

Athletic Department Help with the College Recruiting Process

The Athletic Department invites all Wardlaw+Hartridge student-athletes who wish to play their sport in college to register with the Athletic Director by the fall of their sophomore year. Doing so will allow the Department to provide the most effective help to the student in co-ordinating their investigation of college athletic opportunities. In registering, the student shall provide the Director all relevant information (contact information, athletic vital statistics, and academic credentials) and shall update such information as they progress through their W-H career. When relevant, it will be important to share the names of colleges the student is pursuing, the communications received from colleges, and other similar information. *We will do all we can to assist all our student-athletes, including those who register later in their junior or senior year, but we can provide the most effective assistance for students who begin the process during their sophomore year.*

The core of the recruiting process is the relationship that develops between the high-school student (a prospective student-athlete, as the NCAA calls him or her) and the college coach. It is helpful for students to understand their need to initiate much of the communication with college coaches. Also, understanding the college's motivations in the process will be helpful. We encourage all our student-athletes to tap into the wisdom of adults who have been through the process before, and can guide their efforts. It should go without saying that they will benefit tremendously from the expertise of our College Advising Office, but additional consultation with their Wardlaw+Hartridge coach, and their club coach (where applicable) can help them develop a winning strategy for the athletic component of their college search.

The Athletic Director can help interested students (and their parents) with:

- When, and how, to contact colleges
- Which colleges to contact
- Providing the data colleges need to evaluate the student academically and athletically
- Interpreting the feedback received from college coaches
- Getting the best "fit" with a college

Resources available at the College Advising Office (on the "specialty" shelf)

[The High School Athlete's Guide to College Sports](#)
[The Student-Athlete's Guide to Getting Recruited](#)
[Sports Scholarships Insider's Guide](#)

Some templates for your initial email to college coaches are shown below (both convey the same information to the college coach – you should choose one or the other):

Sample introductory letter:

Your Name
Street Address
Town, State, Zip
Date

Coach _____
College/University
Town, State, Zip

Dear Coach _____,

I am currently a freshman/sophomore/junior (14-17 years old) at the Wardlaw+Hartridge School in Edison, NJ and I also play for the *(club team name and age)*. On my team I play *(your position/positions)*. I am very interested in _____ *(University/College)* for both its academic opportunities and the *(sport)* program. *If you have seen their team play, mention it here.* Below I have listed some of my academic and athletic statistics and honors.

(HS TEAM SUCCESS/RANKING/HONORS)
(PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ON HS TEAM)
(CLUB TEAM SUCCESS/RANKING/HONORS)
(PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ON CLUB TEAM)

for a tennis player or golfer, this section would be individual participation in sectional, local, or national tournaments, as well as any rating points In track/swimming times in most or all of the athlete's events should be included.

(ACADEMIC SECTION)
GPA (Note that Wardlaw-Hartridge does not rank its students) -#APs
Honors classes
Honors received in school
Standardized tests to be taken (include expected date, if not yet taken)
PSAT SAT PLAN ACT

Physical data: (use where it will help paint a good picture and where relevant to your sport) Height 40 time or other speed/agility measurement Weight Bench Press or other strength measurement

(For sports that utilize camps or showcase events in the evaluation process): I will be attending these camps/showcases in the near future. I have also attached my schedule for the upcoming season, along with contact information for my club and high school coaches. *(If you do not have team or camp/showcase schedule state you will be sending it soon).* I hope you have the chance to see me play, and look forward to hearing from you soon!

(For sports that utilize video in the evaluation process): I have posted a highlight / game tape, which can be seen at the following URL:

Thank you,

(Name) emailaddress@whschool.org phone

Club Coach Name Email
Cell phone

HS Coach Name Email
Cell Phone

Athletic Resume:

Your Name

Wardlaw+Hartridge School, Edison, NJ

Height: Weight:

Position (s) played:

(ACADEMIC SECTION)

GPA (Note that Wardlaw-Hartridge does not rank its students) -#APs

Honors classes

Honors received in school

Standardized tests to be taken (include expected date, if not yet taken)

PSAT SAT PLAN ACT

(ATHLETIC STATISTICS SECTION)

(HS TEAM SUCCESS/RANKING/HONORS + PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ON HS TEAM)

(CLUB TEAM SUCCESS/RANKING/HONORS + PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ON CLUB TEAM)

Statistics, where relevant (Batting Average, Points per Game, Career Goals / Assists, etc)

for a tennis player or golfer, this section would be individual participation in sectional, local, or national tournaments, as well as any rating points In track/swimming times in most or all of the athlete's events should be included.

(ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL DATA, WHERE RELEVANT)

40 time or other speed/agility measurement

Bench Press or other strength measurement

(For sports that utilize camps or showcase events in the evaluation process):

Camps/Showcases attended (include date)

Camps/Showcases scheduled

(For sports that utilize video in the evaluation process): Highlight / Game video: Give appropriate URL

Club Coach Name Email

Cell phone

HS Coach Name Email

Cell Phone

Things to consider before you start the recruiting process: (and things to re-evaluate as you go through the process)

Region you would like to attend school
Distance from home you are comfortable with
Academic standing (prestige of the college)
Division
Size of School
Possible college major
City/Suburban/Country location
The value to you of playing your sport in college, and the cost (time, effort, commitment)

required to be a college athlete

Numbers of Schools on your list per year:

(these numbers can vary, depending on which level of play recruits you)

Freshmen: 20-30 schools

Sophomores: 20-10 schools

Juniors:
Depending on sport 5-committed

Senior year: 3-committed