

JUNE ISSUE CONTENTS

- Important Recruiting Dates
- Additions to CPOA
- NCAA News
- CPOA PA Topic of the Month
- Contact Sheets
- Internet Updates
- Referral Program
- Season End Updates
- Monthly Meetings
- Seminars

IMPORTANT JUNE RECRUITING DATES

5 – SAT Test

12 – ACT Test

15 – DII Coaches may begin making telephone calls to 2011 graduates

15 – DI Men's Ice Hockey coaches may begin calling 2012 grads once per month

Recruiting Topic of the Month

When the calendar flips to July 1, rising seniors in most sports will begin to find out where they stand in the recruiting process. July 1 is the first day that coaches in Division I may begin contacting seniors-to-be by telephone, with these exceptions: football (May), basketball (April for women and June for men), and international ice hockey players (June after sophomore year). Division I basketball coaches, who live on the road in July attending summer camps, can make three calls to each prospect during the month of July. But for players in all other sports, July is the first time a college coach can telephone a prospect.

Local CPOA News

Congratulations to the following CPOAPA student – athletes who have made their collegiate commitments:

Evan Kelly – Seton LaSalle will continue his Football career at the University of Richmond

Sara Scheidmantel – Beaver Area will continue her Golf career at Youngstown State University

Max Pawk – Sewickley Academy will continue his Lacrosse career at Franklin & Marshall College

Morgan Sharick – Burrell HS will continue her Soccer career at the University of Pittsburgh

Jessie Vilkofsky – Elizabeth Forward HS will continue her Soccer career at the Wheeling Jesuit University

Zachary Carter – Hampton will continue his Soccer career at Johns Hopkins University

Jenn Stefano – Connellsville will continue her Softball career at Chatham College

Christopher Hunkele – Hampton will continue his Soccer career at California University of PA.

Chelsy Cosentino – Kiski Area will continue her Softball career at St. Francis University

Jenna Dunlay – McKeesport will continue her Softball career at Chatham University

Tyler Lukart – Norwin will continue his Football career at Clarion University

Corey Spegal – Bethel Park will continue his Football career at Mercyhurst College

Adam Kelly – Mars will continue his Baseball career at Mt. Union College

Drake Greer – Bishop Canevin will continue his Football career at the University of Pittsburgh

Adam Lazenga – Bethel Park will continue his Football career at the University of Pittsburgh

Sarah Sandin – Yough will continue her Basketball career at Point Park University

Lacie Rosensteel – Connellsville will continue her Soccer career at Seton Hill University

Alyssa Ross – Thomas Jefferson will continue her Soccer career at St. Vincent College

Tenesha Corrales – Kiski Area will continue her Soccer career at St. Vincent College

Quinn Hood – Baldwin will continue his Football career at the College of Wooster

Nate Campbell – Greater Latrobe will continue his Baseball career at Capital University

Bryce Whittingham – Beaver Area will continue his Football career at Thiel College.

TJ Dovie – Greater Latrobe will continue his Football career at Waynesburg University

Mara Shingleton – Butler will continue her Golf career at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida

Brenna O'Leary – Peters Township will continue her Soccer career at Seton Hill University

Dylan Wassel – Elizabeth Forward will continue his Baseball career at Bethany College.

Mike Yvarosky – Ringgold will continue his Golf career at California University of PA

Mara Shingleton – Butler will continue her Golf career at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida

Matt Remaley – Mt. Pleasant Area will continue his Football career at Carnegie Mellon University

Aaron Fleck – West Allegheny will continue his Football career at Duquesne University

Matt Corner – Slippery Rock will continue his Baseball career at Grove City College

Emily Detsch – Elk County Catholic will continue her Basketball career at Penn State Behrend

Evan Fuentes will continue his Football career at Washington and Jefferson College

Jeff Quail – Mars will continue his Baseball career at California University of PA

Hudnell Caldwell – Geibel Catholic will continue his Football career at Slippery Rock University

Tarra Oravec – Kiski Area will continue her Softball career at California University of PA.

NCAA News

New Football Programs Through 2013

As a follow-up to an article we published in the October 2009 newsletter (“*17 Schools Launching Football Programs*”), the time frame for the 17 new teams to take the field has taken shape:

Fall 2010

South Alabama, Georgia State, and Lamar (all in Division I); Pacific U., in Oregon (Division III); and Lindsey Wilson College, in Kentucky, and Notre Dame College, in Ohio (NAIA).

Fall 2011

Texas-San Antonio (Division I); LeMoyne-Owen College, in Tennessee (Division II); and Presentation College, in South Dakota, and Stevenson U., in Maryland (both in Division III). Also starting that year are programs at Florida's Ave Maria U. and, in Michigan, at Concordia U. and Siena Heights U. (both NAIA).

Fall 2012

Finlandia U., in Michigan (Division III), and Wayland Baptist U., in Texas (NAIA).

Fall 2013

North Carolina-Charlotte (Division I) and George Fox U., in Oregon (Division III). Additionally, Florida Tech (NCAA Division II) in Melbourne, Fla., is exploring the possibility of adding a football team that could begin competing in the fall of 2013. Though Tech is a member of NCAA Division II, the school's football team would compete in the NAIA.

Legislation Demands Disclosure When Recruiting

Lawmakers in California and Georgia want college coaches to be more forthcoming with parents and athletes during the recruiting process, requiring them to disclose, among other things, institutional and NCAA policies on medical expenses, scholarship renewals, and transfers.

Tom Torlakson, the state lawmaker who co-authored the California measure, which was introduced in February, says the law would help athletes and their families better understand the implications of accepting an athletics scholarship—and would hold universities accountable for the promises their coaches make.

The Georgia bill, introduced in March, is far more expansive than its California counterpart. But both would require coaches who recruit athletes in those two states—considered hotbeds of athletics talent—to disclose, for example:

- The cost of attendance, as well as the expenses not covered by a full athletics scholarship;
- The institution's policy on renewal or nonrenewal of an athletics scholarship, particularly in cases of injury or a coaching change;
- Whether the athletics program will pay for medical expenses that exceed maximum insurance coverage limits.

The core issue of the debate over the legislation centers on the responsibility of knowing the recruiting rules. Advocacy groups for student-athletes and parents say they are at a distinct disadvantage because coaches and schools know the rules but don't disclose important information. The institutions argue they cannot cover every inevitability that affects an athlete's college career.

The NCAA and the National Letter of Intent program both publish pamphlets and other materials meant to educate prospective athletes and their families on the recruiting process. And the association's mammoth rule book is hardly lacking for recruiting rules designed to guide coaches: Hundreds of regulations governing telephone calls, meetings, and visits have created a vast bureaucracy. For all of the rules, no doubt because of them, it is almost impossible to find anyone in college sports who thinks the recruiting process functions as it should. Over the next year, the NCAA's Division I recruiting cabinet, a group of high-level athletics administrators, will look for ways to streamline and improve the process. Scrutiny of the early recruitment of athletes and a simplification of the rules governing coaches' communication with athletes are among the many agenda items.

Advocates for families have won some victories recently against schools. The National College Players Association, a group of about 14,000, won a settlement in 2008 against the NCAA over caps on financial aid. Under the settlement, the NCAA agreed to set aside \$218-million to help more than 150,000 Division I athletes in all sports pay for basic expenses not covered by their scholarships. Ed O'Bannon, a former basketball standout at UCLA, filed a class-action lawsuit last year against the NCAA that claims the association should compensate former athletes for its use of their images and likenesses in video games and other profitable commercial ventures. Last month 11 more athletes, whose playing days date back to the 1960s, joined the lawsuit.

The NCAA has maintained that colleges—and coaches—have been forthcoming, and that the information families seek is readily available. The association is in

the beginning stages of analyzing the California and Georgia legislation, and has yet to take an official position on either bill. The problem is that colleges may not provide the information in a way that athletes can understand, says Ellen Staurowsky, a professor of sport management at Ithaca College who has worked with the advocacy groups. Provisions relating to the nuances of medical coverage, such as the conditions under which a scholarship may be withdrawn, are particular trouble spots, she says. And while some colleges offer clear statements about their policies, for others, the letters of intent may not be enough. "I don't think you can do enough to make sure that they fully appreciate what kind of deal they are signing," Ms. Staurowsky says of the athletes. "Even if there is some information in that letter, frankly, it may not register with the student the way that it should."

One of the biggest challenges athletes face is the gap between the value of their scholarship and the total cost of attendance, says Ramogi Huma, the president of the National College Players Association. Huma is a former Division I athlete who was involved in the settlement with the NCAA over financial aid caps. Like the analogy of buying a new car that immediately loses value after it's driven off the lot, Huma notes that tuition continues to increase every year at most universities and athletics scholarships often fail to keep up. Not all athletes are aware of the shortfalls, he says, especially those who are promised "full" scholarships.

Last year the players' association found that athletes on full athletics scholarships shoulder anywhere from \$200 to more than \$6,000 in additional out-of-pocket expenses per year. The average amount was \$2,763 per year.

Another unexpected twist can come when athletes sustain serious injuries and rack up medical bills that exceed the limits of insurance policies. While some athletes are covered by their parents' health-insurance policies, such plans often do not provide coverage for varsity-sports injuries or have restrictions on out-of-state treatment. Many athletics programs purchase secondary insurance policies to cover athletes where their parents' policies leave off. But it's not a fail-safe arrangement, and some athletes who sustain serious injuries grapple with medical bills for years afterward. The NCAA's catastrophic insurance, in the meantime, applies in only the most dire of cases—and even then, the deductible is \$75,000.

The insurance and injury issue is the kind of uncomfortable, but crucial, point that Huma says coaches should discuss more candidly. "Sports-related injuries should not be left on the student-athlete, period," he says. "But at the very least, schools need to be upfront with parents during the recruiting process." It's unclear at this early stage whether new state laws would guarantee such candor. But as the cost of college explodes and both the schools and the families have a lot on the line, more disclosure is almost certain. But at what price? Will another bureaucracy be needed to monitor recruiting? It's hard to believe that is the best answer.

Financial News

Justice Dept. To Examine Scholarships

In an unusual show of interest in college sports, the U.S. Department of Justice is examining the rules that determine how colleges award athletics scholarships. Lawyers from the Justice Department's antitrust division recently met with officials from the NCAA to discuss the association's rules governing athletics scholarships, according to an e-mail message from the NCAA obtained by news outlets. The department appears to be looking at the limitations the NCAA places on scholarships. Currently, an institution is allowed to give an athletics scholarship for only one year at a time—a rule that has been on the books since 1973—and the scholarship may be renewed for no more than five years in all. The debate over whether financial aid for athletes should be renewable annually or represent a four-year commitment has been revived off and on over the 37 years that the one-year rule has existed. Some athletes say the annual renewal leaves them vulnerable in cases of injury or misunderstandings with a coach, while many athletic directors and coaches say it is a necessary and logical practice.

College sports is no stranger to attention from Washington. The association's rules have been the target of legal action on many occasions, and in recent years, some members of Congress have challenged its federal tax-exempt status.

Michael McCann, a professor at Vermont Law School who specializes in sports law, told *The Chronicle of Higher Education* that several outcomes were possible: The Department could recommend that the NCAA change its rules governing scholarships. It could sue the association, which he said is unlikely. Or it could do nothing at all.

Over the years, court rulings have established a legal precedent that favors the NCAA in challenges of rules meant to protect amateurism or academic requirements. But in matters that are commercial in nature—capping coaches' salaries, for instance—courts have been less sympathetic. In those antitrust cases, courts have ruled that the NCAA does not have the authority to regulate its members so strictly.

In 1991, the NCAA's member institutions, in an attempt to contain spiraling costs, adopted a rule putting strict limits on the salaries of certain assistant coaches. A group of coaches later sued the NCAA, claiming the rule violated antitrust law, and in May 1998, a federal jury awarded \$22.3-million in damages to the coaches—an amount that, under antitrust principles, was tripled to \$67-million. More recently, in 2008, the NCAA settled a case brought by a group of former Division I football and basketball players who challenged the NCAA's cap on scholarships (see related article). Under the settlement, the association agreed to reallocate up to \$218-million over five years to help more than 150,000 Division I athletes in all sports pay for basic expenses not covered by their athletics scholarships.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania

Margaux Krahe – Bethel Park – Track & Field

Malcolm Hill – Kiski Prep – Football

Lars Peterson – New Brighton – Soccer

Andre Rosser – Allderdice - Basketball

Sports Sponsorships

Clemson University, NCAA Division I in Clemson, South Carolina, is discontinuing men's swimming and diving and women's swimming by the end of 2011-12.

Coastal Carolina University, NCAA Division I in Conway, South Carolina, adds women's lacrosse. The team will begin competing in 2012-13.

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 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 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. 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 and if that athlete signs with CPOA PA, you receive a \$50 referral fee!

Season End Updates

Attention all 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).