

# Green Athletics

## Baseball Recruiting

### Your Junior Year

Understanding the timing of the recruiting process, and when to attend the right type of camps can be critical in the recruiting process. Listed below are guidelines to sort through the process and how to be proactive with your recruiting to create the most opportunities:

1. Fill out college team questionnaires, and send both introductory and follow up emails to all schools you are interested in. The first email needs to go to the baseball recruiting coordinator. This is a critical step in the recruiting process. Have your transcript and your academic and athletic resume ready to send to coaches upon request.
2. The NCAA often adjusts their recruiting rules and timetables. Learn how the the baseball recruiting calendar works and various contact periods by going to [NCAA.org](http://NCAA.org).
3. Typical recruiting game plan for the summer proceeding an athlete's senior year in high school: 1) Play in college showcase tournaments with your select travel team. 2) Attend Division 1 college camps for schools that are actually recruiting you. 3) Play in invite showcases if they have schools attending you are interested in. 4) Participate in an exposure tournament if they have schools attending you are interested in. 5) Concentrate on Division 1 opportunities first! Division 1 teams complete their recruiting process sooner than the Division 2 and 3 schools. This is typically true for NCAA teams as compared to NAIA and JUCO teams. It's important to explore and attend all NCAA Division 1 opportunities first.

4. Division 2 and 3 schools recruit throughout the senior year, whereas Division 1 coaches often have their minds made up by early fall. The early signing period for Division 1 is in the fall of your senior year.
5. Building a college athletic resume is just as important as building an academic resume if you plan on competing at a high level in college.
6. Attending high level Division 1 school team camps are important because it shows coaches you are serious about playing at a high level in college while improving your game. College team camps are resume builders.
7. Most athletes are not highly recruited or seriously recruited by only a handful of schools. Finding the right fit academically and athletically requires research (on line review of universities and curriculums); on campus academic visits; meeting with the coaches on campus; and understanding the scholarship and financial aid opportunities, both academically and athletically. Take advantage of college camps and unofficial visits. The more proactive you are, the more opportunities you will create.
8. Very few athletes receive full athletic scholarships, and full athletic scholarships are only applicable for a few Division 1 sports such as football, volleyball, and basketball. In addition, there are a limited number of full athletic scholarships for each sport, and are limited in any given year.
9. In Division 1 baseball most athletes will receive a combination scholarship that includes a partial athletic and partial academic award. The actual amount and percentage will vary with each school and player. Note: This is similar to the Division 2 scholarship model for most student-athletes. When negotiating a scholarship with a college coach (once they have made you an offer), it's okay to state a percentage of scholarship award from another school, but do not give them an actual dollar amount. For example: Coach I have been offered a 70% scholarship package from Texas.
10. Athletic and academic scholarships are given on a annual basis and are renewed annually.
11. The IVY League and Division 3 schools do not give athletic scholarships but often give very good academic scholarships and grants to qualified student-athletes; especially the elite private schools with big endowments.
12. If you're interested in the IVY League, the admissions office will issue you a "likely letter" if they are probably going to accept you. How it works - The

coaches go to admissions prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> with a list of the athletes they want. At elite Division 3 schools, the coaches do the same but often on a rolling basis and well into the spring.

13. If an athlete is being recruited by a coach and gets an invite to their college team camp, the athlete must go to one of their camps or the coach most likely will cross them off their recruiting list!
14. Division 2 and 3 coaches often help with Division 1 college camps therefore creating more exposure for an athlete.
15. College camps provide athletes an opportunity to talk with college coaches for extended periods of time, therefore taking advantage of the strict NCAA recruiting rules.
16. High level select travel teams with Division 1 caliber recruits get more attention at college showcase tournaments than average teams.
17. Time Management is critical in the recruiting process. Coordinating a select travel team's schedule with college camps and exposure camps are very important. Do not pass up your best opportunities. That being said, do not fall into believing that a specific exposure camp is all or nothing in the recruiting process. College coaches take their time and due diligence when making scholarship decisions.
18. College scouts and coaches mostly watch athletes they have already been recruiting and/or in contact with. Showing up to a camp without notifying a coach in advance is a shot in the dark and naïve to what really goes on in the recruiting process, especially for Division 1 and 2 schools that are allowed to give athletic scholarships.
19. Exposure camps should be for the purpose of getting noticed by a specific coach(s) through live participation. Exposure camps are one way to market an athlete's talent; knowing which schools and coaches will actually attend the camp, and then contacting the coach(s) preceding the camp, is mandatory for maximum exposure.
20. Division 2 and especially Division 3 coaches often attend exposure camps because of limited recruiting budgets.
21. There are certain exposure camps such as Area Code that are highly attended by Division 1 coaches. This is an invite only camp. A qualified select team coach can help with this process and should help you get invited whenever possible.

22. Coaches switch schools! At this time all emails should be sent to the recruiting coordinator and position coach, and always CC the head coach.
23. If a coach stops emailing you for an extended period of time, or never has emailed you back, you are no longer on their recruiting board. Prior to giving up on that school make sure the coach you have been in contact with is still employed there.
24. Narrow your list of primary NCAA Division 1 schools to five and concentrate on this list.
25. Identify elite Division 2 and Division 3 schools as a back-up plan if Division 1 athletic opportunities do not materialize.
26. Make sure the schools you are interested in are not under any NCAA sanctions for baseball. The same holds true for NAIA and JUCO schools.
27. If an NCAA Division 1 athletic scholarship does not materialize at your favorite school talk with the head coach about a preferred walk on and academic only scholarship.
28. At this time seriously consider what type of school and team is your best fit. Big or small? Public or private? In rural or urban area? Academically rigid or easier? NCAA or NAIA? Geographical location? Team history and winning tradition? Coaches resume? Player attitudes and personalities? Student involvement on campus? Alumni and connections? Religious or non-religious? And most important your degree path – do they offer the major you are interested in?
29. Review admissions deadlines and requirements for all schools you are interested in.
30. Make sure you are registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center.
31. Understand the numbers. There are approximately 500,000 high school varsity baseball players graduating every year. About 6% move on to play college baseball at some level. Only 1% play in the NCAA Division 1.

**Stay focused and persistent with your recruiting game plan!**

Coach Green has been training and counseling student-athletes since 1987. He has personally trained over 120 scholarship student-athletes who have gone on to compete in 15 different collegiate conferences. For more information call 832-594-0434 or email [prgfitness@yahoo.com](mailto:prgfitness@yahoo.com).