few months. These sessions will include the basics of the recruiting process, how to choose the right college, review of NCAA rules and regulations, and how to best navigate this important process of college selection. Please let us know if you have interest in hosting one of these sessions for your teammates (students/parents) or teams/booster clubs (coaches).