

JULY 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 JULY RECRUITING DATES

1: NCAA coaches in all sports except D I-A and IAA Football may make telephone calls to 2010 grads once per week and Women's Ice Hockey coaches may make one telephone call to a student from a foreign country who has completed her sophomore year of high school

Recruiting Topic of the Month

WAIVER OF COLLEGE ADMISSION APPLICATION FEE SUGGESTIONS

It is common practice for colleges and universities to charge an admission application fee. With the exception of those schools who historically have far more applicants than openings such as Ivy League, Stanford, MIT, Notre Dame etc. usually there is a method in place to waive these fees. Below are suggestions you can try. They are listed in the easiest order to obtain.

Apply on line versus by written form. This typically speeds the process up. Some schools will waive the admission application fee if application is on line.

Check to see if they even have a charge to apply. They may not. If they do look for printed reasons they will waive the cost and act on them.

If there are none look on the websites of all the colleges in the same conference as the one you are interested in. Check to see if ANY of them will let you apply without a fee. If they will apply to them whether you have an interest in attending there or not. Doing so will give you leverage with all the other colleges in their conference or geographical recruiting area. They may want to do the same

rather than appear to be "uncompetitive" in their admissions policies if you let them know their recruiting competitors are not requiring you to pay.

Call the Admissions Department at the college you wish to apply to that is asking you to pay an admissions application fee. DO NOT ASK THEM IF THEY WILL WAIVE IT! ASSUME THEY WILL. Ask them what the procedure is to obtain an "application fee waiver"? At this point they will ask why you feel it should be waived. If true, make these points to them in the order listed below:

- Other schools in their conference or geographical recruiting area have not charged you an admission application fee. Be prepared to tell them which ones if they ask.
- Every college interested in you wants you to apply. You understand the reasoning for that. You've been contacted by, or are interested in so many (list the number if you know it) it would be financially impossible to do so.
- You're not trying to get out of paying an admission application fee at the college you will attend and will sign paperwork insuring you will do so WHEN you enroll at (name of their college).
- If you have a sufficient number of CPOA COLLEGE CONTACT SHEETS completed offer to provide them as proof of how many other colleges want you to apply also. These can be shown to your Guidance Counselor to justify them providing you with a Waiver Form.
- Most colleges will agree to waive the fee if you visit their campus. Ask about this and how it works for you to apply on line now so you will already have been accepted by the time you visit with them.

IMPORTANT - Prior to contacting them look on their website for reasons to tell them you are interested in their college and athletic program. Examples might be their academic reputation, athletic history, location, they have your major, student population size, on time graduation rate for students, friends attend there, reasonable cost etc. but make sure it is a legitimate reason. Explain if you weren't truly interested in them you wouldn't be calling. STATE THESE THINGS AT THE BEGINNING OF YOUR CONVERSATION.

As always, contact me with any questions ASAP if you are unable to obtain the desired results. Good luck.

Financial News

Feds Begin Streamlining FAFSA

Parents who file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) beginning in January will benefit from a simplified and shortened form as the U. S. Government makes a concerted effort to encourage more families to apply for financial aid.

The FAFSA has long been criticized for being too long with instructions that are too confusing. Federal authorities estimate that 1.5 million students eligible for Pell grants last year did not apply. Though most financial aid experts agree that the form became easier to complete when it became available online, the new revisions are expected to make filing even simpler. The new form will use expand the use of “skip logic” in the online FAFSAs, allowing applicants to bypass more questions than they can now. Congress is also being asked to strike from the form dozens of questions about family income and assets and allow some applicants to retrieve tax data to answer many of the remaining questions. As things stand now, only students who plan to enroll in college prior to June 30, 2010, may import their parents’ tax return data into the FAFSA. Those enrolling for the fall 2010 term will not be able to do so (at least that’s the plan right now). This procedure alone will eliminate 18 questions from the FAFSA. Schools like this idea too. Pre-populating the FAFSA with tax return data may save colleges as much as \$4.32-million a year in cross-checking aid applications against tax returns.

Many financial aid counselors praise the changes but anticipate the feds doing more. “You really need to fit it on the back of a postcard,” said Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of FinAid, a Web site about student aid. Real simplification, he said, will come through changes to the formula used to determine financial need, not through changes to the form. For that, the Education Department will have to rely on Congress. Officials say they plan to ask Congress to eliminate another 20 financial questions that cannot be answered with information from income-tax returns.

Loan Rates for 2009-10

It’s no surprise but interest rates for the most popular education loans are up slightly for the coming year.

Rates for new Stafford Loans, awarded in the college student’s name, are set at 6.8 percent for unsubsidized loans (what most student’s receive) and 5.6 percent for subsidized loans (interest is paid on the qualifying student’s behalf while he or she remains in school).

The PLUS Loan, one taken in a parent’s name usually to fill the gap between financial aid awarded and the school’s sticker price, may be borrowed at an 8.5% rate.

We recommend clients who want to look into these loans check with the financial aid department at the school they are attending.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania

Bryce Whittingham – Beaver – Football

Luke Gruber – Mars – Baseball

Michael McNulty – Seneca Valley – Golf

Nathan Shook – Butler – Soccer

Sarah Scheidemantel – Beaver – Golf

Andrew Scheidemantel – Beaver – Soccer

Morgan Sharick – Burrell – Soccer

NCAA News

NCAA membership dues for 2009-10 have been suspended as part of an NCAA national office effort to relieve fiscal pressure on member schools during an economic downturn affecting all of higher education. Dues range from \$900-\$1,800, depending on division affiliation. The action will result in a collective savings of about \$1.3 million for the membership.

The NCAA has established a new student-athlete Web site that will assist with the NCAA Eligibility Center (Clearinghouse) registration process for prospects planning to enroll fall 2010 and later. The new address for the Eligibility Center is www.ncaastudent.org. The new environment will provide prospective student-athletes and their parents with information and guidance throughout the registration and initial-eligibility certification process.

Sports Sponsorships

Western Illinois University, NCAA Division I in Macomb, Ill., is discontinuing its men's and women's diving program, effective immediately.

Quinnipiac University, NCAA Division I in Hamden, Conn., has decided to reinstate its women's volleyball program while eliminating men's indoor track in response to a recent court ruling that found the school not compliant with gender equity laws. The Bobcats are also discontinuing men's golf and men's outdoor track and field.

Salem International University, NCAA Division 2 in Salem W.Va., is dropping four sports: men's and women's golf, men's tennis and women's volleyball.

Milwaukee (Wisc.) School of Engineering, NCAA Division 3, is adding a men's lacrosse team to begin play in the spring of 2010.

Concordia University, NCAA Division 3 in Mequon, Wisc., adds men's and women's lacrosse beginning in 2011.

Pacific University, NCAA Division 3, will reinstate its football program. The team will take the field in the fall of 2010. The school discontinued football in 1991.

Thomas More College, NCAA Division 3, located just across the Ohio River from Cincinnati in Crestview Hills, KY, adds track and field for men and women. The teams will compete on the club level in 2009 and become varsity intercollegiate in 2010.

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 spring 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).