

ATHLETICS AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL

“HOW TO GET STARTED WITH THE RECRUITING PROCESS”

LINDA DERK

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR/HEAD SOFTBALL COACH

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

Getting Started:

- **RULE NUMBER 1.....DO NOT WAIT!!!**
- **What will be your best College Opportunity**
 - Depends on many variables
 - Your GOALS
 - Your ACADEMICS
 - Your TALENTS
 - And MORE...

Getting Started (Continued)

- **ARE YOU ON THE COLLEGE COACHES' RECRUITING LIST**
 - Identify 20-30 schools that interest you & fill out athletic questionnaire
 - What Fits YOUR needs as a student-athlete
 - Geographical location
 - Size of school
 - Academic Programs
 - Athletic Program
 - Cost
 - other....(i.e.family attended, scholarships offered, learning disability program)

Getting Started (continued)

- **WHAT ARE THE ODDS**

- Approximately 1 out of 25 high school students go to an NCAA School
- Approximately half receive athletic aid
- Odds are about 1 in 50 high school student-athletes receive athletic scholarships
- Talent is important: ACADEMIC SUCCESS IS CRUCIAL!
- NCAA FACT SHEETS

NCAA RECRUITING FACTS

College sports create a pathway to opportunity for student-athletes.

480,000

Student-athletes

19,000
Teams

3 Divisions

1 Association

DIVISION I

Division I schools, on average, enroll the most students, manage the largest athletics budgets, offer a wide array of academic programs and provide the most athletics scholarships.

PARTICIPATION

- 176,000 student-athletes
- 346 colleges and universities

ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS

56 percent of all student-athletes receive some level of athletics aid.

ACADEMICS

2014 Graduation Success Rate: 83 percent*

OTHER STATS

Median Undergraduate Enrollment: 9,205
Average Number of Teams per School: 19
Average Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports: 4 percent
Division I National Championships: 26 (1 out of every 8.5 student-athletes participates)

DIVISION II

Division II provides growth opportunities through academic achievement, high-level athletics competition and community engagement. Many participants are first-generation college students.

PARTICIPATION

- 118,800 student-athletes
- 307 colleges and universities

ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS

61 percent of all student-athletes receive some level of athletics aid.

ACADEMICS

2014 Academic Success Rate: 71 percent*

OTHER STATS

Median Undergraduate Enrollment: 2,530
Average Number of Teams per School: 15
Average Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports: 10 percent
Division II National Championships: 25
(1 out of every 7 student-athletes participates)

DIVISION III

The Division III experience provides an integrated environment that focuses on academic success while offering competitive athletics and meaningful non-athletics opportunities.

PARTICIPATION

- 167,800 student-athletes
- 439 colleges and universities

FINANCIAL AID

82 percent of all student-athletes receive some form of academic grant or need-based scholarship; institutional gift aid totals \$17,000 on average

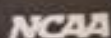
ACADEMICS

2014 Academic Success Rate: 87 percent*

OTHER STATS

Median Undergraduate Enrollment: 1,860
Average Number of Teams per School: 18
Average Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports: 21 percent
Division III National Championships: 28 (1 out of every 10 student-athletes participates)

Want to play NCAA sports? Visit www.NCAA.org/playcollegesports



Facts about NCAA sports

Does the NCAA award athletics scholarships?

Individual schools award athletics scholarships. Divisions I and II schools provide \$2.7 billion in athletics scholarships annually to more than 150,000 student-athletes. Division III schools, with more than 180,000 student-athletes, do not offer athletically related financial aid, but most student-athletes receive some form of academic grant or need-based scholarship.

Do many high school athletes earn athletics scholarships?

Very few, in fact. About 2 percent of high school athletes are awarded some form of athletics scholarship to compete in college.

Do NCAA student-athletes have difficulty meeting graduation requirements with the time demands of their sport? While competing in college does require strong time-management skills and some thoughtful planning with academic advisors, on average NCAA student-athletes graduate at a higher rate than the general student body.

Do many NCAA student-athletes go on to play professionally?

Fewer than 2 percent of NCAA student-athletes go on to be professional athletes. In reality, most student-athletes depend on academics to prepare them for life after college. Education is important. There are nearly half a million NCAA student-athletes, and most of them will go pro in something other than sports.

ESTIMATED PROBABILITY OF COMPETING IN NCAA ATHLETICS BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

Student-Athletes	All Sports	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Football	Baseball	Men's Ice Hockey	Men's Soccer
High School Student-Athletes	7,800,000	541,500	429,500	1,083,600	486,000	35,900	432,600
NCAA Student-Athletes	480,000	18,700	16,600	72,800	34,200	4,100	24,500
Percentage Moving from High School to NCAA	6%	3.5%	3.9%	6.7%	7%	11.3%	5.7%
Percentage Moving from NCAA to Major Professional	2%	1.1%	0.9%	1.6%	0.7%	6.6%	1.4%

© 2007 NCAA. All rights reserved. Figures are based on the statistics in 2006-07 NCAA Division I, II, III, and NAIA Yearbook.

**NLI Signing Dates for Prospective Student-Athletes Signing 2017-18 and Enrolling 2018-19**

Sport (s)	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Basketball (Early Period)	November 8, 2017	November 15, 2017
Basketball (Regular Period)	April 11, 2018	Division I: May 16, 2018 Division II: August 1, 2018
Football (Early Period for Division I)	December 20, 2017	December 22, 2017
Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	December 20, 2017	January 15, 2018
Football (Regular Period)	February 7, 2018	April 1, 2018
Soccer and Men's Water Polo	February 7, 2018	August 1, 2018
All Other Sports (Early Period)	November 8, 2017	November 15, 2017
All Other Sports (Regular Period)	April 11, 2018	August 1, 2018

Current Signing Dates

Recruit Yourself

- **HOW TO:**

- Fill out 20-40 athletic questionnaires
- These can be found at the athletics page or sport specific page of the school
- Play on a competitive club team that will assist in your process
- Letter and resume to the coach
- Attend camps and visit schools
- Just say no to the recruiting services

- **TIMELINE**

- Recruiting process (athletically is early....no need to panic or make an early verbal).
- Early verbals are **NOT** recognized as a binding agreement with the NCAA!

Recruit Yourself (Timeline Continued)

- **FRESHMAN**

- Academic eligibility starts
- Doesn't matter your skill set if you don't have the **GRADES**
- High school courses matter (see Jeri Williar AFA Guidance)
- NCAA Guide for College Bound Student-Athlete (Download the free PDF)
- Stay in touch with your college list: frequent emails, attend camps, watch play

- **SOPHOMORE**

- Start narrowing your college choices
- Get Serious about your college academic and athletic interests
- Video and Stay in touch with your college list

RECRUIT YOURSELF (Timeline continued)

- **JUNIOR**

- SAT/ACT Testing: MANDATORY
- NCAA Clearinghouse: MANDATORY
- Continue to contact coaches
- Make phone calls
- Narrow choices
- Unofficial visits/Official visits
- Coaches can call you back after July 1, following Junior year

- **SENIOR**

- Making a final decision
- Final visits
- National Letter of Intent (NLI; see handout for signing dates)

VIDEO

- Your video is similar to a trailer to a movie....it should grab the attention of the coach
- 5-8 minutes in length (maximum)
- Dress in uniform be neat and professional
- Include an Intro/Outro, contact information (yours and coaches), defense, offense, any specialty position
- GAME FOOTAGE (sport specific....not all sports like game footage)
- Youtube link
- Doesn't have to cost big money
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FktYdkW9tWo&authuser=0> (ane Garver)

SAMPLE LETTER

Mara L. Brody

Address

Contact Email: XXXXXX

Contact Phone : XXXXXX

Graduation Date: June 2016 – Center for Advanced Technology/Lakewood High School

February 5, 2014

XXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXX

Dear Coach Watten:

My name is Mara Brody and I am presently a Sophomore at the Center for Advanced Technology at Lakewood High School in St. Petersburg Florida. It is my dream to be able to play softball for a Division 1 School such as XXXXXX. This month I will be beginning my high school season with the Lakewood High School Spartans as the returning starting first baseman. I am also a member of the Team FLA Gold Travel Ball Team under the leadership and direction of Coach Linda Derk.

SAMPLE RESUME

Mara Lacle Brody
Class of 2016

2801 58th Circle South, St. Petersburg FL 33712
727-748-7476 (Mara) 727-871-2265 (parents)
Lakewood High School—Center for Advanced Technology

Positions: First Base, Utility
GPA: 3.2/3.9—top 20% of class
ACT/SAT Just took ACT October

Height: 5'9"
Weight: 175
Bats: Right
Throws: Right

Email: maralacole98@gmail.com

Website: *

Batting Average: .500
Strengths: Power Hitter, Strong Fielder
Team Player
Hitting Coach: Linda Derk

Honors/Awards

Freshman Season/Sophomore Season/Junior Season

HELPFUL HINTS

- Set yourself apart from all other student-athletes
- Stay active in the recruiting process as a family...have a list of questions for the college coaches...the final decision should be the student-athletes
- Keep an updated spreadsheet of colleges include:
 - College, Coach Name, Coach Email, City, State, Enrollment/Size, Division, Conference, Notes
- Social media awareness
- **Don't** give coaches the impression you'll only be interested in a school if they give you an athletic scholarship
- **Do** be honest with coaches
- Student-athlete behavior on and off the field should be positive
- Parent behavior on and off the field should be positive

RESOURCES

- **OFFICIAL SITES:**

- National Collegiate Athletic Association(NCAA) www.ncaa.org
- National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics(NAIA) www.naia.org
- National Junior College Athletic Association(NJCAA) www.njcaa.org

- **Virtual College Tour**

- www.youniversitytv.com

- **College Planning Resources**

- <http://web3.ncaa.org>(NCAA Clearinghouse)/Campus Advisors www.campusadvisers.com
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.thesalliemafund.org
- www.collegenet.org
- www.studentedge.com
- www.nfca.org (National Fastpitch Coaches Association)

RESOURCES(continued)

- **COLLEGE PLANNING RESOURCES**

- NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete (download free PDF)
- Preparing to Play Softball at the College level 2017 edition by Catharine Aradi

- **SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID SEARCH**

- www.fasfa.ed.gov (free application for federal student aid)
- www.finaid.org (Student Guide to Financial Aid)
- www.fastweb.com (Scholarship and College Search)
- www.freeeducationguide.com (Free Education Guide)
- www.studentlannetwork.com (Financial Aid Planning for College)

QUESTION AND ANSWER

??