

BASEBALL RECRUITING CORNER

Save Time | Save Money | Play College Baseball

THE CHECKLIST

Freshman Year

- ☐ Academic domination begins. Start strong!!
Make your GPA goal. Goal should be no less than a 3.5.
- ☐ Use core course worksheet inside NCAA Guide to make sure you'll be taking the right high school classes. Your high school guidance counselor should be able to help you.
- ☐ Develop Physically. Work hard at developing your on field skills and off field work outs.
- ☐ Play multiple sports if you enjoy other sports.
- ☐ Improve specific skills for your position(s). Master the fundamentals. Ask coaches for feedback and advice.
- ☐ Watch varsity baseball games when possible... unless you are playing in them! If you find yourself on the freshman or JV team, familiarize yourself with the level of play at the varsity level.
- ☐ Workout with varsity studs in the off season, and pick their brains when possible.
- ☐ Play summer baseball. Continue to compete and develop.
- ☐ DON'T pay for showcases. Too early for this and definitely not worth the financial investment at this point (and maybe never will be).
- ☐ Do attend college camp or two if at least one of the following applies (Of course, this is only relevant if it fits your family financially at the time):
 - 1. The main focus of the camp is instruction. (A lot of times there is great one on one instruction provided at college camps)**
 - 2. If you like the college (You think it might be a possible fit for you in a few years)**
- ☐ Watch local college baseball games whenever possible



Sophomore Year

- ☐ Revisit your academic goals and STAY STRONG
- ☐ Start figuring out what level of college baseball is right for you.
- ☐ Create a rough draft of 10-15 schools that you think would be a good fit for you (baseball AND academics). Some above and some below the level of college baseball you think you can play at.
- ☐ Meet with high school guidance counselor to review your academic progress and core course requirements. Make sure you're on track.
- ☐ Visit potential colleges on your own when you get the chance
- ☐ Watch local college baseball games whenever possible



Junior Year

- ☐ Revisit your academic goals and STAY VERY STRONG
- ☐ Start the **BRC 5 Step Formula** to Politely Force Coaches To Pay Attention To You

- ☐ Go through process of figuring out level of college baseball right for you again
- ☐ Revise and refine list of 10-15 schools that fit you (baseball AND academics)
- ☐ Make a highlight video. Remake a new one if you made one as a sophomore.
- ☐ Send emails with highlight video and spring or summer (depending on time of year) to coaches on your list.
- ☐ Follow up with college coaches via email and phone. (Remember they can only call you back after July 1st of your Junior year)
- ☐ Repeat. Continually update your list as you go. (As schools fall off, add new ones)

☐ Visit potential colleges on your own (Set up a meeting with the baseball coach, if you go! This is as simple as calling ahead and asking when a good time would be to swing by his office.

Make sure you send a highlight video and personal email ahead of time AND a thank you email after.)

☐ Meet with your guidance counselor to review your academic and athletic goals

☐ Maybe, MAYBE attend a strategic showcase and/or prospect camp. (Read through the BRC Showcase section first)

☐ At the beginning of your junior year register with the appropriate eligibility centers of the associations where you want to play; NCAA, NJCAA & NAIA (Talk with your guidance counselor about this)

☐ Ask your high school and summer baseball coaches (And any respected area scouts who know you well) to be references that you can pass onto college coaches in the recruiting process. Gather phone numbers and email addresses of everyone who agrees

☐ Take the ACT, SAT or both and corresponding prep courses

☐ Send out your spring high school schedule

☐ Ask your high school guidance counselor to send your official transcript to the eligibility center after completing your junior year

☐ Make sure your cell phone voicemail is professional and straight forward for when coaches call. Make sure all your social media outlets represent you well. When college coaches are considering offering a scholarship to a player, they often check that player's Facebook profile and Twitter account. .



Senior Year

☐ Keep up your grades... You're almost there!

☐ Continue going through the BRC 5 Step Formula

☐ Finalize and submit all applications to schools of interest

☐ Discuss financial aid with college coaches and fill out aid applications with direction from coaches.

☐ Submit FAFSA form on January 1.

☐ If you do not sign a letter of intent in the “Early Signing Period”, usually the second week of November, pick a few Christmas college camps to attend.

Most D1 schools will have them and a good amount of colleges at the other levels will have them as well. Go to the camp(s) of the school(s) you are most interested in and have shown an interest in you.

☐ Review Student Aid Reports (SAR) to determine best package.

☐ Consider appealing through financial aid office.

☐ At the end of the school year, ask the high school guidance counselor to send a copy of your final transcript and proof of graduation to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

☐ Apply for outside scholarships.

☐ Make unofficial and official visits to colleges on your list

☐ Begin the college application process of schools you are interested in

☐ Meet all scholarship/Financial Aid/Housing/Scholarship deadlines that apply to you

☐ After graduation ask your high school counselor to send your final transcript to the Eligibility Center with proof of graduation.

☐ **SIGN THAT SCHOLARSHIP!!!** Give your parents a big hug. High five your friends. Do those interviews for the local papers with a smile.

☐ Keep working hard on baseball through the summer baseball season and ask me (Franco@NextLevelBallplayer.com) for a free copy of “How to Prepare for College Baseball”.

