



Play Collegiate Golf

"creating academic and athletic success"

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The College Golf Recruiting Process...Simplified

Understanding the NCAA recruiting process improves opportunities for college golf.

The recruiting process for golf is different in comparison to other high school sports. It is up to you to get noticed by college coaches and become a targeted recruit. A strong letter of interest is imperative because it serves as your first introduction to a potential coach and scholarship. Send your letter and résumé to selected coaches electronically, indicating in the email your plan on following up with him or her in the near future. Ensure you contact the coach within one week of sending your information. Instantly, this gives you an advantage over other players being recruited by that coach. Remember, you have to *recruit* a program just as much as they need to *recruit* you!

When recruiting players, coaches are looking at two specific things. First, they look at tournament scoring averages, paying close attention to improvement from year to year. High school tournament scores are usually less important than regular tournaments though scores from state tournaments are often closely scrutinized. State tournament scores are more important because they are 18 hole rounds and usually 36 hole or 54 hole tournaments, similar to college golf. Of course, every golf coach is different. When sending your materials to the coach electronically ask what he or she focuses on when reviewing a player's résumé. It is a great way to open up communication lines. Also, have an annual tournament plan so that you can inform the coach where you may be playing. Second, coaches review the player's grades and SAT or ACT scores. Colleges have specific admission policies and if your grades and test scores prevent you from *realistically* being admitted to the institution a coach may not recruit you.

Tournament scoring averages are an important consideration. For boys, top 25 Division I schools are looking for a 72 average. Those interested in playing at a mid-level Division I golf program should have a 75 average or better. Lower tier Division I schools and most Division II schools expect a scoring average of 75 – 80. Division III programs would be interested in players scoring in the 75 – 85 range depending on the school. For girls, the story is much different. A scoring average of 85 – 90 will draw interest from Division I programs. The top ranked programs demand a scoring average of 80 and lower, however. Use this information wisely as you research potential schools.

During the recruiting process you need to ensure coaches know that you are a prospective student-athlete. Creating a strong introduction letter, golf specific résumé, and a swing video are keys to successfully beginning the recruiting process. Constantly updating coaches of your progress is an integral part of the process as well. Do not expect coaches to follow your every tournament. They are recruiting other players and you need to make every effort to keep them up to date about your successes. Again, you need to *recruit* the coaches just as much as they need to *recruit* you! And, if you have a poor performance or poor round, make the effort to email the coach and explain what you learned during the playing process. Lastly, college golf coaches must follow NCAA rules throughout the recruiting process. Prospective student-athletes are expected to follow these rules as well.

Good Luck.

Dr. Fleming

Dr. Bruce Fleming is the founder of Play Collegiate Golf, created to mentor young women and men interested in continuing their competitive golf careers at institutions that support their academic, athletic, and personal goals.

For more information please visit playcollegiategolf.com

Establish Goals for Success in the Classroom and on the Golf Course

**College
Survival
Tip**

Goals can be academic (i.e. grades), athletic (i.e. improved putting), or social (i.e. make new friends) as well as other forms of self-improvement. Develop short-term and long-term goals each semester, keeping in mind the following:

- Goals should be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound (SMART);
- Write your goals down;
- Post your goals where you will see them daily;
- Reevaluate your goals periodically such as at mid-term and revise where necessary;
- Reward yourself for accomplishing your goals.

