

GCVA BEACH VOLLEYBALL RECRUITING CHECKLIST

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PROFILE PICTURE & GCVA BEACH VOLLEYBALL RECRUITS PROFILE

Profile Picture - Wear a GCVA Beach shirt and let Coach Finney know that you would like to take your profile picture. Profile pictures will be used for your online GCVA Beach Volleyball Recruits Profile.

GCVA Beach Volleyball Recruits Profile - Fill out the profile in this folder and hand it or email it to Coach Travis. Profiles will be uploaded to the GCVA website for college coaches to see. I will also link any videos that you create to your GCVA Beach Volleyball Recruits Profile. If you need your measurements taken in the sand I will have the vertimax available at a couple practices.

RESEARCH SCHOOLS & CREATE LIST

Research Schools - Researching schools gives you the opportunity to determine what you're looking for in a college or university. Big school / small school? In state / out of state? Organize your list, make sure you have coaches contact information when researching the schools. Attached in the folder is a complete list of current college and universities offering beach volleyball.

Create List - When creating a list of schools it is good to keep in mind your beach volleyball ability. Division I beach volleyball is very competitive, it's good to have schools you can reach for but being realistic about your abilities will give you the best opportunity to find a place to play! If you need guidance on what schools you should be looking into and contacting please let me know, I will always be honest with my players on their ability.

10 safety schools: These are schools you know you can get into, athletically and academically. While they may not be your top choices, you would be comfortable going there. These are good schools to reach out to first to get practice contacting college coaches.

20 target schools: Your target schools are your top picks, athletically and academically. You have a good shot at getting in and you get excited at the thought of being a student-athlete. Twenty is the minimum number of schools you want in this section of your list, as the best way to negotiate offers is to have interest from multiple schools.

5 reach schools: Maybe it's the price tag, or the fact that it's extremely competitive—whatever the reason, these programs might be just out of reach for you. For most recruits, this list comprises five Division 1 or academically rigorous colleges.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL & CREATE A HIGHLIGHT VIDEO

Youtube Channel - The best and FREE way to upload videos is to create your own Youtube channel specific to beach volleyball. It is recommended to keep the channel private and share highlight videos to coaches that you want to view your videos. Youtube is a free platform and you can upload as many videos as you want. There is no need to pay anyone to do something you can do yourself for free!

Create a Highlight Video - A great highlight video can be the difference maker in your recruiting! As a general rule, beach volleyball coaches want to see game footage over practice footage in your highlight video. They want to know how you handle working around a block, a long rally, being out of system and more. In short, they don't want to just see your athleticism—they want to see how you react in a game setting. If you can't get game footage just yet, you can shoot a skills video. Just make sure that you get game footage as soon as possible. In your highlight video, coaches want to see a little bit of everything: passing, setting, attacking, serving and out system/long rallies. Make sure your film is no longer than 3-4 minutes, and you start with your best plays to really showcase your strengths as a player.

In addition to your Youtube Channel I will upload all videos to your GCVA Beach Volleyball Recruits Profile. I have multiple ipads and tripods available for GCVA Beach players to use to record videos. If you would like your matches recorded please let me know and I can record them for you. I have the ability to create highlight videos but they do take a while to create. I recommend players learn how to edit their own video but if you need help I can create highlight videos for you for a small fee.

REACH OUT TO COLLEGE COACHES

At this point, it's time to start reaching out to college coaches. Please DO NOT wait for college coaches to contact you, just being at the right camp or tournament will not get you recruited. College-bound beach volleyball athletes have to put in the time and work to get recruited by college coaches.

The easiest way to initiate communication with a college coach is by sending an introductory email. Start off the email by explaining why you're interested in that program. Then, include a few key stats—athletic and/or academic—as well as your club experience, highlight video and contact information. The coach may not respond to that email, so the follow-up process is extremely important. A great next step is to call the coach. If they don't answer, leave a voicemail, and make sure you tell them when to expect a call from you next.

