

RECRUITING CHECKLIST

SENIOR

This is a general checklist designed to help you navigate your college recruiting journey. Be sure to utilize your Sky coaches and Recruiting Director if you have questions.

Information

By senior year, most athletes are fairly deep into the recruiting process. If you aren't, there's still time to catch up, but you have to be efficient and act quickly.

Most college coaches will be honest with you about where you stand. If you're an outside hitter and they have one player ahead of you on their recruiting board, they will likely say something like, "If so and so doesn't come here, you're our next choice."

Review the Arizona Sky Recruiting Packet for additional support and specific guidance. Utilize your club coach and Recruiting Director at Arizona Sky. If you are just starting your recruiting process follow the Freshman year Checklist to create your volleyball profile.

Maintenance

- Figuring out which schools are in need of your position.
- Keep consistent dialogue with colleges and have a goal of responding within 24hrs of receiving communication whether you want to go to the program or not.
- Continue to monitor your GPA and academic standing. Your grades are an important consideration for coaches.
- Continue to grow in your volleyball IQ and knowledge.
- Commit to a strength development program. [CLICK HERE](#) if you need a trusted facility that specializes in volleyball specific training.
- Update your social media presence, University Athlete, Hudl, Sports Recruits.



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Communication

If you're an uncommitted senior, time is of the essence. Reach out to coaches at schools you may want to attend who may still need your position in your grad year. Division 1 schools complete recruiting earlier than Division II, III, NAIA, and NJCAA. NCAA rules have slowed down the recruiting process, so as time goes on it will become more common to be uncommitted entering your senior year. Athletes in college join the transfer portal usually in November & December so more opportunities might open up at some of the higher levels in December and January as well of your senior year.

Keep consistent dialogue with colleges and have a goal of responding within 24hrs of receiving communication whether you want to go to the program or not.

Stay in touch often, and learn as much as you can about the coaching staff, their philosophies and coaching style. Get to know them. Communication and learning is key. Talk to former players, if possible, to learn more about the coach and school. You will spend so much time with the coaches and your teammates, you will be miserable if it's not a good fit in that area! See the SKY recruiting packet for more examples of what to ask.



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Communication

When talking to a school about a scholarship offer, clarify the different types and what is covered. For example, is it full, partial, walk-on? Does it cover tuition for a fifth year, summer school tuition, medical expenses? Are there need-based and merit-based options available? Know this before you attend summer camps and/or take unofficial visits to be sure it's OK for you and your family. Otherwise, you can gracefully pull out of camps and not visit because it's not a fit in that respect. This process can be expensive, so each visit or camp needs to make sense. Coaches understand.

Understand the timeline for when the schools on your list want to make a decision. Are they in a rush, in no hurry, have an offer out to another player and you're next on the list if she says no? If you have an offer on the table, your timeline speeds up, and they need to know that too.



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August - December

- Apply to the schools you want to attend. Early applications are usually the best option; it's good to get them out of the way. Most colleges begin accepting applications around Sept. 1, but make sure to research your specific target schools' deadlines and let the coaches know if you're planning to apply.

December

- Sign up for as many "unsigned" showcases and clinics as possible to get in front of more coaches. Make sure the coaches attending are from schools you are interested in.

Connect with your Sky Coaches and Recruiting Director to express your level of interest in playing in college so they can be on the lookout to assist you in this process as well. Fill out the College Recruiting Intake Form by [CLICKING HERE](#).



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If You Are Committed

- If offered, and accepted, after your verbal commitment, complete your NCAA eligibility profile. For student-athletes, this is a simple matter of clicking a button. Make sure to click committed on any recruiting platform you have as well (University Athlete and Sports Recruits).
- Make a phone call or communication to the other schools that offered you a spot. This is respectful, and it's a nice gesture to tell them your decision over the phone rather than letting them find out on social media or through others. It lets them know that you're courteous and care. Remember, you may see them on the other side of the net during your college volleyball career.
- Announce your verbal commitment through your social media platforms, club platforms, prepvolleyball.com, triple crown, or any other platforms. This lets coaches and others know your plans and that you are no longer in the recruiting process.
- Plan for your National Letter of Intent signing experience. This is a ceremonial event and a great photo opportunity for capturing memories and celebrating. Depending on your city, high school and area where you live, there may be a city wide "signing" of all athletes – or simply at your school. Find out from your high school athletic director what typically happens on "signing day" in November.



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If You Are Committed

- Reach out to your soon-to-be teammates on social media. Getting to know the players who you'll be going to battle with is a great way to begin forming a strong team bond.
- Make a phone call or communication to the other schools that offered you a spot. This is respectful, and it's a nice gesture to tell them your decision over the phone rather than letting them find out on social media or through others. It lets them know that you're courteous and care. Remember, you may see them on the other side of the net during your college volleyball career.
- Plan your summer. Find out from your college coaches what's expected of you. Will you need to go to summer school? If so, who will pay for it? What will your housing situation be? Be proactive in fact-finding.
- Keep training and practicing after both your verbal commitment and signing. Some recruits relax at this point, which is a bad idea. You should grind even harder and focus on getting ready to compete, especially if you want to challenge for playing time right away.
- Take care of any nagging injuries that you may have had during your senior year of high school. Get stronger and healthier than ever so you can have a positive start to your collegiate volleyball experience.



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If You Are Committed

- Pay close attention to communications from your coaches or the school's compliance department so you can complete whatever is being asked of you. For example, working out housing arrangements or getting a physical. Again, be prompt. Respond within 24 hours.
- After your high school graduation, send your final transcripts and your degree immediately to the NCAA Eligibility Center and to the admissions office of the college you'll be attending. Overnight it with a tracking number so you'll know when it's received.
- Once the NCAA has it, they'll call the conference office and the conference office will let your school know if you're eligible to compete. Don't send this info by snail mail. The faster the NCAA receives it, the more time you'll have if there are eligibility issues to iron out.

