# College Admissions and the Student Athlete 

Phil Trout<br>College Counselor, Minnetonka High School

Monday, September 28

## Agenda for today's presentation

- Key factors/considerations for student athletes
- NCAA Eligibility Center - rules and regulations for Division I, Division II and Division III athletic programs
- Eligibility vs Admissibility
- COVID-19 changes/implications


## Key considerations for student athletes

- Every prospective athlete must consider these 3 key questions:

1. Why am I going to college?
2. What role do I want my sport to play during my collegiate experience?
3. What am I willing to give up - or sacrifice -- in order to be a college athlete?

- Student athletes must always remember the word "student"
- Character counts - when communicating with coaches, be aware of your demeanor and attitude


## NCAA Eligibility Center

- Located in Indianapolis, IN and run by the NCAA
- Review high school transcripts and test scoresfor all Division I and Division II prospects
- Register during your junior year in HS
- Costs $\$ 90$ to register ( $\$ 150$ for internationals)
-SAT/ACT scores can be sent directly to the EligibilityCenter by marking code 9999
- Work closely with your MHS counselor to determine core courses


## Guide for the College-Bound Athlete

- Covers recruiting and eligibility
- Download at www.ncaa.org (pdf.)

- High school academic information (Divisions I, II, III)
- NCAA Eligibility Center registration (Divisions I \& II)
- Create a Profile page for Division III
- Sample questions to ask in the recruiting process


## Determining initial eligibility

Academic component:

1. Graduation;
2. Complete the minimum number of core courses;
3. Minimum core grade point average;
4. ACT or SAT test score (sliding scale)

Amateurism component:

- Complete amateurism questionnaire


## Division 1 core-course requirements

16 core courses needed:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math (Algebra I or Higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (one lab)
- 1 year of additional English, math or science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional core courses
** Minimum gpa needed to qualify is 2.3 (based on core courses)


## 10 Core courses must be completed prior to start of senior year in HS; 7 of 10 must be in the following areas:

- English
- Math (Algebra I or Higher)
- Natural/physical science (one lab)
*The 10 core courses utilized to meet this rule may not be replaced by a course taken in the senior year.
**Calculating a gpa - all grades of A are given 4.0; all B grades are given 3.0; all $C$ grades are 2.0 ; all grades of $D$ are given 1.0, and all F's are given 0.0


## Test optional policy at NCAA for 2020-21

Q: If students meet the COVID-19 Automatic Waiver criteria for 2021-22 enrollment but also present a non-qualifying standardized test score, will they still receive the automatic waiver?

A: Yes. Standardized test scores are not included in the COVID-19 Automatic Waiver criteria for 2021-22 enrollment.

## Test score - no final decisions (yet) for 2022

NCAA uses sub scores to determine minimum test score needed

- ACT Sum (add each sub score below)
- English
- Mathematics
- Reading
- Science
- SAT Sum (add each sub score below)
- Critical Reading (Verbal)
- Mathematics


## Test score examples

ACT composite (22) with sum scores: E (25), M (20), R (23), S (20)

- NCAA would use total of sum scores (88)
- Admissions would use composite (22)
- If student took $2^{\text {nd }}$ ACT (23) with sub scores: $\mathrm{E}(26), \mathrm{M}$ (19), R (25), S (22)
- NCAA would use best sum scores from the two tests (93)
- Admissions would use the best composite score (23)

SAT scores are calculated the same

- Critical Reading (Verbal)
- Mathematics


## Qualifier, Academic Redshirt, Non-Qualifier

## Qualifier

- Athletic scholarship, practice and competition in your first year in residence
- Four years to compete


## Academic Redshirt

- Athletic scholarship and practice only in your first year in residence
- Four years to compete

Non-Qualifier

- No scholarship, practice or competition in your first year in residence
- Only three years to compete, with ability to regain 4th


## Sliding scale for Division I

Sliding Scale for Division I
Division I uses a sliding scale to match test scores and GPAs to determine eligibility. The sliding scale balances your test score with your GPA. Find more information about test scores on page 13 or visit ncaa.org/test-scores.

${ }^{*}$ Full siding scale research between the new SAT and ACT is ongoing.

## Sliding scale

Added academic redshirt status, may apply if:

- Did not complete 10 of the 16 core courses prior to senior year
- Did not complete 7 of those 10 in the correct core course areas
- Did not meet new test score/core course GPA


## Division II

## 16 courses needed:

- 3 years of English
- 2 years of math (Algebra I or higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (one lab)
- 3 year of additional English, math or science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional core courses

Division II test score/GPA requirements

- Core grade-point average must be at least 2.000
- Minimum test score of 900 on the SAT and 68 sum score on the ACT for students with a 2.0 GPA


## Division II

## Initial eligibility standards

- Moving to sliding scale for initial eligibility
- Student-Athlete must now earn at least a 2.20 grade-point average to be a qualifier, with an ACT sum score of 70
- Student-Athlete must now earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average to be a partial qualifier, with an ACT score of 68


## The NCAA approves the courses, NOT the high school

- Each high school has an approved core course list on the Eligibility Center's website.
https://web3.ncaa.org/hsportal/exec/hsAction
- High school code number for MHS is 240780
- If the course is not on our high school list at the NCAA, it will not count as a core course
- If a course title on the transcript does not match the title on the NCAA's list, it will not count as a core course
- Meet with your MHS counselor to review your enrollment and your planned courses


## NCAA eligibility vs. college admission process

- Two separate determinations
- Being an NCAA qualifier does not automatically mean you will be admitted to an institution - "hitting the metrics" does not guarantee that you'll be recruited
- Being admitted to an institution does not mean that you are automatically eligible under NCAA requirements
- Sending an application to NCAA Eligibility Center does not mean you have applied for admission to a college
- As a prospective student athlete, it's always an advantage to apply early for admissions


## Amateurism - final step

Prospects jeopardize NCAA amateur status by:

- Formally entering into a professional contract, competing with a professional team in hockey or skiing, or accepting a salary
- Accepting prize money that exceeds expenses for an athletic event
- Entering into agreement or accepting benefits from agents


## Division I - years of eligibility

- Five years to complete four years of competition starting from the date of your initial full-time enrollment in a Division I institution
- Redshirts - no competition while representing the institution during an academic year
- Medical Redshirts - limited competition in the first half of a playing season prior to a season ending injury


## Division II - years of eligibility

- Ten (10) full-time semesters to complete four (4) seasons of competition
- Redshirts - no competition while representing the institution during an academic year
- Medical Redshirts - limited competition in the first half of a playing season prior to a season ending injury


## General recruiting concepts

- Rules are designed to protect the HS students
- HS students may call or write coaches, or visit with coaches on their campus at any time
- Unofficial visits may be done at any time, as the student's/family's expense
- Official visits are paid for by the Div I or Div II college, and require that you are registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center
- Talk with your high school coach - ask for their insights and confirm their willingness to be an advocate for you.
-ASK QUESTIONS!!


## Financial aid/scholarship basics

- DIII schools do not offer athletic scholarships
- Other financial aid packages may be available
- National Letter of Intent is a contract between athlete and college (DI \& DII)
- Scholarship offer must accompany the NLI
- Athletic scholarships may be multi-year agreements between prospect and institution. This is at the offering institution's discretion.
- Full Scholarship = tuition \& required fees, room \& board, books, and cost of attendance.
- Summer aid: potentially available for scholarship athletes
- Fifth-year (exhausted eligibility) athletic aid to graduate may be available


## Division I financial aid/scholarships

Some sports are "all or nothing" scholarships (Head Count Sports)

- Football (85)
- Men’s Basketball (13)
- Women's Basketball (15)
- Women's Gymnastics (12)
- Women's Volleyball (12)
- Women's Tennis (8)


## Division I financial aid/scholarships

Some sports are able to divide scholarships (Equivalency Sports)

- Hockey (18)
- Men's Track/CC (12.6)
- Women's Track/CC (18)
- Men's Lacrosse (12.6)
- Women's Lacrosse (12)
- Wrestling (9.9)
- Softball (12)
- Baseball (11.7)
- Men's Golf (4.5)
- Women's Golf (6)
- Men's Tennis (4.5)
- Men's Soccer (9.9)
- Women's Soccer (14)
- Rowing (20)
- Men's Swimming/Diving (9.9)
- Women's Swimming/Diving (14)


## Q \& A

# Phil Trout <br> College Counselor <br> Minnetonka High School <br> 952-401-5746 <br> collegeguy@minnetonkaschools.org <br> Twitter: @MHScollegeguy 

9-28-20

