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IMPORTANT SEPTEMBER RECRUITING DATES

1 – Division I-A and I – AA football coaches may resume telephone contact with 2008 graduates.

10- SAT registration postmark date for October 6th test.

21 – ACT registration postmark date for October 27th test.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania

Brad Burkardt – Baseball – Greater Latrobe
Matthew Remaley – Football – Mt. Pleasant Area

NCAA News

Deal Reached Over Wrongly Scored SATs

Students who took the SAT in October 2005 and whose tests were incorrectly scanned resulting in lower scores are in line for a settlement from the College Board and the company that scans the standardized tests.

Last month, the two companies agreed to pay \$2.85-million to settle a class-action lawsuit stemming from glitches that affected the scoring of the test. About 4,400 students received incorrectly low scores on the test.

Under the proposed settlement, each of the affected test takers will have two payment options. The students may choose to receive a payment of \$275 or submit a claim for more money, in which case a retired judge will decide the

award. There is no set limit on what those students may receive, and students whose claims are denied will get at least \$225.

The College Board has said that the score discrepancies for most of the 4,400 exams were between 10 and 40 points, although a handful were off by 200 or more points. Some plaintiffs say they were denied admission at particular colleges or missed out on scholarships as a result of the errors. College Board officials have said the organization re-reported corrected scores to colleges and scholarship services after learning of the errors, several months after students took the exam. The College Board did not, however, correct scores of students who had received higher scores than they had earned.

The College Board has said those mistakes were due, at least in part, to "abnormally high moisture content" in some of the answer sheets.

This news comes as it was announced in late August that the average combined score on the SAT for 2007 grads was the lowest in nearly a decade. The average math score was 515 points; the critical reading average was 502. Students scored an average of 494 on the new writing test. The highest possible score for each section is 800.

The College Board attributed the lower scores to "a larger and increasingly diverse group of test takers."

Sports Sponsorships

University of Oregon, NCAA Division I in Eugene, Ore., is reinstating its baseball team for the 2008-09 season nearly 30 years after disbanding it. The school has also announced it will eliminate its wrestling team after the coming season.

Assumption College, NCAA Division II in Worcester, Mass., will add a women's swimming team that will begin competing on the varsity level in 2008-09.

Westfield State College, Division III located in Westfield, Mass., has announced it is reinstating the men's ice hockey team to varsity status in 2008-09 after a 20-year absence.

NCAA News Update

The NCAA's Division I, with 331 members, is getting too big its Board of Directors has decided. So, there will be no new applications for membership accepted for four years.

At an August meeting, the NCAA Board of Directors imposed a four-year moratorium on membership for the association's highest level of competition. The 20 institutions with pending applications will be allowed to continue that process as the division reviews its standards for membership. Also during the four-year period, colleges will not be able to move subdivisions within Division I, meaning a I-AA football program, for example, cannot move up to I-A.

The ban on text messaging by NCAA Division I coaches remains, despite some complaints by coaches. The text ban will go to a vote of all Division I schools at the annual NCAA convention in January.

Also at the August meeting, the Division III Presidents Council decided to end the membership moratorium at that level, which already has the most members of any NCAA division, and to sponsor a proposal to limit the use of male practice players on women's teams.

Finally, *The NCAA News*, the association's semi-weekly newspaper, will no longer be printed as of January 2008. The content will only be available online.

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](#).

NCAA Division I Board Bans Text Messaging

Effective August 1, 2007, Division I coaches will no longer be permitted to send text messages to prospective recruits. [Click here](#) to read about it.

Division I Baseball: Beginning August 1, 2008, a financial aid package awarded to a Division I baseball prospect must include at least 33 percent athletics-related aid. The total number of players on a team receiving aid will be 27, and the "One-Time Transfer Exception", which allowed baseball players in Division I to transfer and play at another Division I school without sitting out a year, is eliminated.

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.

Miscellaneous Rule Changes

Division I reversed a rule passed last year that allowed graduate students with athletic eligibility remaining to transfer and play in the same year, regardless of sport. Grad students in sports like football and basketball will now have to sit out a year on a lateral or "upward" transfer to a Division I school, just like undergrads do, however students who transferred prior to January 15 will be grandfathered in under the old rule.

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).