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IMPORTANT NOVEMBER RECRUITING DATES

11-4: ACT registration postmark date for December 10th test.

11-5: SAT Test

11-9: Basketball (early) initial signing date for National Letter of Intent

11-9: All other sports (early) initial signing date for National Letter of Intent

11-9: SAT late registration postmark date for December 3rd test.

11-16: Basketball (early) final signing date for National Letter of Intent.

11-16: All other sports (early) final signing date for National Letter of Intent

11-17: ACT late registration postmark date for December 10th test.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania

Brent Heckel – Football – Greater Latrobe HS

Mark Dzubak – Football – Greater Latrobe HS

Jake Gibas – Football – Greater Latrobe HS

Chris Skovira – Soccer – Southmoreland HS

Alex Bearer – Football – Mt. Pleasant HS

NCAA News

Amateurism Clearinghouse’ In Effect For ’07 Grads

2007 high school grads who want to play NCAA Division I or II sports will soon be required to register with an “Amateurism Clearinghouse” that will verify their standing as amateur athletes at the time they register with the Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.

NCAA Division I and II Management Councils have authorized the new Clearinghouse, setting the stage for final approval of the plan at the 2006 National Conventions in January.

The new clearinghouse is expected to be up and running in early 2006. The class of 2007 will be the first certified under the new initiative. The clearinghouse is expected to make certification decisions on approximately 140,000 incoming freshmen and transfer students each year.

The clearinghouse will be operated through online filing. Prospects and transfers will be required to complete an online questionnaire about their athletics history as it relates to contracts, salaries and other benefits that could affect their amateur status. The fee paid for the Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse, \$50 for US students and \$75 for internationals, will include the new amateurism questionnaire. The information supplied by the prospect will be reviewed and a determination will be made as to whether the prospect should be certified or if a penalty should be assessed prior to certification. There will also be an appellate process.

NCAA President Myles Brand authorized the Amateurism Clearinghouse in response to growing concerns about amateurism issues related to domestic and international prospects. It has been increasingly difficult for institutions to determine the amateur status of international prospects because of the complexities of defining what constitutes professional competition in other countries. Likewise, certifying domestic prospects is made more difficult by the growing number of club leagues, particularly in basketball and soccer, and the fact that those teams travel across the country more than in the past.

Tuition Rise Tops Inflation But Rate Slows

College tuition is still rising but not as rapidly as in recent years according to a survey of more than 3,000 schools by the College Board.

Annual tuition at public universities rose on average by \$365, or 7.1 percent, this fall, after a year in which overall inflation was far less. Private universities increased tuition by \$1,190, or 5.9 percent. Two-year community colleges increased tuition on average by \$112, or about 5.4 percent, the survey said.

In the past two years, public universities had raised tuition by 10 percent and 13 percent.

Total expenses - including tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and other expenses - now average \$15,566 for an undergraduate student attending a public university in his own state, the survey said.

Total expenses at private universities now average \$31,916.

Students took out \$14-billion in private loans last year, 33 percent more than the year before.

As we have reported previously, one reason costs have been rising fast in public universities is that they have had to replace revenues lost when state legislatures reacted to budget deficits by reducing appropriations for higher education. Dramatic increases in energy costs due to the spate of hurricanes that have hammered the USA is another factor, as is expensive health insurance coverage for college and university employees.

The survey reported that 62 percent of full-time undergraduates received grants from the federal or state government, from their universities or from private sources.

On average full-time students enrolled in private colleges and universities received about \$9,600 in grants and tax benefits, the survey said, and students enrolled in four-year public universities received on average about \$3,300 in grant aid and tax benefits. Community college students received, on average, about \$1,800 in grants and tax benefits, reducing the net price they paid for college enrollment this year to about \$400.

CPOA PA Topic of the Month

New ACT or SAT Prep CD Available

CPOA rarely promotes products from third-party vendors to our clients. Those franchise owners and representatives who have been with us for many years can attest to this fact.

In September, we were approached by a California-based company called “e-knowledge” that offers a test preparation program on CD-ROM for students taking the ACT and SAT tests. We reviewed the CD and found it to be informative and easy-to-use. We are familiar with similar media that are available from other companies that cost as much as \$400.00 each. But we have scored a very nice deal with e-knowledge **where CPOA clients may buy the Standard Test Prep program for only \$9.95!** Clients outside the USA will be charged an additional \$5.00 for shipping and handling.

The SAT Power Prep Package includes

- 9+ hours of instructor led video and 40+ hours of class work. The core is divided into 120 lessons and 122 drills ranging from 1 minute to 10 minutes in length and delivered by expert instructors.
- Hundreds of practice questions with detailed explanatory answers delivered by an instructor.
- Progress Quizzes to gauge how you are doing-18 total quizzes, graded automatically with detailed explanatory answers.
- Electronic Outlines for every topic that includes information about each of the 120 testable points and sample questions. Students can use these outlines to create a systematic organized review then print them out to supplement the student’s own notes. The outlines are wonderful tools.
- Student controls the pace of delivery. Listen, pause, re-play, stop, rewind, fast forward, mute, you decide!
- Syllabus and Schedule. Sample 30 day schedule organized and systemized to track progress through the 120 video/audio/multimedia lessons. The schedule and tracking is available electronically on the CD and you can print out a hard copy from the CD. Allows you to tell at a glance what you have done and what is left to do.

The ACT Power Prep Program is similarly designed:

- **Instructor Led Video Workshops (11 hours 33 minutes)**

Over 120 instructor movies linked to the menu driven table of contents. The students navigate the menu and select the area of training...e.g. all of algebra or just “adding polynomials”, all of Science Reasoning or just “plan of attack”

The video instruction is divided into the following main categories:

General & Verbal/Logic

General Workshops

English Grammar

Reading Comprehension

Science Reasoning

Math Workshops

Arithmetic

Algebra

Geometry

Trigonometry

Top 10 Traps

Grid Ins

Total student participation 40-60 hours

- **Quizzes** 21 quizzes—200+ questions, auto graded, explanatory answers
- **Outlines** Screen & PDF Class pdf outlines provided for each subject.

Frankly, we feel this arrangement is a win-win for everyone. We were able to secure an outstanding price for our clients who wish to take advantage of these programs. But obviously it is their choice. For just the cost of shipping these products, students who use them may find their worth to be incredible, especially if they can improve a test score enough to improve their chances for admission into a great school or receive additional financial aid.

E-knowledge updates the test programs each year because the tests themselves change regularly, so the CD-ROMs will be functional and useful for at least 12 months. Should our relationship with them continue, younger CPOA clients will be able to buy an updated set of programs in ensuing years for the same price. The company promotes other related and more expensive products on their Website, but again, all purchases are optional. We are simply making our families aware that the products exist. Obviously with this bargain pricing, neither CPOA corporate nor our representatives will see residual income from this arrangement. But by offering our clients improved services, everyone benefits. Additionally, e-knowledge handles all customer service issues so we are not involved in this aspect whatsoever. For more information about this new program, we have included a flyer about it as an insert with this newsletter. This flyer is now included in all student packets with a short letter explaining the partnership between CPOA and e-knowledge.

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 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).