

# **Recruiting 101**

## **Trying to Make Sense of the Process**

# Parties Involved In The Process

- College/Universities – Looking for the biggest, fastest, strongest, and brightest athletes they can find to help them win and represent their institution in a positive light.
- High school prospects – Individuals looking to attend college and play football while there.
- Prospect Parents – Looking to provide the best opportunity for success on and off the field for their children.
- High School Coaches – Leaders, mentors, and role models looking to shape the futures of young men to become productive citizens; while trying to win games and move kids on to the next level if possible.

# What's My Role In Recruiting?

- College/Universities – Looking for the biggest, fastest, strongest, and brightest athletes they can find to help them win and represent their institution in a positive light.
- High school prospects – Take care of your **academics**. Play well when given the opportunity. Seek out realistic opportunities to play on the next level given your ability and skill set.
- Prospect Parents – Educate yourself on the process, have realistic attainable expectations based on your child's ability and skill set. Facilitate opportunities to visit schools and summer camps.
- High School Coaches – Provide an atmosphere conducive to the success and advancement of your players. Educate parents and players about what their abilities and opportunities are.

# 3 Guidelines for Parents

1. Your child's future is your responsibility, **NOT** the coaches or counselors.
2. Let the coaches coach and the players play because **THEY** want to play.
3. Your coaches are there to **ASSIST** in finding scholarship opportunities not to hand deliver them to you.

Do you want your child to attend college for an education or to play ball?

Your child's success or lack of success in sports does not indicate what kind of parent you are.

But having an athlete that is coachable, respectful, a great teammate, mentally tough, resilient and tries their best **IS** a direct reflection of your parenting.

# 3 Guidelines for Prospects

1. Show respect to your ELDER'S use phrases like Yes Sir/Ma'am, No Sir/Ma'am, Yes coach it will open doors for you.
2. You are **NOT** entitled to anything in this world, if you want it you will have to work for it.
3. Dress for success your appearance says more about you than you know. Perception is reality you are **ALWAYS** being evaluated.

Do you want to attend college for an education or  
to play ball?

# Social Media



**BEFORE YOU POST...**

**THINK!**



**T** - is it true?

**H** - is it hurtful?

**I** - is it illegal?



**N** - is it necessary?

**K** - is it kind?

# College Football is **BIG BUSINESS**

- College football revenue topped \$3.4 billion for the first time in 2013, according to [data released by the Department of Education](#). This number makes college football one of the most lucrative sports, college or pro, in North America.
- For comparison, FBS college football is still well short of the revenue generated by Major League Baseball ([\\$8 billion](#)) and the NFL ([\\$6 billion](#)) in 2013, but it is in the neighborhood of the NBA (\$5 billion) and the NHL (\$3.7 billion).
- The big difference is those leagues have unions, and the players get a chunk of the revenue that is much larger than tuition, room, and board, which is typically worth around \$50,000 per year per athlete.



# What is Available?

- 795 Colleges and Universities play football in US
- 1.2 million High School football players in more than 14,000 High School programs throughout the country



# Statistics to Keep in Mind

- 3% of ALL HS football players will receive some sort of scholarship grant or aid to play football in college.
- 1% of ALL HS football players will receive a Division 1 football scholarship.
- 80% of all scholarship, grants, and financial aid money is given out at the D2/D3/NAIA and Junior College level.
- 85% of all aid is not realized until after January 1<sup>st</sup> of the Senior year.
- 26% of all scholarship, grants, and financial aid recipients are no longer on scholarship in what would be their sophomore year.

# Love Glasses

Parents see their child in the best light, understand that Colleges/Universities **DO NOT**. They are looking for reasons **NOT** to offer a scholarship; they are not looking to find a way to offer them. The tried and true method in winning football games is to collect the biggest, fastest, strongest, and brightest and you have a chance. Just because your child plays at a high level in HS it does not mean they have what it takes to play in College much less receive a scholarship to do so.

Recruiting is the life blood of college football, and if a coach does not recruit the best and brightest players they will not meet the administrations expectations of winning. If they don't win they will have to find another way to provide for their family.

# What Are They Looking For?

## Division I FBS (85 Scholarships Per Team)

- Size/Speed/Grades
- Example: Average Power 5 Conference Roster
- Local Teams: Georgia, Georgia Tech, Georgia Southern, Georgia State

OL	DL	LB	RB
6'4 302	6'4 285	6'2 227	5'11 207
SUB 5.4	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.5
DB	QB	WR	TE
5'11 182	6'2 200	6'1 188	6'4 245
SUB 4.5	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.6	SUB 4.7

# What Are They Looking For?

## Division I FCS (60 Scholarships Per Team)

- Size/Speed/Grades Patriot/Ivy League Schools
- Have speed to compete but maybe not the size or have the size but not the speed
- These Schools can split up scholarships into partial packages
- Local Teams: Mercer, Kennesaw State, Savannah State

OL	DL	LB	RB
6'3 285	6'3 275	6' 215	5'10 190
SUB 5.4	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.6
DB	QB	WR	TE
5'10 175	6' 190	5'11 180	6'3 230
SUB 4.5	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.6	SUB 4.7

# What Are They Looking For?

## Division II (36 Scholarships Per Team)

- Size and Speed are still important
- Grades become more important – many are private schools
- Package Players – Grants/Academic/Athletic
- Local Teams: Albany State, Clarke Atlanta, Fort Valley, Morehouse, Shorter, Valdosta State, West Georgia

OL	DL	LB	RB
6'2 280	6'2 270	6' 210	5'10 180
SUB 5.4	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.8	SUB 4.6
DB	QB	WR	TE
5'9 175	6' 190	5'11 180	6'3 230
SUB 4.6	SUB 4.9	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.9

# What Are They Looking For?

## Division III (0 Football Scholarships Per Team)

- Non-Scholarship
- Grades are very important – Merit based money
- Most are private schools
- Academic money plus grants, loans, need-based money
- Local Teams: Berry College, LaGrange

OL	DL	LB	RB
6'2 280	6'2 270	6' 210	5'9 180
SUB 5.4	SUB 5.3	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.7
DB	QB	WR	TE
5'9 175	6' 190	5'11 180	6'2 230
SUB 4.6	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.9

# What Are They Looking For?

## NAIA (24 Scholarships Per Team)

- Not governed by the NCAA
- Athletic Money, grants, need based money and loans
- Limited number of scholarships – usually broken up
- Local Teams: Point University, Reinhardt

OL	DL	LB	RB
6'2 280	6'2 270	6' 210	5'9 180
SUB 5.4	SUB 5.3	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.7
DB	QB	WR	TE
5'9 175	6' 190	5'11 180	6'2 230
SUB 4.6	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.9



# What Are They Looking For?

## Junior College(70 Scholarships Per Team)

- NJCAA regulated
- Partial Scholarships available
- Division I athletes not eligible
- Two year schools and then recruited again to Division I schools
- Local Teams: Georgia Military College

OL	DL	LB	RB
6'4 302	6'4 285	6'2 227	5'11 207
SUB 5.4	SUB 5.0	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.5
DB	QB	WR	TE
5'11 182	6'2 200	6'1 188	6'4 245
SUB 4.5	SUB 4.7	SUB 4.6	SUB 4.7

# School Breakdown

Divisions	Players		\$/Team	Schools
•Div. 1	13,758	85	120	
•FCS	11,900		63	124
•Div. II	15,764	36	170	
•Div. III	22,813	0	245	
•NAIA	9,200	24	89	
•JC	7,100		70	72

# How Do Colleges Know Who & Where Prospects Are?

1. College coaches see them while out on the recruiting trail.
2. HS coaches send out prospect sheets and video.
3. NCAA Approved Scouting Services such as National Preps promote you to colleges.
4. Reporters at the local newspaper or .com recruiting sites write a story on you that a coach reads.
5. Someone in your community is alumni at a school and tells a coach about you etc.
6. All State/Area and region team selections.
7. Selections to All-Star games.
8. **You go to a colleges website and fill out their online football prospect questionnaire.**

# Where Can I Play?

- Ask your coach what schools you might be able to play for
- Go online and check out the roster
- Do I match the height/weight of the players at my position?
- Google the highlight films of the players on the roster – Do I play at the same speed?
- Attend camps and or combines and compare yourself against others with offers
- Be REALISTIC

# How Do I Help Myself?

- Be Proactive
- Create a one page resume – send to school with link to highlight film
  - Height/Weight
  - Speed
  - Grades **Core GPA**
  - Composite ACT Score
  - SAT score (Math and Critical reading not Writing)
  - Contact Info
  - Character Info

# Highlight Films

- No Music!!!!
- Best 10 plays first!
- Circle yourself – unless you are a QB
- No instant replays
- No slo-mo
- No more than 4 minutes
- Add your best game so they can watch you play a whole game

# Live By The 5 P's

- Proper
- Preparation
- Prevents
- Poor
- Performance

# Pay Recruiting Services

- If you want something done right you do it yourself with your coaches assistance .
- Don't fall victim to hearing what you **WANT** to hear. Listen to what you **NEED** to hear.
- Remember less than 3% of kids realize a scholarship and that less than 1% realize a D1 scholarship.



# College One Day Camps

- Tryouts – auditions
- Attend camps at schools you and your coaches think you have an opportunity to play for
- Unless you have D1 offers include FCS and D2/D3 NAIA schools on your camp calendar
- Bottom line schools want to watch you work out and interact with you in person, then offer or move on to the next prospect

# What Should I do? Time Frame

- Freshmen – **GRADES!!!!** – Play ball/lift
- Sophomore – if you play varsity – create highlight film
  - Contact schools you are interested in that you and your coaches think you have a realistic chance of playing for and inquire about unofficial visits
  - Start preparing for the ACT and SAT (Prep Courses)
  - Take the SAT or Act before your Sophomore year ends
  - Attend a few winter camps/combines/showcases for recruiting exposure
  - Pick 3-4 summer one day camps you want to attend and go see how you compare to the guys they are recruiting
  - Go to a colleges website and fill out their online football prospect questionnaire
  - **GRADES!!!!**

# Time Frame

- Junior – Play well – send film out/GRADES
  - Contact schools you are interested in that you and your coaches think you have a realistic chance of playing for and inquire about Junior Days and unofficial visits
  - Go to a colleges website and fill out their online football prospect questionnaire
  - Create resume/cover letter – email it out to regional schools
  - Shot gun effect – some big/some middle/some small
  - Take the SAT or Act 2-3 times before your Junior year ends
  - Attend a few winter camps/combines/showcases for recruiting exposure
  - Pick 3-4 summer one day camps you want to attend and go see how you compare to the guys they are recruiting
  - Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center “Clearinghouse”
  - **GRADES!!!!**

Big Schools – make most offers January thru July prior to your senior season. Most Pwr 5 type schools will be done with early Junior offers by the end of the summer after camp season.

# Time Frame

- Senior – GRADES

If you have offers from FBS and or FCS schools you will be taking official visits to make your final decisions. Finalize Eligibility center and academic qualification details.

Not offered by SEC/ACC– probably not going to happen

Mid level D1 FBS schools such as GA Southern/GA State and FCS schools will continue to evaluate and offer scholarships April thru December.

D2/D3/NAIA don't really get started with offers until November/December so they can see what has trickled down from the bigger programs visits start in January and can run into February and March. These will be financial aid packages based on academic, athletic, and need based money.

# Parent Questions

- What does the scholarship pay for?
- How long is the scholarship for?
- What kind of academic support do you give the players?
- Where is my son on your recruiting board?
- What is the time commitment for football versus academics?

# Academics

- Eligibility Center – [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)
- New Rules – [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)
- Find sliding scale for grades/test scores
- New for incoming freshmen class
- ACT/SAT – 1<sup>st</sup> score by the end of your Sophomore year
- Not all grades count: Theology/PE/Art/Music, Business and Band

# Coach's Role

- Create list of juniors
- Height/Weight/Academics – contact information
- Coach will recommend based on universities requirements
- Distribute to as many coaches that come to building or send an email
- Somewhere between 40-50 schools

# Coach's Role

- #1 – Coach cannot get your player a scholarship
- Recommend based on requirements of the university – HT/WT/Speed/Grades etc.
- D1 usually takes care of itself – they will decide if you can play or not
- D2/D3/NAIA – coach can help sell these kids if they have grades and character



# Coach's Role

- The college coach's mortgage payment is based on whether he can see talent
- They will do their homework.
- Borderline – tweeners
- Three things HS coaches can vouch for:
  - 1- Academics
  - 2- Work Ethic
  - 3- Character

# Bottom Line

- Be Proactive!
- Recruit the school you want to go too.
- Schools cannot call you back but you may call them as many times as you wish – visit too!
- **Find a school where you will be comfortable if football goes away.**

# NCAA Recruiting Terms

- **Contact Period** - The most wide-open time. During this time, coaches can visit with prospects and families regardless of location. In-person contact is permitted once per week. Note that a coach cannot visit a school multiple times in one week if it has more than one prospect. Electronic and written communications are also permitted. This is when tales of coaches praising Mama's cooking are born, during in-home visits.
- **Evaluation period** - Considerably more restrictive than the contact period in one key way: off campus face-to-face contact is not permitted. That means no home visits. Coaches can still visit a prospect's school. Visits to schools are for the purpose of evaluation. Prospects can visit colleges and receive written and electronic communication. Many scholarship offers go out in this period.

# NCAA Recruiting Terms

- **Quiet Period** - The quiet period tightens things a bit more, preventing any off-campus contact or viewing. Visits to the college's campus and written or electronic communications are still permitted. Coaches often try to have prospects visit campus unofficially during this time in the spring and early summer, so that they can become familiar with campus.
- **Dead Period** - The dead period is the most restrictive. No in-person contact is allowed, even if a prospect makes a visit to the college campus. Written and electronic communications are still permitted. And yet, prospects still do decide to commit to schools in late December and early January, often because they've considered all their options, taken all their visits, and are ready to pull the trigger.

# Thank You

- Questions?

# Statistics to Keep in Mind

- Football Recruiting By The Numbers:
  - High School Football Players: 1,086,627
  - High School Football Seniors: 310,465
  - NCAA Football Players: 70,147
  - NCAA Freshmen Playing Football: 20,042
  - % of Players HS to NCAA: 6.5%
  - Football Players Scouted by NFL: 6,500
  - Football Players Invited to Combine: 350
  - Football Players Drafted: 256
  - Rookie Players Making An NFL Team: 300
  - % of Players NCAA to NFL: 1.6%
  - NFL Players Reaching Year Four: 150
  - 2014 NFL Minimum Salary: \$420,000
  - Income After Taxes (est.): \$252,000
- So, if you're lucky enough to be one of the 6.5% to become a college football player, and one of the 1.5% of that group to make to the NFL,
- you'll be lucky to get three years out of it.
- At a minimum salary, you won't make enough to live on for the rest of your life. What's going to provide for you and your family after football is over?
- Your College EDUCATION! "