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## **IMPORTANT SEPTEMBER RECRUITING DATES**

**1: Division IA and IAA football coaches may resume telephone contact with 2010 graduates.**

**9: SAT registration postmark date for October 23<sup>rd</sup> test.**

**18: ACT registration postmark date for October 24<sup>th</sup> test.**

**23: SAT late registration postmark date for October 10<sup>th</sup> test (SAT I & II)**

## **Recruiting Topic of the Month**

**"Steps to Finalize Your Recruiting Process" – 2010 Grads**

Read up all upcoming seniors!! Here are the steps you need to take once you have started to build a relationship with a college coach, in order to finalize the recruiting process and ultimately make your decision. Gauge interest from the coach. To gauge interest, you need to get an evaluation from the coach. This means you need to get the coaches video or invite them to see you play live. Once they have watched you play ask what they thought. If you get a good evaluation you need to ask where you stand on their list of recruits. If you are top on their list this is a good sign! If your evaluation is not what you are expecting, ask what you can do to improve and continue to follow up or move on to the next school. If you are on the top of the coaches list, you now need to ask a lot of questions to determine your interest level. Once there is mutual interest you need to ask if you should apply and find out what the application process is. You will also need to set a visit or ask the coach if they are planning on offering you an official visit. Setting a visit to see the campus, meet coach and teammates, is extremely important. It is recommended to do this with a few schools before

making your decision. The visit is most often when a coach will put an offer on the table. If you are ready to commit, you can accept. If you are not ready, explain that you are interested, need more time and ask how long the offer stands.

### **Academic News**

Incoming high school freshmen who will graduate in 2013 will be required to have 16 core courses on their high school transcript for immediate eligibility in both NCAA Division I and Division II.

Division I has required 16 core courses for those who enrolled after August 1, 2008, now Division II is raising its requirement from 14 to 16 beginning in the fall of 2013.

It is customary for the new benchmarks to take effect four or five years after they are announced so that high school students will have plenty of time to make sure they cover the requirement. However, it has been our experience that many guidance counselors do not keep close tabs on these changes. Since NCAA Division II is the smallest of the three divisions in terms of the number of institutions, it may be even more likely that something like this change slips through the counselor cracks.

Actually it should be easier to keep the standards straight now because 16 core courses will be the minimum required for both Division I and Division II for anyone graduating high school in 2013 or after, or until the next time the standards are upgraded!

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### **RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania**

Jenna Dunlay – McKeesport – Softball

Tarra Oravec – Kiski Area – Softball

Jake Wietholder – South Park – Basketball

Tyler Lukart – Norwin – Football

Garrett Miller – Leechburg – Football

Sarah Sandin – Yough - Basketball

## **NCAA News**

### **U. S. News college rankings this year**

Harvard and Princeton Universities again tied for the No. 1 spot among national universities. The two have traded the top rank or tied for it every year for the last 10 years.

Rounding out the top national universities this year are other usual suspects: Yale University (alone at No. 3) and the California Institute of Technology (Cal Tech), the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.), Stanford University, and the University of Pennsylvania (clustered at No. 4)

Williams College in Williamstown, Mass. (NCAA Division III) got the top spot among liberal-arts colleges, and the University of California at Berkeley was the highest-ranked public institution.

Do the rankings even matter anymore since there is never any change at the top?

U.S. News touts the consistency of the rankings as a sign of quality, while critics say the year-to-year similarities show that the list simply mirrors colleges' longstanding reputations.

### **SAT down slightly**

Standardized test scores continue to hover at virtually the same levels for both the ACT and SAT. According to the company that owns the test, the average score on the ACT by the class of 2009 was 21.1, unchanged from 2008.

A perfect score on the ACT is 36.

The College Board, which owns the SAT, reports the average score for 09 grads is 501 in critical reading, 515 in mathematics and 493 in writing.

In 2008, the average scores were 502, 515 and 494 respectively.

The SAT reports that math and reading scores have not changed by plus or minus four points in the last 10 years.

The SAT holds a slight lead in the number of test takers, 1.53 million to 1.48 million for the ACT, but the ACT has been closing the gap over the past 10 years.

## **Sports Sponsorships**

The baseball and men's tennis teams at the **University of Wisconsin-La Crosse** (NCAA Division III) earned a reprieve, at least temporarily, when both teams reached private fund-raising goals that will allow them to keep competing in 2009-10.

Earlier this spring, the school's chancellor announced both teams would be dropped unless they raised enough money through sponsorships to at least cover expenses for the upcoming academic year. Both did, but the work is just beginning. A local newspaper reported that the men's tennis team must raise at least \$175,000 and the baseball team between \$350,000 and \$375,000 in order to continue beyond this season.

Two Division III schools in the state of New Jersey are adding men's golf teams. **New Jersey City University** in Jersey City and **William Paterson University** (Wayne, NJ) will send squads into competition beginning in the fall of 2010.

Last month we announced that **Simon Fraser University** in Burnaby, British Columbia, became the first school outside the United States to be approved for membership into the NCAA (Division II).

That move may change intercollegiate sports in Canada forever. According to *Sports Illustrated*, the University of British Columbia is also interested in petitioning the NCAA for membership. And Canada Interuniversity Sport, the north-of-the-border version of the NCAA, is reconsidering its prohibition on full athletic scholarships at Canadian schools. A decision on that reversal could be made by September 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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).