



## College Recruitment Tips for Juniors and other underclassmen

**NOW:** You should be planning to have a highlight DVD made of your play this season. It should include 8-10 of your best plays along with one full game. You can create the tape yourself using the school film or, if you prefer, you can hire someone to create the DVD for you. Wootton families have used both methods. Reel Athletics is a company that creates customized highlight DVDs. If you would like information, contact Matthew Nickens at (240) 447-4837 or [mnickens@reelathletics.net](mailto:mnickens@reelathletics.net)

### 1. Develop a Game Plan

If you would like to play football in college you will have to coordinate your academic and athletic goals. So, in addition to the work you are currently doing to prepare for and take the SAT and/or ACT tests, you will need to get yourself in front of the football coaches at the schools you would like to attend.

### 2. Respond to Mailings and fill out Questionnaires

Football programs at every level purchase recruiting information on thousands of prospective student-athletes. Respond to as many questionnaires as possible (many of them are online). Get yourself on every school's mailing list that you can.

### 3. Send highlight tape and transcripts

Send your highlight tape (12-15 of your best plays and your best game from the season) to schools that express an interest and to those that you are interested in. Also, send a copy of your transcript and any SAT or ACT test scores.

### 4. Visit Websites

Do your homework. Visit the websites of different colleges, including their sports pages. Learn

about their academia and athletic programs and what makes their programs unique.

### 5. Keep in Contact

Keep coaches updated. Send quick emails or text messages when you have information to share -- highlight tape, SAT scores, ACT scores.

### 6. Summer after Junior Year: Attend Football Camps, One Day Workouts and Recruit Days

#### Football Camps

Many college football programs run summer camps. These are great opportunities to receive instruction and exposure. The camps will invite visiting coaches to join the staff. Call or write the schools you are interested in and let them know what camps you will be attending. Introduce yourself to the coaches. If you are attending a camp to be seen by a specific school, make sure that you contact that coach to confirm he will be there and to let him know you are interested in playing football for him.

#### Workouts

If you are unable to attend an entire camp, you can also contact the recruiting coach to schedule a one-day workout. These workouts generally take place during the football camp. Players run drills with the group but often are given individual strength, speed and agility tests (such as being timed in the 40 yd. dash). Many juniors choose a workout rather than attending an entire camp, but there are advantages to both.

#### Recruit Days

Many colleges will sponsor one big summer recruiting day (or a series of recruiting days) that are tailored to student-athletes and parents. Make time for one of these visits. If you cannot attend a specific recruiting day, ask if you can make a visit at another time.