

NCAA DIVISION I VOLLEYBALL RECRUITING RULES

“What to Expect if and when the Rules Change”

Why is the NCAA proposing changes to Recruiting Rules in Division I Volleyball?

Division I college volleyball coaches, parents, and club/high school coaches are concerned that kids are being encouraged to make a college decision too early in their high school careers. The new Division I volleyball recruiting rules that were adopted August 1st, 2018, in addition to the newly proposed legislation from the NCAA, aims to slow down the early recruiting process. The goal is that the recruiting process will START for prospective Division I volleyball players after June 15th of their sophomore year in high school.

CURRENT RECRUITING RULES & DEFINITIONS

A Prospective Student-Athlete (PSA) is any student-athlete who has started 9th grade or older.

Official Visit—College pays for the visit

Unofficial Visit—PSA pays for the visit

FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL

Telephone Calls/Texting: You can call/text the coach at your own expense. Coach cannot call/text you.

Official Visit: Not Permitted

Unofficial Visit: Not Permitted—However, you are welcome to visit a college through their admissions office. These visits should be the same as any other student doing a college visit. You cannot have any interactions with coaches.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL

Telephone Calls/Texting: Starting September 1st of your Junior Year, coaches can call/text you, and you can call/text Division I coaches.

Official Visit: Starting September 1st of your Junior Year, you are allowed to take 1 visit per college and a maximum of 5 visits to NCAA Division I colleges.

Unofficial Visit: Starting September 1st of your Junior Year, you can take an unlimited number of visits to any college and make an unlimited number of visits to the same college.

CAMPS

How can a PSA visit a Division I school and be able to interact with the coaches before September 1st of their Junior Year in High School?

The only way a PSA can currently visit a Division I school and have face-to-face contact with college coaches is through a camp. Thus, you may have seen many institutions running many smaller camps on their campus to still get young PSAs on campus. **NO RECRUITING CONVERSATIONS ARE TO OCCUR DURING THESE CAMPS, but campus tours, athletic facility tours, and information about the school/athletic programs is allowable. These camps need to be advertised publicly and must be open to any and all.**

POTENTIAL NEW RECRUITING RULES

Significant New Rule Change—There can be NO communication (calls/texts) between a PSA or PSA's family and college coaches along with athletic department staff members whatsoever anytime before June 15th of the conclusion of your Sophomore Year in High School. With this in mind, a PSA should not know who is interested in offering them a scholarship or spot on their team until that time.

Significant New Rule Change—Communication through a club or high school coach to be relayed back to a PSA is IMPERMISSIBLE. Emails from college coaches to club or high school coaches CANNOT be forwarded onto a PSA or PSA's family.

FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL

Telephone Calls/Texting: Not Permitted. If you call a coach, they are to let you know of the rules and immediately end the conversation.

Official Visit: Not Permitted

Unofficial Visit: Not Permitted—However, you are welcome to visit a college through their admissions office. These visits should be the same as any other student doing a college visit. You cannot have any interactions with coaches.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL

Telephone Calls/Texting: (New Rule Change) Starting on June 15th entering your Junior Year in High School, coaches can call/text you, and you can call/text Division I coaches.

Official Visit: (New Rule Change) Starting August 1st entering your Junior Year, you are allowed to take 1 visit per college and a maximum of 5 visits to NCAA Division I colleges.

Unofficial Visit: (New Rule Change) Starting August 1st entering your Junior Year, you can take an unlimited number of visits to any college and make an unlimited number of visits to the same college.

CAMPS

Anytime before August 1st entering your Junior Year in High School, camps will remain the only means that a college coach should ever have any face-to-face contact with a PSA. However, **NO RECRUITING CONVERSATIONS ARE ALLOWED.**

Questions

When would the rules change?

There will be several votes in April. If the legislation passes, the new rules will go into effect May 1, 2019.

What if I want to attend a game before my Junior Year?

Yes, you can still attend a Division I volleyball game on your own dime, but are NOT allowed to have any communication with the coaches. If you are old enough to take an unofficial or official visit, the school can provide you and your family a certain number of complimentary tickets and you are allowed to have communication with the coaches.

What if I have already made a verbal commitment or have already been calling/texting Division I Coaches? Can I still talk to them?

No, even if you have made an early verbal commitment or have called a college coach and have gotten to know them and their program, you still must abide by the timeframes of these new rules. So if you are a 2021, 2022 or beyond graduate, you no longer can call the coach, nor can the college coach send any information to your club/high school coach to be passed along to you. Communication can resume June 15th AFTER your sophomore year.