

# RECRUITING SEMINAR



# Schools Offering Volleyball in United States

DIVISION	SCHOOLS	ATHLETES
NCAA Division I	330	4950
NCAA Division II	293	4395
NCAA Division III	433	6495
NAIA	230	3450
TOTAL	1286	19,290





# THERE 39 OUTSTANDING DIV. I, II AND III SCHOOLS IN WISCONSIN WITH VOLLEYBALL PROGRAMS

SCHOOL	DIV	CITY
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay	DI	Green Bay
University of Wisconsin, Madison	DI	Madison
Marquette University	DI	Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	DI	Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin, Parkside	DII	Kenosha
Lawrence University	DIII	Appleton
Northland College	DIII	Ashland
Beloit College	DIII	Beloit
St. Norbert College	DIII	De Pere
University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire	DIII	Eau Claire
Marian College (Wisconsin)	DIII	Fond Du Lac
Carthage College	DIII	Kenosha
University of Wisconsin, La Crosse	DIII	La Crosse
Edgewood College	DIII	Madison
University of Wisconsin, Stout	DIII	Menomonie
Concordia University (Wisconsin)	DIII	Mequon
Milwaukee School of Engineering	DIII	Milwaukee
Mount Mary College	DIII	Milwaukee
Alverno College	DIII	Milwaukee

SCHOOL	DIV	CITY
Wisconsin Lutheran College	DIII	Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh	DIII	Oshkosh
University of Wisconsin, Platteville	DIII	Platteville
Ripon College	DIII	Ripon
University of Wisconsin, River Falls	DIII	River Falls
Lakeland College	DIII	Sheboygan
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point	DIII	Stevens Point
University of Wisconsin, Superior	DIII	Superior
Maranatha Baptist Bible College	DIII	Watertown
Carroll College (Wisconsin)	DIII	Waukesha
University of Wisconsin, Whitewater	DIII	Whitewater
Fox Valley Technical College	JC3	Appleton
Western Technical College	JC3	La Crosse
Western Wisconsin Technical College	JC3	LaCrosse
Madison College	JC3	Madison
Madison Area Technical College	JC3	Madison
Milwaukee Area Technical College	JC3	Milwaukee
Viterbo College	NAIA	La Crosse
Silver Lake College of the Holy Family	NAIA	Manitowoc
Cardinal Stritch University	NAIA	Milwaukee

# RECRUITING MYTHS & FACTS

1. The club I play for and my tournament schedule will affect my ability to get recruited.
2. The players on my team will affect my ability to get recruited.
3. Because I play club volleyball, I will get recruited to play college volleyball.
4. The position I play for my club team will be the only position I get recruited for to play in college.
5. All college volleyball players receive either a full scholarship or no scholarship at all.
6. All colleges offer athletic scholarships.
7. I received a letter or camp brochure from a college so now they are recruiting me.
8. I can wait till my junior year to begin my recruiting plans.
9. My grades will not matter if I my volleyball skills are impressive.
10. I only need to correspond with my "Top 5" school choices.

# FINDING THE RIGHT FIT

- Academics
- Environment/culture
- Athletics
- "If I were to suffer a career-ending injury, would I still be happy with my college choice?"
- "If my coach were to resign or be fired...."
- "Can I live this distance away from home & family?"



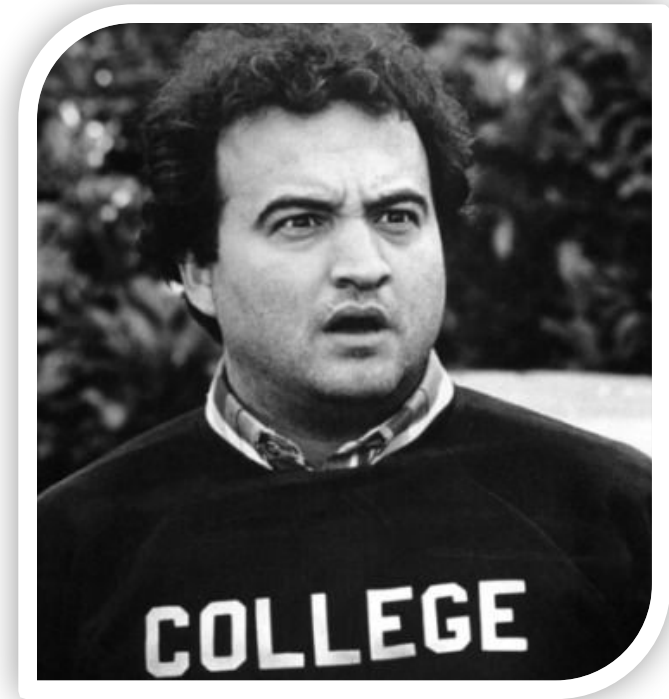
# ACADEMICS



- America's Best Colleges
  - U.S. News and World Report
- Rank your schools by major (if known)
- Utilize High School Resources—just be cognizant of timing
- Sometimes academic standards are slightly relaxed for recruited athletes – *not an excuse to slack-off!*

# ENVIRONMENT/CULTURE

- Proximity to home
- Geographical/Climate
- Big School vs. Small School
- Public vs. Private
- College Town vs. Urban Setting
- Greek Life
- Etc., etc.



# VOLLEYBALL

- Coaching style/philosophy
- Level of commitment expected
  - Summers, spring break, holidays
- Level of impact you can have on the program
- Do they have a scholarship available
- How many are they recruiting for your position
- What is a typical daily schedule
- Is there the opportunity to play freshman year
- Check for impossible majors: (medical, nursing, architecture, etc... )





# TARGET LIST



- List top “x” choices in each criteria
  - Be organized!
- Proactively pursue those that fit all of your criteria
- Be realistic about where you can play and where you will be accepted academically
- Keep your options open; don’t close doors prematurely
- Study and train hard—let the decision not to attend a particular institution be YOURS!

# COMMON PARENT MISTAKES

- Ambivalence; procrastination
- Expecting the Club to find their child a scholarship
- Thinking they can evaluate their child's athletic talent better than the coach
- Losing track of the importance of the degree
- Thinking that a letter = serious interest
- #1 Doing the work for the player!



# DO I HAVE A CHANCE? WHERE DO I STAND?

- Check out their roster; see how you measure up
- Watch a match; judge for yourself
- Are they writing/inquiring?
- Are they watching?
- Do they invite you to camp?
- Do they ask you to make an unofficial or official visit?
- Use your coach/recruiting coordinator
- Parents—do NOT bother coaches at tournaments!!
- When you're at a tournament, focus on playing!

# THINGS TO EXPECT

- It can be a very stressful long process, no matter WHAT the athlete's level
- It is a business for the coach—don't take anything personally
- You will do this once in your life; coaches do it for a living
- Procrastination can close doors--GET AHEAD OF THE GAME!!
- Trust in the process! You won't land your dream school on the first try.

# CRITICAL DATES

- Prior to June 15 preceding junior year
  - One letter/questionnaire is allowed
  - Other communication comes through coach/coordinator
- Beginning June 15 prior to junior year
  - Unlimited correspondence of any kind
- Beginning August 1 of junior year
  - Official and Unofficial Visits Permissible

# DEFINITIONS

- Clearinghouse
- National Letter of Intent
- Verbal Commitment
- Prospective Student Athlete
- Scholarship
- Redshirt
- Walk-on
- Official Visit
- Unofficial Visit
- Contact Period
- Quiet Period
- Dead Period
- Evaluation
- Evaluation Period

# WHAT ARE COACHES LOOKING FOR?

- Statistics don't matter (HS stats / max-preps)
- Size, athleticism and volleyball IQ do matter
- Skill level is important
- Coach-ability is being recruited more and more
  - Parents are too!!!
- Attitude—on-court and off-court
- Academics Matter!
  - No coach wants to worry about eligibility
  - Many schools have stringent academic criteria that they won't waive even for the best athletes
- Be yourself! Coaches are looking for a good fit too

# LEVELS OF INTEREST

- They notice you
  - They send you their questionnaire (fill it out!)
  - They send you their camp brochure
- They're interested
  - They are communicating directly or indirectly
  - They're watching you play— "showing the love"
  - Invitation for unofficial or official visit
  - Ask you to attend their summer camp
- They want you
  - Constant love—watching several matches in a tournament
  - Constant mail/email (juniors and above)
  - Weekly phone calls
  - "Am I in your top three?"
  - They make the offer



# WHAT WILL STING DO FOR ME?



- Annual recruiting seminar
- Initial meeting and discussion of goals and preferences
- Resources for the creation of skills/highlight videos
  - Former Sting Athlete, Mariah Keucker
  - [MnKRecruiting@gmail.com](mailto:MnKRecruiting@gmail.com)
- SportsRecruits at discounted price
- List of Colleges Attending

(cont'd)

- Disseminate schedules to college coaches
- Field communications from college coaches
- Continually provide advice and guidance

# SportsRecruits

- Platform to store information, communicate, organize
- Annually \$150 through MKE Sting (\$399/yr or \$99/mo through SR directly)
- Sign up through MKE Sting website

**sports**Recruits



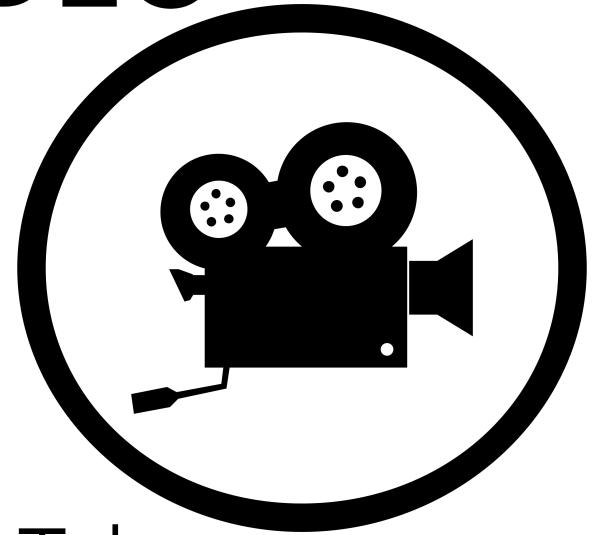
# WHAT STING DOES

## **NOT** DO FOR ME?



- We will not screen correspondence from you unless you want us to.
- We will not close any doors unless you tell us to.
- We are advocates, **NOT** agents! The athlete must own the process.
- Will **NOT** handle your entire recruiting process for you. We are a team!

# HIGHLIGHT VIDEO



- Costs
- Who should shoot one
- When it should be done
- Keep it **under 3 min!!!**
- Targeted distribution list/YouTube
- Two Primary purposes
  - To make the coaches want to watch you in person
  - To expose you to smaller schools w/o the travel budgets necessary to evaluate you in person

# BE PROACTIVE!

- Fill out all of the questionnaires
- Remember—coaches can't call underclassmen or even return phone calls—neither the athlete's nor the parent's; don't be discouraged
- Attend a match
- Email your club schedule w/ player bio
- Send a link to video
- Call the assistant coach/recruiting coordinator (when permissible)

# QUESTIONS TO ASK COACHES

- Academics
  - Major available?
  - Student/teacher ratio
  - Graduation percentage
  - Team GPA
  - Tutor availability
  - Summer school available?
  - Practice conflicts
- College Life
  - Dorm living required?
  - Roommate policy
  - Food options
  - Sororities an option?
  - Typical day in the life

# WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

- Attend the summer camp of your top choice(s)
- Take an unofficial visit
- Beware of Facebook & social media!
- The athlete—not parents or coaches—MUST take ownership!!
- Avoid the recruiting combines!!!
- A word about recruiting services ...  
BEWARE



# UNOFFICIAL VISITS

- No limit on number taken
- Must be taken after August 1 before Junior year
- College can provide three tickets to an athletic event
- All other expenses are the family's
- Duration ranges from several hours to an overnight visit
- Player should spend as much time with the athletes as possible

# OFFICIAL VISITS

- All expenses of recruit are paid; only food and lodging is paid for family members
- Again—3 tickets to athletic event provided
- Prospect may take a maximum of 5 officials
- Prospect may take only one official visit per school
- No official visits allowed until senior year
- Duration may not exceed 48 hours

# ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

- Division I—12 maximum; no partials
- Division II—8 maximum; partials allowable
- Note that not all Div I and Div II schools are fully funded
- Division III—no athletic scholarships, but other sources of financial aid are commonly available
- NAIA—12 maximum; partials allowable
- Scholarships are a one-year, renewable commitment; not a 4-year guarantee



# OFFERS/VERBAL COMMITMENTS

- Can come as early as freshman year
- Very rare prior to unofficial or official visit
- Deadlines are not uncommon—especially for juniors and seniors
- Multiple offers sometimes given simultaneously
- A commitment is a commitment in volleyball and especially within the STING Family

# PLAYER OPTIONS

- Respectfully decline offer—telephone conversation recommended; do not email or text
  - Don't let coaches hear it from anyone but you
- Wait and see/compare
  - ask about deadlines
- Accept offer and make a (non-binding) verbal commitment
- Binding commitment (NLI) not signed until November of senior year at the earliest

# WEB-BASED RESOURCES

- [Universityathlete.com](http://Universityathlete.com)—register for free
- [prepvolleyball.com](http://prepvolleyball.com)
- [richkern.com](http://richkern.com)—\$25/year
- [ncaapublications.com](http://ncaapublications.com)
- [SportsRecruits.com](http://SportsRecruits.com)




# Enjoy the Journey!

## WRAP UP

1. Schedule a meeting with Peter  
([peter@milwaukeeesting.com](mailto:peter@milwaukeeesting.com))
2. Questions?
3. Get started!

#FALLONTONIGHT

A photograph of Jimmy Fallon on a stage, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and striped tie. He has his right arm raised and his mouth open as if shouting or saying "Thank you!". A vintage-style microphone is visible on a stand to his left. The background is a blue curtain.

**THANK YOU!**