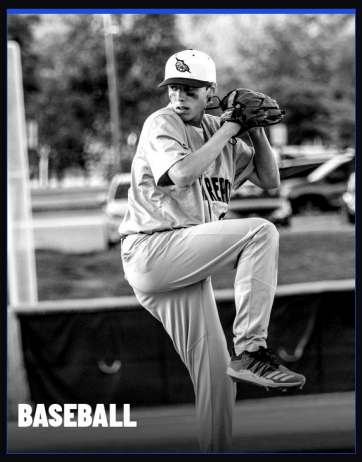
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RECRUITING

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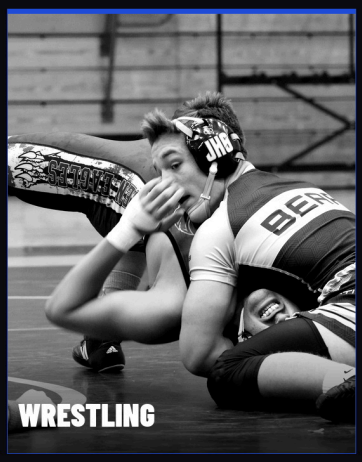
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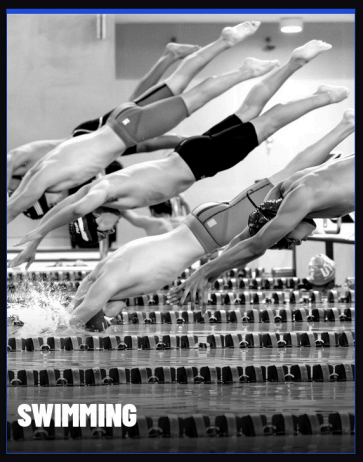
The first steps to start recruiting.

ALL SPORTS · INTAKE IS OPEN NOW





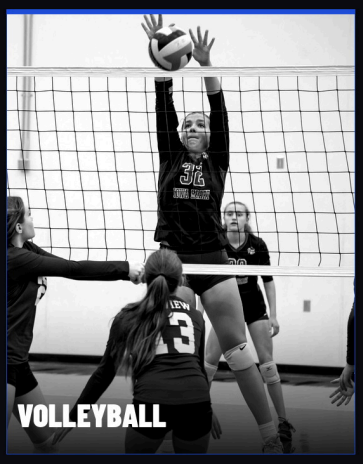












Film, camps, offers, and the timeline.

Free from Prospect House Recruiting

prospecthouserecruiting.com

The Prospect House Parent Guide

Free from Prospect House Recruiting, San Antonio area

The right school is looking. We make sure they see your athlete.

This guide is for parents of high school athletes in any sport, and for parents of college athletes thinking about a transfer. It is short on purpose. Read it in one sitting, then do the three things at the end.

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1. Start before a coach calls

Most families wait for a coach to make the first move. The trouble is, many coaches never find out a player exists unless someone tells them.

Starting early gives you:

- **Time.** Time to build film, get measured, and pick schools that fit.
- **Choices.** More schools on the list means more chances for a real conversation.
- **Calm.** You are not rushing in senior year or in the middle of a transfer.

You do not need a finished highlight reel to start. You need a plan and a film home. For most team sports, that home is Hudl or QwikCut, whichever your team uses. Section 3 shows the film home for each sport. Put the best film you have there now.

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2. How recruiting actually works

Here is the process in plain steps:

1. **Your family reaches out.** In most cases, the athlete or family makes first contact with an email to the coach.
2. **The coach looks, if there is time.** College staffs are small. One coach may be sorting through a pile of emails, film links, and camp lists on top of coaching a team.
3. **Clear and easy wins.** A short email with the position, grad year, and a working link to the film home for that sport is far more likely to get opened than a long one.
4. **Follow up.** New film, new measurables, a new schedule. Each one is a fair reason to write again.
5. **Conversations start.** Some coaches reply. Some invite the athlete to a camp. Some say not now.

One thing to remember: **a reply is never owed.** Silence does not always mean no. It often means a busy staff. Keep the list wide and keep doing the work.

Transfer families: the rules for contacting coaches during a transfer differ by division and can change. Check with your athlete's current school compliance office before reaching out.

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3. The film home for the sport

Coaches watch film and check stats on Hudl for baseball, football, basketball, volleyball, softball, wrestling, and many other team sports. Make the account at https://www.hudl.com/ and keep it current. Some schools use QwikCut instead (share links start with https://share.qwikcut.com/). Use whichever your team uses.

Put this on the Hudl or QwikCut profile:

- **Film.** Game film and highlights. Newest first.
- **Measurables you already have.** Height, weight, and any times or numbers your athlete has really recorded. Do not guess. Leave it blank before you fill it with a number you cannot back up.
- **Grad year.** Coaches sort by it.
- **Position.** Primary first, then any secondary.
- **Contact.** An email that someone checks every day.

Then keep the film current. A profile from last season tells a coach about last season.

Swimming and track and field use their own sites. For swimming, the profile college coaches search is SwimCloud. For track and field, marks go on Athletic.net. When the race was filmed, the video is on MileSplit. If the meet was not filmed, a YouTube clip your family controls works well. Wrestling sends the coach a Hudl highlight, and TrackWrestling holds the results: brackets, scores, and match video. For any other sport, tell us the sport on the athlete profile form and we will point you to the site coaches in that sport check.

Your family keeps these accounts. They are not part of what you pay Prospect House for. We do not log in or post for you. We use the film and the marks you already keep there.

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4. Camps and showcases

Camps put your athlete in front of a coach in person. That matters. They also give you **new film and new measurables**. After the camp, put them on the film home for the sport, newest first, and use that link in the next email.

Where to find dated camps: the camps page on our site, https://prospecthouserecruiting.com/camps.html, shows one dated sample per sport, and members get the full dated list. We take past dates off.

Before you sign up for any camp, read the camp page closely: who runs it, what it costs, and what positions or ages it is for.

How Prospect House helps: hunting for camps school by school takes hours. We keep dated camps and showcases in one list so you are not doing that. The public site shows a preview. Members get the full dated camp list, plus a realistic school list, coach email template, and

quarterly eligibility tracking. Families join through the athlete profile form on our site and the Prospect House membership.

To be clear: Prospect House does not run any camps and does not take registration. You sign up directly with the camp.

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5. A simple marketing packet

Coaches want to understand an athlete fast. A simple packet does that. It has four parts:

- **Profile.** Name, position, grad year, school, height and weight, and contact.
- **Film link.** One link that works: the film home for the sport from section 3.
- **Academics.** GPA and test scores if you have them. Coaches care because admissions cares.
- **Schedule.** Upcoming games, tournaments, meets, and camps, so a coach knows where to watch.

Be honest about what you have and what you do not. If you do not have a verified time or measurable yet, leave it off. "Will be measured at the October camp" is better than a number that falls apart when a coach checks.

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6. How Prospect House keeps it all in one place

Recruiting gets messy fast: tabs, emails, camp pages, notes on your phone. We put the recruiting work in one place. The film and the marks stay on the site your family already uses.

- **Profile.** Your athlete's information, ready to share, with the film link and marks from that film home.
- **School list.** A realistic list across NCAA D1, D2, D3, NAIA, and JUCO.
- **Camp list.** Dated camps and showcases in one list.
- **Coach emails you approve.** Each one points at the film home you keep current. We send nothing without your OK.
- **A coach email template and a tracker.** For the emails your family sends yourselves, so they are worded well and nothing falls through.
- **Quarterly eligibility tracking.** Every quarter, we go over a checklist with your family covering NCAA and NAIA registration, core courses, and final certification.

Your family sets up and owns the accounts on Hudl, QwikCut, SwimCloud, Athletic.net, MileSplit, and TrackWrestling, and we do not post on them. Want us to create your athlete's highlight film? Set up your own Hudl or QwikCut account, share access with us, and we build the film from your footage. The highlight film is an add-on: $105 for members, $150 for non-members.

How to join: sign-up and membership are open now, for every sport. Families join by filling out the athlete profile form on our site. We review it and email a secure invoice to pay by card. Once it is paid, you get one welcome email with your login and both free guides attached.

What a good first email covers

A strong first email to a coach is short and easy to act on. It covers:

- **Who.** The athlete's name, grad year, position or event, and current school.
- **Why this school.** One honest line about why the athlete is interested in that program.
- **Film.** One working link to the film home for the sport.
- **The facts.** Measurables or marks the athlete has really recorded, plus GPA.
- **Where to watch.** The next game, meet, tournament, or camp, with a date.
- **Contact.** A phone number and an email someone checks every day.

Members get a realistic school list, dated camp list, coach email template, and quarterly eligibility tracking, all with the Prospect House membership ($20 a month or $180 a year).

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7. What it costs, and what it does not promise

- **$20 a month**, or **$180 for the year.**
- Includes a realistic school list, dated camp list, coach email template, and quarterly eligibility tracking.
- Sign-up and membership are open now for **all sports.**

What it does **not** promise: a coach reply, an offer, a scholarship, or a roster spot. No honest service can promise those. What we do is make sure the right schools have a fair chance to see your athlete.

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8. The offer and the negotiation window

An offer is good news. Celebrate it. Then remember one thing: **an offer opens a conversation. It does not have to end one.**

This matters most with NCAA D2, NAIA, NCAA D3, and JUCO schools, where many packages are partial or mix different kinds of aid. If your family says yes on the spot, the conversation is over, and you get whatever was first on the table. If you say "Thank you, we are excited, and we have a few questions," the door stays open.

First, know what kind of aid it is

Not all money in an offer comes from the same place. Ask the coach to spell it out.

- **Athletic aid.** Money tied to the sport. NCAA D1, NCAA D2, NAIA, and many junior colleges (JUCO) can offer it. Many offers at these levels are partial, not full.
- **Academic aid.** Money tied to grades and test scores. This is one reason the GPA in your packet matters.

- **Need-based aid.** Money tied to your family's finances, usually through the school's financial aid office.

NCAA D3 schools do not give athletic scholarships. A D3 package is built from academic aid, need-based aid, or both. A D3 coach can still help your family understand what is possible, so the conversation is just as worth having.

Rules differ by division and can change. Confirm the details for your athlete's level at NCAA.org or NAIA.org.

What to ask before you commit

Ask these questions kindly and directly. Coaches expect them from a family that is taking the decision seriously.

1. **What is the deadline?** When does the school need an answer, and when does your athlete need to enroll or commit?
2. **How many roster spots are left at this position?** Is the coach recruiting other players for the same spot right now?
3. **What does the aid cover?** Tuition, fees, housing, meals, books? Which part is athletic, which is academic, and which is need-based?
4. **Is it renewable?** For how many years, and on what conditions? Grades, roster status, and other factors can come into play.
5. **What does the full cost look like?** Ask for the total cost of attendance and what your family would still owe after aid.
6. **What happens next?** What paperwork comes after a verbal yes, and when?

Follow up in writing

A phone call is a great start. Put it in writing next. After any call about an offer, send a short, friendly email that thanks the coach, restates what you understood, and asks anything that is still open. If something you heard on the phone was wrong, this is where it gets fixed. Keep every email and every written offer in one place.

Members get a realistic school list, dated camp list, coach email template, and quarterly eligibility tracking, all with the Prospect House membership ($20 a month or $180 a year).

Compare offers side by side

If more than one school is talking to your athlete, line the offers up. Look at what your family would really pay each year, not just the size of the scholarship. Then look past the money: playing time at the position, the major your athlete wants, distance from home, and how your athlete felt on campus.

It is fair to tell a coach that your athlete has another offer and is weighing them. It is fair to ask whether there is any flexibility in the package. Ask once, ask politely, and accept the answer.

Stay respectful

Coaches talk to each other, and they remember how families treat them.

- Be honest about other offers. Do not invent one.
- Answer by the deadline, even if the answer is no.
- If your athlete says no, say thank you. That coach may call again, or may tell a friend at another school about your athlete.

What this chapter does **not** promise: an offer, a bigger package, or any amount of money. What it gives you is a way to ask good questions so your family can make a clear decision.

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9. The eligibility centers (the "clearinghouse")

You will hear coaches and counselors talk about "the clearinghouse." That is the old nickname for the **NCAA Eligibility Center**. The NAIA has its own, the **NAIA Eligibility Center**. Neither one is scary, and neither one is a step you have to finish before recruiting can start.

What it is and what it checks

The eligibility center is the office that decides whether a student can play as a college freshman. It looks at three things:

- **Core courses.** Specific approved high school classes in English, math, science, and social studies. Your counselor can tell you which classes at your school count.
- **Grades.** The GPA in those core courses.
- **Amateurism.** Your athlete lists the teams they have played on and the people who have helped them. The center uses that to confirm they can compete in college.

Who needs it

- **NCAA Division I and II:** register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. D1 and D2 recruits generally need the Academic and Athletics Certification account.
- **NAIA:** register separately with the NAIA Eligibility Center. Every first-time NAIA athlete needs an eligible decision.
- **NCAA Division III:** most U.S. students do not need an NCAA certification account. International students headed to D3 do. The D3 school handles admission and eligibility.
- **Junior college:** junior colleges have their own rules. Ask the junior college coach what they need.

If your athlete is looking at more than one level, it is fine to register with both centers.

When to register

You can register any time. The NCAA suggests starting around the beginning of sophomore year, which matches the sophomore-year step in the timeline below.

What it costs

- **NCAA:** $120 for U.S. students, $180 for international students. Fees cannot be refunded after 30 days.
- **NAIA:** $110 for U.S. and Canadian high school students, $170 for international students. The fee is one-time and cannot be refunded.
- **Fee waivers:** both centers offer them. If your athlete got an ACT or SAT fee waiver, ask the school counselor. For the NAIA, using free or reduced-price lunch also qualifies. **For the NAIA, request the waiver before you pay**, because it cannot be applied after payment.

Registering does not hold up recruiting

This is the part families most often get wrong. **Your family does not need to register, or be cleared, before reaching out to coaches.** You can email coaches and send film at any time. The rules limit when *coaches* can reach out to *you*, not the other way around.

When coaches can reach out

The windows depend on the sport and the division. Here are the current NCAA rules:

- **Most NCAA D1 sports:** coaches may start calls, texts, emails, and recruiting materials on **June 15 after sophomore year.** Some sports have their own dates.
- **D1 softball:** coaches may start reaching out at **1 p.m. Central time on September 1 at the start of junior year.** That covers calls, texts, emails, recruiting materials, in-person contact off campus, and official visits.
- **D2:** coaches may send calls, texts, emails, and materials at any time. In-person contact off campus and official visits start June 15 after sophomore year.
- **D3, NAIA, and JUCO:** the rules are different. Check with each school.

Rules change, so check your athlete's sport at NCAA.org or NAIA.org each year.

Offers and signing

- **Written offers:** written offers of athletics aid come late in high school, and the first date depends on the sport and division. In D1 football, it is November 15 of senior year. Check your athlete's sport at NCAA.org.
- **Signing:** for 2026-27, most D1 and D2 sports can sign starting **November 12, 2026.** D1 basketball's early period is November 11-19, 2026, and its regular period opens April 14, 2027. D1 football's early period is December 2-4, 2026, and its regular period opens February 3, 2027.
- What your athlete signs now is called an athletics aid agreement. It replaced the old National Letter of Intent.

Final certification comes before signing and playing

Registering is only the first step. Before senior year ends, send final transcripts and test scores if needed, and finish the account. The NCAA does not review an athlete until an NCAA school asks for it. A D1 or D2 recruit needs a complete certification account (fee paid or waiver

processed) to take D1 official visits, sign an athletics aid agreement, and compete. In the NAIA, an athlete must have an eligible decision before their first game.

Prospect House members get quarterly eligibility tracking: every quarter, we go over a checklist with your family covering NCAA and NAIA registration, core courses, and final certification. It comes with the membership ($20 a month or $180 a year), along with a realistic school list, dated camp list, coach email template.

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10. The grad-year timeline

Recruiting is easier when you know what each year is for. Section 9 explains the eligibility centers. Use this as a checklist. If your athlete is already a junior or senior, start where you are. It is not too late to do the work.

A note on coach contact: college coaches can only reach out to athletes during certain windows. Those windows depend on the sport, the division, and your athlete's grad year. Your family can send emails and film to coaches before then. Look up the rules for your athlete's sport and level early at NCAA.org or NAIA.org, and check again each year, because they can change.

Freshman year: build the base

- **Grades count from day one.** NCAA D1 and D2 schools look at specific approved core courses. Meet with the school counselor and make sure the class schedule is on track.
- **Make the film home.** Set up the site for your athlete's sport from section 3. Add any film or marks you have, even if it is short.
- **Play and develop.** Focus on getting better and staying healthy.
- **Learn the levels.** Read up on NCAA D1, D2, D3, NAIA, and junior college so your family knows the options.

Sophomore year: get on the radar

- **Register with the eligibility center.** Create an account with the NCAA Eligibility Center for D1 or D2, and the NAIA Eligibility Center for NAIA. Many families do this sophomore year.
- **Update film after every season.** Newest first.
- **Pick a few camps.** Choose camps at schools that could be a fit, and read each camp page closely.
- **Start a school list.** Think about level, location, size, and majors.
- **Send first emails.** Short and clear, with position, grad year, and one film link.

Prospect House members get a realistic school list across NCAA D1, D2, D3, NAIA, and JUCO, a dated camp list, a coach email template, and quarterly eligibility tracking, all with the membership ($20 a month or $180 a year).

Junior year: the big year

- **Keep grades strong.** Junior-year grades are some of the most important for admissions and academic aid.
- **Take the SAT or ACT** if the schools on your list ask for scores.
- **Contact coaches regularly.** Follow up with new film, new measurables, and an updated schedule.
- **Go to camps and showcases** where coaches on your list will be watching.
- **Visit campuses.** Walk the campus, meet the staff when you can, and picture daily life there.
- **Keep track of every conversation.** Who wrote back, what they said, and when to follow up.

Senior year: decide and finish strong

- **Apply to schools.** Watch each school's application and financial aid deadlines, and file the FAFSA when it opens.
- **Request final transcripts and certification.** Make sure the eligibility center has what it needs.
- **Weigh offers carefully.** Use the questions in section 8. Ask, follow up in writing, and compare.
- **Sign and commit.** Read every page before your athlete signs, and ask the coach to explain anything that is unclear.
- **Finish the season and the school year strong.** Offers and admissions can depend on final grades.

Every year has a job. Do this year's job well, and the next year gets easier.

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11. What to do this week

1. **Put film where coaches look.** Make the account on the film home for your athlete's sport (section 3). Upload the best film or marks you have. Add grad year, position or event, and contact.
2. **Pick one camp to look at.** Start with the camps page on our site (section 4), or any camp near you. Read the page. Check the date and price.
3. **Send us a note.** Go to https://prospecthouserecruiting.com/athlete-profile.html and fill out the athlete profile form, or email info@prospecthouserecruiting.com. Tell us your athlete's sport, position, and grad year, and ask about membership.

That is it. Three steps. Start this week.

DO WORK.

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