



Many of you have and will be receiving invitations to attend college clinics often beginning during the freshman year of girls and sophomore year for boys. Some programs opt to run these only in the off season while others will pair a clinic with a home game during the regular season. Please note that all costs will be on the player/family. Official visits which are fully paid visits (travel, room and board) can start at the beginning of the Junior Year - August 1st. Each player is allowed 5 official visits for NCAA division 1, so these next 2 years are really for you to “research” schools / academic interests / soccer programs.

The new recruiting rules have been put in place to slow down the recruiting process because many college coaches, club coaches, players and parents felt the process was rushed and happening too early. This window protects the player from being “forced” to make a decision when they haven’t had enough time to properly research.

With a few of you in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and most just starting your high school career, I recommend taking your time in formulating a list of universities / soccer programs that interest you and keep editing as your journey progresses. The camps / clinics that are the most important are the ones that allow you to see a school / program up close that genuinely interests you.

#### **Think about timing:**

- 1- Does it conflict with missing school, missing club commitments?
- 2- Cost, plan ahead for the total cost (travel, housing, food)
- 3- Staff, will it just be the one program, or will several potential college coaches be working the same camp / clinic?
- 4- Physical timing – are you match fit, top form, not injured and ready to show your best?
- 5- Have you confirmed which group you will be in and are other top recruits also going to be at the same camp for comparison?

Our staff will be an advocate for you, do our best to network and help each of you navigate this sometimes exciting yet confusing process, but the first responsibility will always begin with you. It’s an exciting journey, once that is different for every player and our staff is available to help and support your efforts.

