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IMPORTANT OCTOBER RECRUITING DATES

- 2 – SAT Registration postmark date for November 3rd test.
- 5 – ACT late registration postmark date for October 27th test
- 6 – SAT Test
- 11 – SAT late registration postmark date for November 3rd test.
- 27 – ACT Test
- 30 – SAT registration postmark date for December 1st test

RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania

Chris Kish – Fairmont HS - Football
Ashley Baughman – Hopewell HS – Softball
Margaret Kichler – Oakland School – Softball

CPOAPA Adds New Representatives

CPOAPA is pleased to announce the following additions to the Western PA team.

1. Andrew Alper will be in charge of the North and South Hills area of Pittsburgh.
2. Terry Boors will be in charge of Fayette, Greene and Somerset Counties

NCAA News

Div. I Baseball Amends Financial Aid Change

The NCAA Division I Board of Directors, the overseeing body for rules changes, has adjusted the financial aid changes it announced this summer for baseball. The original legislation called for Division I baseball players to receive a minimum 33 percent athletic scholarship if given any scholarship money at all. The percentage has been reduced to 25 percent and further amended to allow all countable financial aid – not just athletics money – to be included in the calculation. This change will begin for athletes enrolling after August 1, 2008. The remainder of the new baseball legislation remains the same, including a limit on counters (those receiving financial aid) of 30 in 2008-09 and 27 in 2009-10 and thereafter. There is also a regular season roster limit of 35 players, including walk-ons.

And one of the major components of the new baseball rules not related to financial aid is the elimination of the one-time transfer exception, meaning baseball players must sit out one year if they transfer within Division I or to a Division I school from a lower-division school.

ACT Scores Higher, But...

ACT officials are saying though test scores are higher, core courses in American high schools must be more rigorous in order to prepare students adequately for college.

Among students who took the ACT in 2007 after taking Algebra I and II and geometry -- the minimum core courses in mathematics -- only 15 percent met or surpassed a "college-readiness benchmark" established by the organization that administers the ACT tests.

Results from the test's science section show that a meager 20 percent of those who took general science, biology, and chemistry -- the minimum core courses in science -- were ready for college biology.

The ACT consists of four sections: English, mathematics, reading, and science. Each section is scored on a scale of 1 to 36, and the four scores are averaged to compute the total score.

ACT officials have long recommended that students take a minimum core curriculum of four years of English and three years each of math and science to prepare for college.

The NCAA is, of course, raising its core course requirements too.

Beginning in 2008, NCAA Division I will require a minimum of 16 core courses (up from 14) to be eligible to play as a freshman. NCAA Division II will continue to require 14 core courses.

Though the 16 core courses for Division I was announced four years ago to prepare high schools for the change, there is no doubt some have not gotten the message. A high school football coach in California told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that as many as "30 percent (of prospective student-athletes won't) qualify that would have qualified last year. Many high schools now find

themselves making sure freshmen are on track to satisfy their core course requirements.

The ACT reported that the overall average score went up by one-tenth of a percent from the previous year to 21.2. Scores have increased three times in the last five years.

A record 1.3-million students took the ACT this year, showing the “other” test is making inroads on the SAT in terms of popularity.

Congress Gives Final Approval to Sweeping Student-Aid Bill

The U. S. Congress has approved the largest increase in federal student aid since the GI Bill.

Among the highlights of the bill: To cut government subsidies to student-loan providers and use the savings to raise the maximum Pell Grant, and cut the interest rate on student loans by 50 percent.

The new maximum Pell Grant, for students from low-income households, will increase by \$490 next year to \$4800 and will jump to \$5,400 by 2012. In addition to raising the maximum Pell Grant, the bill would raise the income cutoff for automatic eligibility for the maximum award, from \$20,000 to \$30,000.

The bill will also raise the “income-protection allowance”, permitting working students to deduct more of their earnings when calculating their expected contribution to college.

Education majors who promise to teach high-need subjects in high-need schools upon graduation for four years will receive \$4000 a year toward tuition costs.

Those who graduate and go into careers like nursing, firefighting, law enforcement, public defenders, police officers and the military can have their student loans forgiven if they stay in their chosen field for 10 years.

Stafford Loan rates will be cut in half over the next four years. By 2011, the Stafford interest rate will be 3.4 percent.

Crunching Numbers

\$ 5498 Average in-state tuition at a public university in the 2006-07 academic year.

\$18,413 Average annual tuition at a non-profit (traditional) private institution.

\$ 2205 Average yearly tuition costs at a two-year school.

60/40 Ratio of female to male students on college campuses by 2010, according to the U. S. Department of Education.

61% More income earned over a 40-year working career by someone with a bachelor's degree compared to a high school graduate, according to the College Board.

94.2% Increase in number of women's rowers competing for NCAA schools in the 10 years between 1995-96 and 2005-06, by far the largest increase in participation in any sport.

-14.1% Loss of men's swimming/diving participants over the same period.

The 2007-08 NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete is available online. To view the most current recruiting rules and details on registering with the NCAA Clearinghouse, [Click Here](#).

The NCAA Amateurism Questionnaire

Every student-athlete who registers with the NCAA Clearinghouse must complete an Amateurism Questionnaire to determine if the athlete has in any way jeopardized his or her amateur status.

One of the questions concerns using a company like CPOA to send information to schools on behalf of the student-athlete. One of the questions reads as follows:

- In any sport, have you ever:

Authorized anyone (other than your parent, legal guardian or coach) to market your athletics skill or reputation?

FAQ Questions for Marketing Services:

My family paid a recruiting service company to send out information about me to several colleges and universities to help improve my chances of getting an athletics scholarship. Should I answer "yes" to this question?

Answer: The answer you provide depends on the terms of the agreement. If the fee paid to the recruiting service was not based upon your placement and receipt of institutional financial aid at a specific collegiate institution, you may answer "no" to this question.

Since CPOA's service fits this description - we do not base our fee on placement and receipt of institutional financial aid - then clients should answer "No" to this question.

CPOA PA News

Back To School = Official Visits

Did you know that once you begin classes for your senior year, you are allowed to take official visits to colleges and universities? These invite-only trips are important, but whether your visit is official or unofficial, there's nothing like checking out a college campus. [<READ MORE>](#)

Beware of Spammers and Scammers

Some of our clients are occasionally e-mailed by organizations that claim to have a connection to CPOA with a product or service to sell.

Be careful of these posers!

A service called "University Prospects" drops our name in an attempt to get our clients to drop their guard and buy a service. Another we recently discovered, called "USA College Sports", wrote that we "recommended" that they contact a client to pitch their service! No way!

Your privacy is important. CPOA does not sell or provide our client's e-mail addresses to any other company or service provider. If we recommend a service, it will be through a link on our web site or a flyer that we send to you in an official CPOA package. Take spam for what it is. Ask your local CPOA rep or our Corporate Office if you have any questions!

Answer the Phone.

It might be a college coach on other end. College coaches have begun calling 2008 prospects. What you should ask coaches who call.

You will probably be nervous the first few times you talk with a coach on the phone. He or she is accustomed to it; you are not. A good approach is to be confident in your remarks about yourself while deflecting praise to teammates and coaches. For example, say, "I was fortunate to hit .475 this spring. I had good hitters behind me so they were pitching to me. Our team had a very good season too." Coaches love that approach! Prepare yourself with a list of questions and keep it beside the phone. [Need some help with your questions?](#)

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 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).