

St. Mary's Soccer

College Recruiting Seminar

February 4, 2020



Developing players and impacting lives, through positive, fun and challenging soccer



Agenda

- Coaches Introduction
- Getting Started
- Atmosphere
- Academics/Scholarships
- Communication
- Additional Resources





Coaches Introduction

- SMCM Women's Soccer Head Coach (since 2014)
- UMBC Assistant Coach (2012-2014)
- SMCM Men's Soccer Assistant Coach (2009-2012)
- USSF National B License
- Played soccer at SMCM

Peter
Krech



- SMCM Men's Soccer Head Coach (since 2011)
- SMCM Men's Soccer Assistant Coach (2004-2007, 2010)
- USSF National B License
- Youth and reserve team player with Oldham Athletic Football Club (England)
- Played soccer at SMCM

Alun
Oliver





Getting Started



Suggested Timelines

*Timelines below can vary by school and male/female athletes**

Freshman-Soph Year



Athletes write to a large number of schools to state your interest



Visit campuses



Club coach can help to be liaison if college coaches show interest

Soph-Junior Year



Determine your realistic level of play



Narrow your school list down to those that have the right fit (~15)



Discuss with parents the financial aspects

Junior-Senior Year



Majority of players make commitments



List of schools should be narrowed to 3-5



If you are not getting communication from coaches, shift focus elsewhere



**Male recruiting is typically behind female recruiting*

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Umbrella Organizations

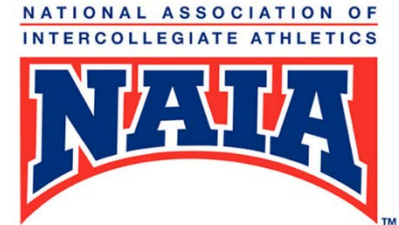
NCAA Division I/II



NCAA Division III



Other





NCAA Eligibility Center

- Eligibility Center is the organization within the NCAA that determines the academic eligibility and amateur status for all NCAA DI and DII athletes
- You need to register and be cleared by the NCAA if you want to play NCAA college sports and receive a scholarship at the DI or DII level
- Cost for registration is \$90 for US citizens



- Once everything above is completed, NCAA will not review your information unless it has been requested by an NCAA University
- If you have registered with the NCAA and have not had your eligibility status completed, chances are it has not been requested by a coach
- Over 60% of athletes who are registered with the NCAA are never recruited by a college coach





Coaches Communication


Division I & II

Freshman & Sophomore Year

- Prospect can send unlimited emails, texts, and make phone calls
- Prospect can receive camp or clinic invitations

After 1 Sept of Junior Year

- Coaches can get involved with a recruit's unofficial visit
- Recruits can start taking official visits
- Recruits & college coaches can have recruiting conversations during camps
- Coaches can make phone calls and send direct emails



You can contact coaches at any time to express interest and get on their radar

Division III

Contact prospects at any time during high school





Atmosphere



What to Consider

Academic major

Location

School size

Teacher/Student
Ratio

Finances

Athletics

Extracurricular
Activities

Dorms

Climate





Where Do You Fit?

Impact Player



OR

Part of the Team



Players (and parents) need to be honest with yourselves about athletic ability



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Division I Statistics

Girls Statistics

- 9.7% of U.S. high school players end up playing collegiately
- 2.3% end up playing Division I
- 3% of college recruits are international players

Boys Statistics

- 7.9% of U.S. high school players end up playing collegiately
- 1.1% end up playing Division I
- 21.3% of college recruits are international players

*Based on a 2017 study done by NCSA (ncsasports.org). Trend towards international recruits is growing.



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Do Your Research

- Make a list of potential schools
- Research these schools
 - Campus visits
 - Online Resources
- Spend some time researching how to write a good letter to coaches





Academics & Scholarships



Academics

- Academics need to be the FIRST priority
- Freshman-Senior years focus on good grades and good SAT/ACT scores
- Coaches are looking for recruits who can balance school and sports
- Make certain to research schools with your major
- Recommend taking the PSAT in your freshman or sophomore year.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT no later than the end of your junior year – these are important to help predict your opportunity for merit-based scholarships
- Everyone should complete a FAFSA application. Don't assume you don't qualify!
 - Complete Oct of your senior year, using prior year tax information.





Scholarships

- Division I/II schools offer a variety of athletic scholarships
 - Fully funded athletic scholarship
 - Partial athletic scholarship
 - Combined athletic and academic
 - Academic
- Division III does not offer athletic scholarships
- Division I fully funded schools have ~9.9 scholarships for men and ~14 for women (average rosters include 28-29 players)
- Division II fully funded schools have 9 scholarships for men and 9.9 for women
- NAIA schools can offer up to 12 fully funded athletic scholarships
- Junior Colleges can offer up to 18 fully funded athletic scholarships
- Not all schools are fully funded
- All Divisions offer Financial and Merit-based scholarships





Communications



Contacting Schools

- Introduction emails
- Phone calls
- Resume/ Player Profile/Videos
- Recruiting companies
- Official & Unofficial Visits
- School Camps/ ID Camps/ Tournaments
- Respond to all coaches' inquiries





Athletes vs. Parents

- Step aside parents – coaches want to hear from the *athletes*
- Coaches are more impressed when....
 - Recruits speak more than the parents
 - Recruits are the point person for email and phone communication
 - Recruits are asking the questions versus parents





Where to Start

Don't be overwhelmed! Here's how to start:

- 2-3 weeks before every tournament, check online for the college coaches that are attending
- Send emails to several different coaches expressing interest and inviting them to see you play
 - Write to a variety of schools, not only the 1-2 you've heard of before
 - Cast a wide net: Writing 5 schools is better than nothing... but writing 15-20 is ideal
- Make sure you include:
 - **Your schedule/ game times/ team name**
 - **Your jersey number and position**
 - **Your HS graduation year**
 - **Your club coaches contact info**
- Follow up after your tournament to see if they had a chance to see you play, and express your interest again
- Schools that are interested will contact you!
- Determine if you are potentially interested in that school, based on the other factors
 - **If possibly interested, keep the communication going!**
 - **If not interested, thank them for their interest, but advise you aren't overly interested.**
- Start writing coaches in your sophomore year, but don't be upset if you don't get responses yet.





Additional Resources

- NCAA Eligibility Center
<https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>
- NCAA Eligibility Center FAQ
<https://ncaa.egain.cloud/kb/EligibilityHelp/home>
- NCAA Eligibility Center Registration Checklist
http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Student_Resources/Registration_Checklist.pdf
- NCAA Division I Eligibility Standards
<http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/play-division-i-sports>
- NCAA Division II Eligibility Standards
<http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/play-division-ii-sports>
- NCAA Recruiting Fact Sheet
<http://www.ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Recruiting%20Fact%20Sheet%20WEB.pdf>

