

BARONS Ballers Interested in Playing Baseball in College?

Some things you should be thinking about...

1. Register with the [NCAA Eligibility Center](#). If you want to participate in Division I or II athletics as a freshman, you must first register and be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center. Another League with is the NAIA. It now has an eligibility center also -- <http://www.playnaia.org>

2. Read the [Guide for College Bound Student Athletes](#) to understand the rules and regulations regarding timeframes when schools can talk to you and more.

3. Understand the facts about [Baseball College Scholarships](#) -- there are VERY FEW full rides. Another good source for information is [High School Baseball Web](#). As a parent, take the time and get educated on what you should and shouldn't do. Here's a good read -- [8 rules to help your child get an athletic scholarship](#)

4. Understand what YOUR PLAYER wants in a school -- focus your efforts on the schools you want! Here's links to Division I, II and III schools that have baseball programs.
[Division I](#) [Division II](#) [Division III](#)

Register with [beRecruited.com](#) and check out these colleges/universities for size, course offerings and other important demographics, academics, and interests. Use the free site only. There is no need to pay anything for this information.

5. Write letters of introduction to the coaches. You can find a list of baseball coaches online ([high school baseball web](#) has a good one) and many schools have online questionnaires that they like prospective student athletes to fill out. If the school you are interested in doesn't have an online questionnaire, they'll typically send you one after you write them a letter of introduction.

6. Keep the coaches informed about your grades, SAT Scores, and baseball schedule. Many recruiters/scouts have limited opportunities to get to our area -- make sure they know when they can see you!

7. Understand that many coaches, scouts and recruiters don't have time to see you during your High School Season because their school is playing at the same time! Take advantage of every opportunity you get and play on a summer ball team that gives you the opportunity to be seen!

8. Keep your grades up and baseball skills improving! Remember, when you stop working and improving, others KEEP ON working and improving! You may be ahead today, but to stay at the top of your game takes constant work! Click [here](#) to see IF your courses give you NCAA Credit. [Here's how you calculate your NCAA Core GPA](#). [Here's a website I found which helps compute your NCAA GPA](#).

9. VIDEO! Create a YouTube page for yourself with video highlights of you playing the game. LIVE action is best but a skills video and some specific video of your fielding, pitching or hitting is very helpful for those coaches that are on limited travel budgets. Link your personal highlights site to every letter, email and other correspondence you have with the school's of your choice.

10. Ask Coach Gervais to send you a [FieldLevel.com](#) invitation. This is his link to colleges and coaches. Once you are in the FieldLevel-system, we will link your YouTube page and begin following up your networking with some team networking.

[Summary of Recruiting Rules for Baseball \(NCAA\):](#)

Here's some Rules of Thumb for DIV I and II -- ensure you verify with [NCAA official site](#)...

Sophomore Year

- You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires.
- You may make calls AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE
- You may make UNOFFICIAL VISITS at your own expense

Junior Year -- same rules as sophomore year, PLUS:

- You may receive recruiting materials AFTER September 1st of your junior year

- College coaches can call AFTER July 1st (end of Junior Year for Eastlake)
- College coaches can make "off campus contact" after July 1st.

Senior Year

- "Off Campus Contact" is allowed all year.
- "Official Visits" are allowed after the opening day of classes in your senior year
- You are limited to ONE official visit per college.
- Limited to five maximum visits for DIV I and DIV II NCAA colleges.
- A coach may contact you or parents not more than three times during senior year

Some new rules introduced in August 2010:

- Calls to recruits are now "unlimited" during contact periods; outside of a contact period (when not in a quiet or dead period) calls to HS seniors are limited to once per week.

- Prior to August 1 in any given year, preceding a prospect's senior year of high school, institutions will **NOT** be allowed to provide prospects with a written offer of an athletic scholarship or to indicate in writing to a prospect that an athletic scholarship will be offered. Some schools and sports have received commitments from juniors and even sophomores by indicating in writing that they will be offered an athletic scholarship when the signing period occurs in their senior year. These written offers are not legally binding and the schools did not have to honor them if the athlete became injured or if the coaches simply decided that they preferred another player. The new rule will not stop coaches from making verbal offers of aid, but at least the practice of providing preliminary written offers will be restricted.

- schools will be able to provide a media guide to a recruit in a digital format only, such as on a compact disc or on a flash drive

- All NCAA DIV 1 scholarships must be at least 25 percent of the equivalent of a full ride. Only 27 people on squad (max roster size 35) can be on scholarship.

More Articles of Interest:

- [Updated Rules for 2010 from NCAA](#)
- [Here's a very good book explaining the College recruiting process](#)
- [Preparing Student Athletes for College](#)
- [College Recruiting Tips](#)
- [NCAA Student Athlete Eligibility and Recruiting](#)
- [Sports Force Video explaining process](#)
- [Parents Advice on College Recruiting](#)
- [NCAA "High School Portal" -- lots of answers to questions concerning grades.](#)

Other Notes of Interest:

- About ½ of scholarship money is spoken for in early signing period (NOV 1st).

- Some players get picked up in the June/July/August Timeframe after their Senior Year. This is because they have had College Juniors or incoming Freshman picked up in the MLB draft (which occurs in June) and now need to fill those holes in their roster.

- Do letter or phone calls from colleges mean they are gonna offer me a scholarship? NO. Many send form letters or press releases. Until you see a scholarship offer, don't get too excited.

- It is good to attend a college baseball camp if it's a school you're really interested in. But be selective -- you're gonna get lots of offers to go to baseball camps. It gets expensive. Go to some that you have a chance of making the program.