

## **What Prospective Student-Athletes, Families and Youth Coaches should know about Division I recruiting.**

To assist prospective student-athletes, families, and college soccer coaches in making informed and timely decisions on college selection, the NCAA adopted the following recruiting rules. Also, following the rule outline is a listing of Frequently Asked Questions and Responses that is an excellent resource for use in the recruiting process.

Recruiting Materials and Electronic Correspondence – A school may provide recruiting materials June 15 after a prospect's sophomore year.

Telephone Calls To Division I Soccer Coaches From A Prospective Student-Athlete—Coaches or school representatives may receive phone calls from prospects beginning June 15 after the sophomore year.

Telephone Calls To A Prospective Student-Athlete From Division I College Soccer Coaches—Coaches or school representatives may place phone calls to prospects beginning June 15 after the sophomore year.

Time Period for Off-Campus Contacts -- Coaches may make off-campus recruiting contacts with prospects beginning August 1 prior to the junior year.

Official/Expense Paid Campus Visits - A prospect may be provided an expense-paid campus visit beginning August 1 prior to the junior year.

Unofficial Campus Visits - An unofficial visit with athletics department involvement may occur beginning August 1 prior to the junior year.

Oral Offer of Aid -- Athletics department staff members may, directly or indirectly, provide oral offers of athletically related financial aid, other institutional financial aid, admission to the institution or as a member of an intercollegiate team beginning June 15 prior to the junior year.

Camps and Clinics Recruiting Conversations -- Recruiting conversations with prospects during an institutional camp or clinic are permitted beginning August 1 prior to the junior year.

### **Frequently Asked Questions & Answers Pertaining To Recruiting Rules:**

**Question No. 1:** What can a coach say if a prospect initiates a call or contact prior to June 15 after the sophomore year?

**Answer:** The coach may not have recruiting conversations, but can confirm the prospects age, explain the recruiting rules and then must end the communication.

**Question No. 2:** During a camp or clinic, may a coach have recruiting conversations with a prospect prior to June 15 after the sophomore year?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 3:** During a camp or clinic, may a coach provide a campus tour to a prospect prior to June 15 after the sophomore year?

**Answer:** Yes. A campus tour would be permissible; however, no recruiting conversations may occur.

**Question No. 4:** During a camp or clinic, may a coach provide prospects with information about the recruiting process and the student-athlete experience prior to June 15 after the sophomore year?

**Answer:** Yes. A general information presentation is permissible with no specifics about the institution or recruiting conversations.

**Question No. 5:** May a coach send recruiting messages through a prospect's high school or club coach or another third party?

**Answer:** No. Coaches can't send direct or indirect messages through third parties when they are not allowed to communicate with prospects.

**Question No. 6:** May a coach have evaluation conversations (e.g., regarding athletics ability) with a prospect's high school and or club coach before June 15 after the sophomore year?

**Answer:** Yes. But the conversations should not be used to indirectly send recruiting messages (e.g., verbal offer of aid) to a prospect.

**Examples of permissible evaluation conversation topics with a high school and or club coach:**

- High school and or club coach's evaluation of the prospect's academics, athletic skills, speed, agility, personality, character, work ethic, coachability, etc.
- Institution's coach expression of general interest in the prospect (e.g., *we are interested in [name]*).

**Examples of impermissible evaluation conversation topics with a high school and or club coach:**

- Confirming if the prospect is on institution's recruiting list, including their ranking on that list (e.g., *"prospect is on our A-list/B-List"*, *"prospec is a top [#] prospect for us"*, *"prospect is our top goalie prospect"*, etc.).
- Institution's coach providing an evaluation of the prospect to the high school and or club coach.
- Requesting the high school and or club coach tell the prospect to:
  - Send transcripts, report cards and or scores to the college coach and/or staff;
  - Attend a camp where their college coach and/or staff will be present.
- Asking if the prospect is interested in the school, including the level of interest.
- Any discussion with high school and or club coach of potential financial aid or athletic scholarship offers.
- Setting up future phone calls or visits for the prospect.

**Question No. 7:** May a college coach have an evaluation conversation with a high school and or club coach with the prospect listening to the conversation?

**Answer:** No. This would be circumvention of the recruiting rule prohibiting contact with a prospect or others prior to June 15 after the sophomore year.

**Question No. 8:** May a coach ask a high school and or club coach to inform their team of recruiting legislation?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 9:** Are coaches permitted to make calls related to camps and clinics logistics before June 15 after the sophomore year?

**Answer:** Yes. The calls must be limited to camp logistics and may not include recruiting content.

**Question No. 10:** May a younger sibling (a prospect) accompany an older sibling on an unofficial or official visit?

**Answer:** Yes, provided no recruiting conversation occurs with the younger sibling.