

College Recruiting Myths & Tips



- ❖ If I pay for club volleyball my daughter WILL get a scholarship in return **(false)**
 - Playing club volleyball is the best way to get exposure and to get better. There are many ways to increase your odds of finding the right University but there is no “100% investment return guarantee”.
- ❖ Only players on a 1st team get recruited **(false)**
 - Playing at a high level club with good training and playing a good schedule is more than half the battle. Most coaches say that it has a negative affect knowing a player left a club just to play on a 1st team. Also, choosing a team where you might play more consistently can have huge benefits.
- ❖ College Coaches roam around and walk from court to court during tournaments **(false)**
 - Due to the volume of teams/players playing at each tournament most coaches have a list of players they need to see and they map out seeing each one based on schedules.
- ❖ If a coach watches for a few minutes and walks away that is a bad sign **(false)**
 - Again, due to the amount of players they need to see they maximize their time by watching hitting lines mostly and usually circle back around to each court a few times.
- ❖ I have to pay for a recruiting service or online profile **(false)**
 - There are many websites that allow you to create a profile for free. These help you stay organized and can upload all your information to one place. In addition to that we encourage you to persistently research and reach out to as many programs as possible to get on their radar.
- ❖ 15s is too young to begin my recruiting process **OR** 17s is too late to get recruited **(false)**
 - This is a competitive process and coaches recruit years ahead of time. That being said, you are starting to be evaluated as early as 14s. However, this does not mean that there is a textbook timeline for committing. The right time to commit is when you have found the right fit, which can take months to years. Things change; it is a fluid situation, so coaches are offering players from freshman year all the way to seniors. It is never too early or late.
- ❖ YOU must get yourself recruited, it won't “just happen” **(true)**
 - Getting recruited, for any level, takes a lot of time and hard work both on and off the court. We believe any player can find the right fit if they are willing to put in the time. Don't hope they come by and find you, contact them to come to your court.
- ❖ Video should be taken frequently and from behind the player/court **(true)**
- ❖ I need to pay for a highlight/skills tape **(false)**
 - Coaches like simplicity since they have to sift through many recruiting videos. Therefore, 5-10 minutes of unedited game film sent via a link (like YouTube or Vimeo) is best. It is also good to give them a few options to look at, and always take the video from behind the endline on the same side of the player. Skills tapes are also a good addition to game-film and do not need to be fancy or edited.

- ❖ You may not approach a college coach if you see them in public, other than to say “hello” **(true)**
 - Both parents and players are not allowed to talk to college coaches at tournaments. In person contact/communication is only allowed on campus of said school.
- ❖ Coaches are not allowed to directly contact a player until Sept. 1st of the their junior year **(true)**
 - Players can contact any coach an UNLIMITED amount via email/phone/text but coaches can only reply through a third party (club coach or recruiting director)
- ❖ I need to register to take the ACT/SAT and send my scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center **(true)**
 - Most schools rely HEAVILY on these scores, more than your school GPA
- ❖ I need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center **(true)**
 - The NCAA Eligibility Center certifies whether prospective college athletes are eligible to play sports at NCAA Division I or II institutions. It does this by reviewing the student-athlete's academic record, SAT or ACT scores, and amateur status to ensure conformity with NCAA rules.
- ❖ It is okay for a parent to write to a college coach if they pretend to be their daughter **(FALSE)**
 - This is a big no-no. Coaches want to connect with the player and see how they communicate and who they are. It is vital for parents to help guide their daughter and give input but ultimately this process must be handled by the player.

Helpful Links & Articles

<http://www.volleyball.org/college/>

<http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/eligibility-center>

<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Volleyball/Features/2015/January/04/5-recruiting-tips>

<http://www.jvaonline.org/blog/does-changing-clubs-1s-team-affect-your-recruiting-process>

<http://www.nsr-inc.com/scouting-news/5-bad-habits-that-can-turn-off-college-coaches/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/open-letter-athlete-we-must-stop-recruiting-becky-carlson>