

Davis Legacy Soccer Club College Night

The **Dos**, **Don'ts**, and **Can'ts** of becoming a Collegiate Athlete

June, 2014

Agenda

Part I – Welcome & Introduction

- •Why a College Night?
 - Does Davis Legacy SC really need this?
- Process Overview
- A Look at the Numbers
- The Right Fit: Finding the Right School for You
 - What do you want to do in life?

Part II - Q&A with our panel

- When & How Should You Start the Process?
 - The Process Before and During High School
 - Templates & Tools (Appendix)
 - · Coaches' perspective

Approach

- Presentation & Panel: Let's meet our Participants
- Chris Leer--UC Davis Assistant Men's Coach D1
- Jorden Farrell -- UOP Assistant Men's Coach D1
- Don Williams Feather River College Junior College
- Mary Whisler -- San Francisco Academy of Arts, Assistant Coach Women D3
- Katie Awerkamp--San Francisco Academy of Arts, Head Coach Women D3
- Katie Riley--UC Davis Assistant Coach, Women D1

Thanks to our Coaches, DLSC, and Parents!

- Fun, Informative, and Educational
- Templates & Tools
- Ask Lots of Questions

Why a College Night?

Vision: Every Soccer player who wants to become a Collegiate Athlete, CAN!

Mission: Expose players from all backgrounds to the college/university experience for those interested in becoming a collegiate athlete at any level (Junior College to Div I and NAIA).

Our focus is on:

- 1. The NCAA process & setting **REALISTIC** goals as **STUDENTS** & players
- 2. Communication w/ coaches: Understanding the Dos, Dont's, and Cant's
- 3. Creating/managing a soccer resume/profile and on-going maintenance
- 4. Developing Accountability & a peer support/cohort group in the community

What is the Process? Where Do I Start?

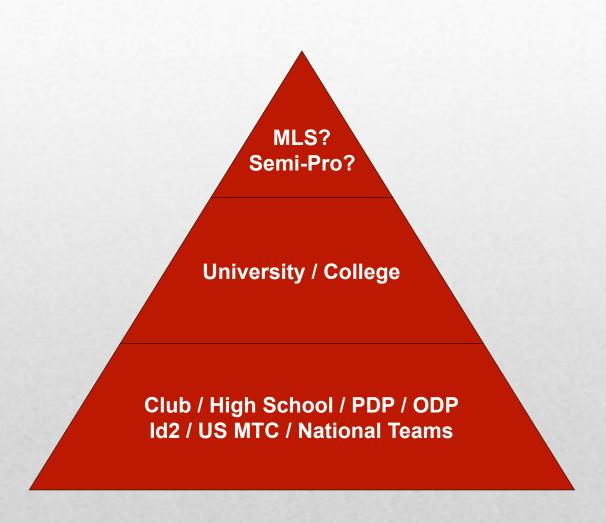


- Align long-term goals w/ Collegiate Athlete aspirations
- Know NCAA
 requirements & timelines
- Do your Research
- Soccer Resume & Profile
- References
- Visibility

A Look at the Numbers: 2012 – 2013 Quick Facts

- 8,182 boys and 6,500 girls soccer programs and growing!
- Over 283,700 boys and 209,000 girls playing high school soccer.
- 51,066 boys and 37,620 girls who were seniors, played soccer and graduated.
- 721 college programs for boys and 736 for girls.
- 4,326 spots available on college teams for boys and 4,416 spots for girls.
- Playing opportunities for fewer than 8 percent of graduating seniors.
- 433 scholarships for boys and 806 for girls.
- <1% of the graduating boys and <2% of the girls received soccer scholarships.

What Are your Chances?



Probability Of Competing Beyond High School

Student Athletes	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Football	Baseball	Men's ice Hockey	Men's Secon
High School Student Athletes	538,676	433,120	1,086,627	474,791	35,198	410,982
High School Senior Student Attiletes	153,907	123,749	310,465	135,655	10,057	117,423
NCAA Student Athletes	17,984	16,186	70,147	32,450	3.964	23,365
NCAA Freshman Roster Positions	5.138	4,625	29,042	9,271	1,133	6.675
NCAA Senior Student Athletes	3,996	3,597	15,588	7,211	881	5,192
NCAA Student Athletes Drafted	46	32	254	678	7	101
Percent High School to NCAA	3.3%	3.7%	6.5%	6.8%	11.3%	5.7%
Percent NCAA to Professional	1.2%	0.9%	1.6%	9.4%	0.8%	1.9%
Percent High School to Professional	0.03%	0.03%	0.08%	0.50%	0.07%	0.09%

Note: These percentages are based on estimated data and should be considered approximations of the actual percentages.

Probability of Going Pro Figures and Methodology 2013 (http://www.ncas.org/sites/defaut//illes/Probability-of-going-promethodology_Update2013.pdf)

Last Updated: September 2013.

Finding the Right Fit

When looking at schools...

- Find a campus you love & where you see yourself for 4 5 years.
- Your major area of concentration.
- A soccer program where you'll play and enjoy yourself.
- Be honest with yourself about where you might fit in academically and athletically, as well as coach(es) you are communicating with.

Schools and coaches *also* look for good students.

- Work hard and keep your grades up.
- You should be a student first and an athlete second.

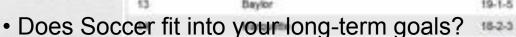
Men's 2013 Pre-Season Poll: Top25

RANK	SCHOOL	RECORD	PREVIOUS
1	Indiana	16-5-3	1
2	Maryland	20-1-3	3
3	Georgetown	19-4-3	2
4	North Carolina	16-4-3	5
5	Connecticut	17-3-1	6
6	Creighten.	16-4-3	4
7	Notre Dame	17-4-1	8
8	Akron	18-1-3	7
9	UCLA	13-3-3	3
10	Louisville	14-6-1	
11	New Mexico	17-4-1	10
12	Marquette	16-4-1	15
13	Coastal Carolina	20-3-2	11
14	Tutsa	14-6-1	14
15	Saint Louis	16-5-0	19
16	San Diego	14-9-0	12
17	Wake Forest	11:4-5	22
18	Brown	13-3-3	16
19	Northwestern	13-6-4	18
20	Syracuse	14-6-1	17
21	Charlotte	15-4-3	23
22	Cornell	15-2-0	29
23	Washington	13-5-3	24
24	Virginia Commonwealth	12-4-5	25
25	Virginia	10-7-4	MR

Others receiving votes: Fairfeigh Dickinson 53, Xavier 46, St. John's 40, UC Santa Barbara 26, Old Dominion 22, UMBC 12, South Florida 11, Northeastern 7, Kentucky 6, Michigan 4, SIU-Edwardsville 4, Cal State Northridge 3, Stanford 2, Elon 2, Bradley 2.

Women's 2013 Pre-Season Poll: Top25

RANK	SCHOOL	RECORD	PF	
1	North Carolina	15-5-3	- 1	
2	Stanford	21-2-1	3	
3	Florida State	20-4-0	4	
4	Penn State	21-4-2	2	
5	DELA	16-3-2	6	
9	BYU	20-2-2	- 8	
7		15-6-2		
8	Virginia	Long-term	- 1	
9	Florida	Life Goals	4	
10	Note Dame	16-6-2	1	
11	San Dego State	21-2-1	7	
12	Town ASIV	19-5-1		
13	Baylor	19-1-5	1	



Are you willing to attend school somewhere else?



Wondolowski warming up at the MLS All Star Game (2013)

Wondolowski Found The Right Fit At Cal State Chico

MLS Star Rejected Track Offers in Reaching Path To Success

By Matt Velazquez

NCAA.org

Soccer

Chris Wondolowski could have been an exceptional track athlete at the collegiate level and beyond. But that's not where his passion lay During his senior year of high school in 2000-01, colleges at every level, including UCLA, were interested in his middle-distance running talents. But track and field wasn't what Wondolowski wanted to pursue. He didn't just want to run ahead of everyone else. He wanted to use his speed to get into open space and score goals. His dream was to play soccer, and it led him to Cal State Chico, a Division it university about 170 miles north of his hometown of Danville, Calif.

Scholarship Talk

- Varies from coach to coach and program to program.
 - TOP women's soccer programs have ~14 scholarships available.
 - Most colleges have an average of 25 players on their rosters.
- Determining the amount of a scholarship being offered a player:
 - Elite player & there is a position to be filled: Full scholarship.
 - Elite players will be offered a full scholarship if they are a program changer and are being recruited heavily by other college programs.
 - Some college programs have standards in place:
 - Player plays on a youth US National Team: Full ride
 - Player plays on a Regional Team: 75% scholarship
 - Player plays for a quality club & is a top clu player: 50% scholarship
 - Some programs make promises:
 - Start at 25% with the promise to bump you to 50% by your junior year. (keep in mind, even if you get this in writing, it isn't a guarantee).
 - Athletic scholarships are one year, renewable contracts.
 - Not a 4 year commit. Each summer, players on an athletic scholarship receive a scholarship renewal letter.

Scholarship Talk

Committing to Play for a College, Then Starting 9th Grade

By NATHANIEL POPPER JAN. 26, 2014



Haley Berg, 15, at home with her sister in Cellina, Tex. She accepted a soccer scholarship to Texas four years in advance, Copper Nell for The New York Times



SANFORD, Fla. — Before Haley Berg was done with middle school, she had the numbers for 16 college soccer coaches programmed into the iPhone she protected with a Justin Bieber case.

She was all of 14, but Hales, as her friends call her, was already weighing offers to attend the University of Colorado, Texas A&M and the <u>University of Texas</u>, free of charge.

Haley is not a once-in-a-generation talent like LeBron James. She just happens to be a very good soccer player, and that is now valuable enough to set off a frenzy among college coaches, even when — or especially when — the athlete in question has not attended a day of high school. For Haley, the process ended last summer, a few weeks before ninth grade began, when she called the coach at Texas to accept her offer of a scholarship four years later.

"When I started in seventh grade, I didn't think they would talk to me that early," Haley, now 15, said after a tournament late last month in Central Florida, where Texas coaches showed up to watch her juke past defenders, blond ponytail bouncing behind.

In Closing...& As We Transition...

There are opportunity's for *everyone* to play soccer once you graduate from high school at various levels.

In order to get the correct 'fit,' do your homework, be proactive and responsible and ALWAYS put academics first!

Being a well rounded individual is more important than being a college soccer player!

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College Coach Communication

- Coaches want to hear from you (the player...NOT parents)
- NCAA regulations don't allow college coaches to send out any information about their programs until September 1st of your Junior year. If you mail coaches something as a freshman/sophomore, they can only send you a questionnaire & a soccer camp brochure in return.
- You may call or email college coaches as much as you like, but they cannot respond by mail or email until September 1st of your junior year or by phone until July 1st of your senior year.
- NCAA regulations do not provide college coaches any off-campus contact with you during your sophomore and junior years. When college coaches see athletes or their parents at soccer tournaments, they are only allowed a "formal greeting".

Visibility & Exposure Prior to High School

YES

- PDP
- ODP
- College ID Camps
- College Showcases
- Elite Player Development
- US Market Training Centers
- State & Regional Teams
- USSF Teams
- id2

NO

3rd Party "Agents"

Freshman Year

- College Coach Communication: N/A
- Academics: A high GPA throughout high school reflects well on potential of managing the rigors of Colligate Student life to Coaches and Admissions.
 - You're a student FIRST and an athlete second
 - GPA/Standardized test scores increase Scholarship selection potential.
 - Enroll in courses/classes that fulfill NCAA requirements:
 - Division I & II school: Complete 16 & 14 core courses, respectively.
 - High School Academic Counselor: Review/confirm NCAA requirements.
 - NCAA website to learn which courses are required for Division I, Division II and Division III schools.
 - In addition, consider NAIA schools. Start to design your course work.
- Potential: Check with current Coaches about potential as a Colligate Athlete.
- Athletics: Maintain your Club and High School team performance level. Remember the concept of "Constant Evaluation"
- Extra-Curricular Activities: Focus on serving others within the community, keeping track of achievements, awards and academic results.
- College financial Obligations: Start your education finance research NOW!

Sophomore Year

- College Coach Communication: You may call coaches, but coaches CANNOT call or approach you. If coaches answer your phone call, they can speak with you. If your call goes to voice-mail, you may leave a message but they CANNOT return your call.
 - Start sending emails to the coaches of schools that interest you (≤15). Inform coaches of matches/ tournaments. Include details: Game times/locations/fields, uniform color, and your number. Provide updates if changes arise.
 - Creating your network: The concept of 6 degrees of separation. Constant communication/evaluation:
 You're showing interest and you want coaches to make every effort to find out more about you.
 - After sending coaches your resume/soccer profile, follow up with a phone call to reinforce your interest.
 - Be visible to college coaches: Attend College Showcases, College ID Summer camps of schools you are interested in attending. ID camps will sometimes include coaches/staff from other schools (in/out conference).
 - Review NCAA Clearinghouse eligibility requirements: Register the Summer before your junior year.
- Academics: Maintain a high GPA. If you are planning to attend a top academic school, take honors and AP courses when manageable.
 - Check in w/ your academic counselor: Are on track to take the 14-16 core courses, consistent with NCAA requirements for Division I/II?
 - Take the PSAT and Practice ACT tests, and possibly some actual SAT II tests following the completion of certain courses (i.e. biology, language, and math).
 - SAT II tests: Take the tests as you complete the course.

Sophomore Year

- Academics: Maintain a high GPA. If you are planning to attend a top academic school, take honors and AP courses when manageable.
 - Check in w/ your academic counselor: Are on track to take the 14-16 core courses, consistent with NCAA requirements for Division I/II?
 - Take the PSAT and Practice ACT tests, and possibly some actual SAT II tests following the completion of certain courses (i.e. biology, language, and math).
 - SAT II tests: Take the tests as you complete the course.
- Potential: Continue to/Re-evaluate your talent and the school(s) you're interested in attending. Be honest in your personal assessment. Research colleges to determine which schools fit your academic and athletic abilities, by asking for literature and visiting various campuses.
- Soccer Profile/Resume & introduction letter: Draft documents and have other provide feedback
- Potential: Continue to check in w/ your current Coaches about your potential.
- Athletics: Continue to maintain your Club and High School team performance level. Remember the concept of "Constant Evaluation"
- Extra-Curricular Activities: Continue to focus on serving others within the community, keeping track of achievements, awards and academic results.
- College financial Obligations: Continue your research and apply as appropriate. There's lots of scholarship money out there....and there's lot of students in your same situation.

Junior Year

<u>Critical Activities during your Junior Year</u>: Seriously review/determine where your soccer and academic abilities stand, and approach the schools that are consistent with your level of achievement.

- Take "unofficial" visits (unpaid by the school) to the schools of your choice. Talk to students, admissions, and coaches. Take campus tours & begin to narrow your schools list.
- Stay to watch a practice and/or game
- Request/complete online for college applications at the beginning of the Summer. You'll begin receiving recruiting materials beginning on September 1st of your Junior year.
- Continue corresponding through emails of introduction with Soccer Profiles/resumes to the coaches of the schools that interest you. If possible, narrow down your college choices to ≤5.
- Continue to send out updates of matches/tournaments you'll be playing during the year.
- IMPORTANT: Coaches prefer to spend their time on players that express SERIOUS interest. Be honest, sincere, but keep your options open. This process is about you!
- Establish positive relationships with coaches by continuing to adhere to NCAA guidelines regarding contacting coaches and visitations.

Junior Year

- College Coach Communication: March marks a significant milestone in how/ when:
 - September: On or after September 1st, coaches are allowed to send you written (or emailed) correspondence as often as they want.
 - March: You can receive one (1) phone call from a coach.
 - April, You can receive one (1) visit on your HS campus.
 - July: On or after July 1st, off-campus contact and coach-initiated calls (weekly) are allowed.
- Academics: Focus on GPA and take the SAT, ACT and AP tests offered throughout the year.
 - Be prepared to take the SAT twice or more.
 - When taking the SAT or ACT input 9999 as the Eligibility Center Code. This will
 make sure your scores go directly to the Eligibility Center for NCAA.
 - GPA and Standardized Test scores are the foundation for your success in attending the College/University you want to attend (regardless of Collegiate sports).
 - Overall, maintain your highest academic standards.
 - If needed, meet with your counselor to plan your school year.
 - Understand the academic requirements of the schools that you're interested in.

Junior Year

- Potential: Remember, the concept of "Constant Evaluation". Like you, other players are doing the same in their efforts to reach out to Colleges/Universities and assume you're being watched 100% of College Coaches whenever you step out onto the pitch!
- Soccer Profile/Resume and introduction letter: Maintain your profile and update/forward.
- Athletics: Maintain Club & High School team performance. Remember "Constant Evaluation"
- Extra-Curricular Activities: Continue to focus on serving others within the community, keeping track of achievements, awards and academic results. Ask for letters of recommendation.
- College financial Obligations: Continue your research and apply as appropriate.

Senior Year

- College Coach Communication:
 - Coaches are allowed one (1) call per week, per household.
 - Coaches are allowed to visit the home of a recruit ≥ July 1st. This will count as one
 (1) of three (3) contacts allowable by coaches. On-campus visits don't count.
 - After your Senior year begins, you can begin to make your 5 "official visits" to
 Division I schools (where the soccer program may pay for your visit on campus for
 a maximum 24 hours). The official signing date is in February. All commitments up
 until then are considered "oral commitments".
- In the FALL, meet with your counselor to review your transcript, and to ensure your compliance with the NCAA requirements. Apply for your Student-Athlete status with NCAA Clearinghouse http://eligibilitycenter.org
- Retake the SAT/ACT if necessary and ensure no scheduling conflicts.

Senior Year

- Official Visits: You can make up to 5 official visits where the school hosts you and pays for you to come:
 - Tour the campus, meet the team, see a game, and stay overnight.
 - Get to know the school and coach, and the team's style of play.
 - NOTE: Remember, the coach may not be continuously employed at the institution during your time attending the school. It is important that you settle on a school that "fits" your academic, athletic and personal needs. The college coaching profession is often unstable and subject to change!
 - You will have to send transcripts and test scores to the schools of your choice before you can visit officially.
 - Get your applications in if you haven't already done so.
- Academics: Keep up your grades throughout your senior year.
- IMPORTANT: Some colleges will withdraw their enrollment invitation, and/or scholarship if the student's academic performance declines in their senior year. Do whatever it take to avoid a case of "senioritis."
- If you are accepted, finalize your admissions paperwork and Letters of Intent (if applicable) following NCAA regulations. A letter-of-Intent is usually sent out to you in February.

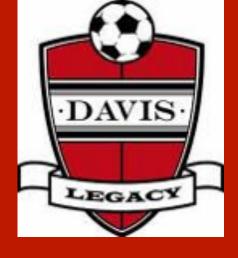
Why responding to College Coaches is important?

- Your opinion may change. Once you research a college and talk to a coach, you'll learn something new. Finding the perfect fit is not easy.
- The more coaches you communicate with, the more familiar you will become with the types of questions coaches ask. This will prepare you for emails/ conversations with coaches at your favorite colleges/universities.
- By investigating many different types of colleges, you will have a better idea of your likes and dislikes in a college/university.
- Coaches change jobs! You might ignore a coach because you are not interested their program, only to have them get hired at one of your top choices.
- Coaches are friends with one another; they don't appreciate it when a studentathlete ignores a contact. Remember "Constant Evaluation"
- Responding to a college coach will demonstrate that you are mature and responsible. Remember, it will only take a little bit of your time, and will definitely be worth it if you are keeping in touch with every college/university that you hear from. Who knows it may even be the one you decide upon!

How to Contact a Coach

Initial Interest Letter/Cover Letters

- The letter you compose should be short and direct. The letter is a way to request information and introduce you to the coach as a prospective student-athlete. Here are some things to include:
 - You name, high school, current grade level.
 - Your home address, email address, phone number. (It is suggested that you give them a home number instead of or in addition to your cell, since it may not always be convenient for you to talk to them on your cell phone).
 - High school soccer experience, years of varsity experience, team accomplishments, and personal awards.
 - Current club team, recent team accomplishments
 - Academic interests



Appendix

Templates & Tools

Templates & Tools

Helpful Links on the NCAA process:

National Collegiate Athletic Association WebSite:

www.ncaa.org

You can download a copy of the NCAA 2013-2014 Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete at:

http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf



Questions to Consider while on Campus

- Would I choose this college even if I am not playing on the team?
- Would I be happy sitting on the bench and not playing much?
- Would I still select this college if there is a different coach?
- Was I comfortable there both academically and athletically?
- Did the staff/team seem to get along and care about each other?
- How does the coach motivate the team?
- Were the coaching team and staff friendly? Enthusiastic? Honest?
 Supportive? Sincere? Caring? Or hospitable?

Questions to Consider while on Campus: College

- Does the college offer the area of study you wish to pursue?
- Are athletes given preference in scheduling?
- Where is the college/university located?
- What is the expected enrollment of undergraduates and graduates?
- What are the standard class sizes?
- What are the student housing options?
- What transportation is available?
- What is campus-life like?
- Is tutoring offered to student-athletes? If so, is there a fee?

Questions to Consider while on Campus: Team

- In what division and conference does the team play?
- What are the coach's goals for the team?
- What is their style of play? Would you be comfortable with the coach's
- · coaching style?
- How many players will be on the roster and how many will travel with the team?
- What does the pre-season entail?
- What does the regular season entail? Practice, games, etc?
- What happens during the off-season? Is there a break?
- What is the spring season like?
- How will the team's composition change with seniors leaving and red-shirt players returning?
- Which positions is the coach looking for, and how many others are already playing there or are being recruited?
- What type of medical coverage exists for athletes?
- Is there a weight-training program? How much does the coach value that?

Questions to Consider while on Campus: Aid

If not offered a scholarship, is the player a candidate for admission as a Walk-On player? (Definition of "Walk-On": Someone who may or may not have been recruited. It is someone who doesn't have a spot on the team before coming to college and "walks on" to the team by trying out and being good enough to be selected to the team.)

If offered a scholarship, what expenses are covered, what is its duration, and under what conditions can it be terminated?

If a player on scholarship is injured and can't play, will the scholarship be forfeit?

Educate Yourself on College Choices

After you've created your list of schools, research them. Read everything you can find on the school. Look at their Web page, read their press releases, check college resource books, talk to your school counselor.

Guides you may want to look at include:

- Peterson's Four-Year Colleges, The Big Book of Colleges, Fiske Guide to Colleges, The Best 366 Colleges, The College Board College Handbook, Official Athletic Guide to Soccer, or the Women's Soccer Guide.
- The Official Athletic College Guide, Over 1,100 Women's Scholarship Programs Listed (Official Athletic College Guide Soccer Women).
- Make sure and talk to your Club and High School Coaches about various college programs. The University of Florida also maintains a Web page that lists links to US colleges and universities that offer bachelors and master's degrees. That link is:

http://www.clas.ufl.edu/au/

Educate Yourself on College Choices

What's the difference between Divisions I, II and III?

http://www.ncaa.org/about/div_criteria.html

For the different academic requirements for the Divisions visit:

 http://www.ncaa.org/wps/wcm/connect/public/NCAA/Student-Athlete +Experience/Becoming+a+Student-Athlete/Division+I+Toolkit

Other links that may be helpful:

- NCAA http://www.ncaa.com/ Is the association in which the college are a part of. Currently, there are 3 divisions for college sports under the NCAA.
- These divisions are Division I, division II and Division III.
- To see a list of all colleges and the divisions they are in, use this website: http://web1.ncaa.org/onlineDir/exec/sponsorship

Educate Yourself on College Choices

Finding a college that fits you... there are a number of websites that will help out with the online search for colleges. Some Website charge an annual fee but when used properly, the information is invaluable:

- https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- http://www.youniversitytv.com/index.php
- https://secure.californiacolleges.edu/default.asp
- www.gotsoccer.com
- www.topdrawersoccer.com

Letter of Intent Here is a website to provide more information on College letters of intent:

http://www.ncaa.org/wps/wcm/connect/nli/NLI/Home/

NCAA Initial-eligibility Clearinghouse

Students who plan to compete in athletics at the Division I or Division II college level must complete the NCAA Clearinghouse form in order to be eligible. Division III does not use the eligibility Center. There is a \$30 registration fee. To pay online you will need to use a credit card. The steps for registering on line are as follows:

- Go to the NCAA Clearinghouse web site:
 http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net
- Once there, click on PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE
- Once on the Welcome to student information page, click on DOMESTIC STUDENT RELEASE FORM
- Once on the Student release form (U.S.) page, complete this page accurately
- Print an extra copy of your student release form for your counselor. You will still need to notify your counselor that you registered on line so that your transcript will be sent to the NCAA Clearinghouse.

What is NAIA?

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has different eligibility requirements for student-athletes. To be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics as an incoming freshman, two of the following three requirements must be met:

- Have a 2.0 (C) or higher cumulative final grade point average in high school.
- Have a composite score of 18 or higher on the ACT Assessment or an 860 total score or higher on the SAT I on a single test administered on a national test date.
- Have a top-half final class rank in his or her high school graduating class.

Sample Letter Template

Profile of Helen Smith 123 Anywhere Lane Lexington, KY 40503 Phone: 859 123-4567 (h) Cell: 859-123-6789 (cell) E-mail Address:

- •Parents Name:
- •Personal Information: Height: 5'8" Weight: 146
- •High School Information: Name: Address: Phone Number
- •High School Coach: Coach Home Number: Guidance Counselor: School Fax Number:
- •Academic Achievements:
- •High School Soccer & Club Soccer Achievements:
- Extracurricular Activities: ODP Experience
- Academic Achievements: Educational Goals: Comments:

Sample Letter

Date	
Coach's Name University Name Address City, State,	Zip
Dear Coach .	

My name is Helen Smith and I am currently a senior at All Star High School in Lexington, Kentucky. I am also the starting forward on my high school team and have led them in goals scored for the past three years. My team won the state championship in 2007 and was the runner-up in 2008. We are currently ranked third in the state. I was named honorable mention all-state in 2005, second team in 2006 and 2007.

I play for the LFC U-17 Premier Girls Team. I have played at the premier level since U-13. My team won the Kentucky State Championship for the past three years. In 2007, we advanced to the semifinals at the Midwest Regional. I also play forward for my select team. My coach, Parviz Zartoshty, said he would be glad to speak with you on my behalf.

I have spent time doing research on what colleges would be a good match for me academically and athletically. I am interested in majoring in psychology with a minor in English. I am very interested in your College and your program and would appreciate receiving information from you.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Helen Smith (Include your mailing address)

Sample Letter

Date
Coach's Name University Name Address City, State, Zip
Dear Coach,

May I take a moment of your time to introduce myself? My name is Helen Smith and I am currently a senior at All Star High School in Lexington, Kentucky.

During the last few weeks, I have spent time with my counselor doing research on which colleges would be a good match for me both academically and athletically. I am very interested in your college and would appreciate receiving information about your school, and the soccer program.

I have played varsity soccer for All Star High School since the 9th grade. I have been the starting left forward for the past three years and have played in every game. I was the second leading scorer my freshman year and the leading scorer the past two years. OverthepastthreeyearsIhavescored42 goals. My high school plays a very strong schedule and has contended for the Kentucky state championship the past three years. My coach, Joan Jett, would be happy to talk with you or provide you with a game film. My number is 3.

I play for the U-17 Premier Girls Team. Our team has won the Kentucky State Championship three times. I also play forward on my club team but have some experience in the mid-field. We will be playing at the Cincinnati Cup in December and my club number is 3. My coach, Parviz Zartoshty, would be happy to talk with you.

Academically, I am a strong student with an A average and have no trouble balancing school and athletics. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Si	nc	er	el	y

Showcase Checklist

Be proactive & don't wait for coach/manager to tell you

- Check your information is up to date on gotsoccer. There is NO need to set up profile accounts with third party programs such as **captain u**
- Make sure profile info is up to date with person in charge of printing team profile sheets
- Look at list of college coaches registered to attend
- E-mail Colleges you are interested in.
- Ensure you have time of game field number and your jersey number