



COLLEGE RECRUITING SEMINAR

March 14, 2011



Why do you want to play?

- I like the game a lot
- I want to see how far I can go
- I want to be a pro
- Soccer is a part of my life
- I want to offset the cost of my education for my parents
- I want to offset the cost of my education for myself





My choice of a school

- Can I play there?
- Do they want me?
- How many freshmen do they recruit?
- (outside of D1) What age are the players on the squad?
- Can we afford it?
- How far away am I willing to go?
- Am I independent?
- Can my parents manage without me being close?





Squad size and sitting the bench

- What is the squad size?
- 24-26 with injuries may make the travel squad
- 30-32 many training players
- Is there a pecking order? (scholarship player vs. walk on)
- Starter vs. coming off the bench
- Will I play my preferred position or will I be trained in a new role?
- Will the effort I put in justify the time spent in soccer?





What is the life of a college soccer player?

- **Contract:**

- I accept I will have little free time
- I know I won't be going to lots of parties
- I won't live the life of a traditional student
- I will eat the right foods
- I will get lots of sleep
- I will not be going away or back home at weekends
- I will not be calling home to complain
- My parents will not be calling the coaches
- "Bad things" need to be defined (sitting on the bench is not a bad thing)





College soccer by years

- Freshman:
 - Limited playing time
 - Must do chores for the team
 - Mandatory study hall time
 - Pressure on grades
- Sophomore:
 - The blues
 - Potential playing time
 - Study hall option if grades are a high level





The Glory Years

- Junior year:
- Potential for good playing time
- Experience combined with maturity
- Option of mandatory study hall
- Grades solid
- Worry about Graduate school acceptance
- Declaration of major and sticking to it

- Senior year:
- Potential for playing time (not like high school)
- Worry about a job, grades, graduate school





Your rights as a college athlete

- Reality:
 - Some programs are in a growth stage. You may play early and fade away as the recruits get better each year.
 - Scholarships are awarded annually but you will not lose it unless:
 - You break the rules (various)
 - You become ineligible (probably)
 - You will probably keep a scholarship for 4 years
 - A 5th year may be awarded to the value of tuition
 - You don't need to take a full load if you only need 1 class to graduate providing the course is in your major





Your rights contd.

- You can take graduate classes if you have a year of eligibility left
- You may take a semester off
- You may be able to get your scholarship even if you go abroad
- If you go abroad you have to make sure the grades transfer
- You have to pass a certain number of hours at a certain level of GPA in a period of time.
- Part time is less than 12 semester hours
- 12 hours or more is full time which means in D1 your clock has begun





Final Advice

- Make a sound choice
- Ask yourself, “ If I get hurt tomorrow and can’t play, will I be happy here?”
- Enjoy the time in college; it doesn’t last long as an athlete

