Parent's Guide

The Parent's Role in Recruiting

How to Guide Your Student-Athlete Without Losing Your Mind or Your Relationship



Become the Executive Sponsor

- Provide resources and emotional stability, not micromanagement.
- Prioritize family bonding over athletic pressure.
- Focus on controllable factors like effort and attitude.
- Reduce athletic anxiety through unwavering support.



The Athlete Must Lead Communications

THE GOLDEN RULE

Athletes must be the primary voice with coaches.

SUPPORT ROLE

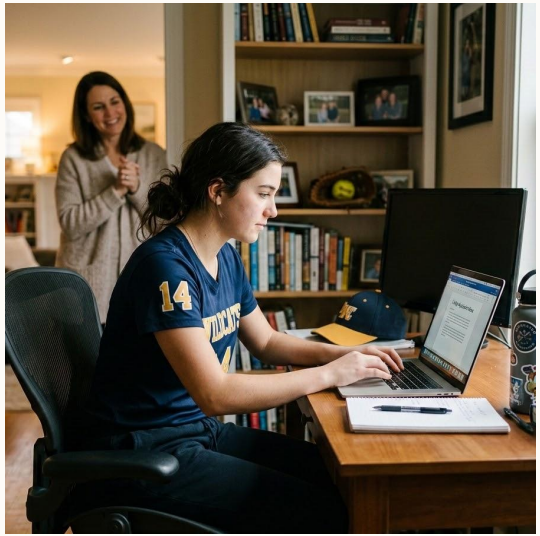
Parent Domain

- Logistics
- Financial aid
- Academic compliance

WARNING SIGNS

Major Red Flags

- Parents answering for the athlete
- Parents conflicting with officials



The Athletic Scholarship Myth

01 — STRUCTURE

Equivalency Sports

Baseball and softball are classified as **equivalency sports**.
Rather than full rides, coaches split partial scholarships across multiple athletes on the roster.

02 — STRATEGY

Stack Financial Aid

Maximize overall funding by strategically **stacking aid**.
Combine academic merit, institutional grants, and athletic funds to cover the total college cost.

03 — PERSPECTIVE

Evaluate True ROI

Look at the complete financial and educational picture.
Balance athletic dreams with institution **graduation rates** and net out-of-pocket family expenses.

Look Beyond the Facilities

Research

Staff tenure and player development philosophy.

Ask

Player retention rates and academic accommodations.

Observe

Dugout body language, genuine player interactions, and team culture.



Top 5 Parent Mistakes to Avoid

1. Comparing your kid's timeline to others.
2. Coaching from the car ride home.
3. Outsourcing accountability for recruiting.
4. Ignoring academics until junior year.
5. Chasing mass-mailed camp letters.